

## IT FEELS LIKE A FAMILY

**ABOUT VON RUDEN MANUFACTURING INC.** Von Ruden Manufacturing, Inc. is a family-owned producer of high-end rotational drive components that transmit power and torque for industrial OEM clients. Their products fit inside capital equipment for heavy-duty mobile and industrial applications including construction, paving, aerial lifts, commercial lawn mowers, printing presses, extrusion, coal and nuclear plants, and conveyor systems, among many others. In business for 77 years, Von Ruden moved to its current 50,000 SF facility in Buffalo, Minnesota, in 1989 and currently has 43 employees.

**THE CHALLENGE.** Von Ruden Manufacturing's president, Brandon Anderson, has been involved with Enterprise Minnesota, part of the MEP National Network™, for over a decade. When he first joined Enterprise Minnesota's peer council, Brandon had been involved with other executive leadership groups, but felt the topics covered were too simplistic and that he "could answer everybody's questions." When he was invited to join Enterprise Minnesota's peer council, he immediately found them to be of higher quality and was able to gain information and value from the start. It gave him a format to be challenged, ask high level questions, and gain insight and support from the other manufacturing leaders in the group.

Now that he has leadership tenure with Von Ruden and the Enterprise Minnesota peer councils, he still finds tremendous value in the monthly meetings. The exposure to high-ranking experts from across industries gives him confidence in understanding and staying on top of industry trends and marketplace changes.

**MEP CENTER'S ROLE.** Enterprise Minnesota peer councils help Brandon to interpret the natural ups and downs of the business cycle by providing a forum to ask questions and talk through solutions and ideas. He is able to gain knowledge from his colleagues' experiences with business-level challenges and be more informed when considering a major change or investment to his business. The other executives in the group often share details about specific issues faced in their businesses, which gives all members unparalleled insight to industry-specific changes, laws, and solutions.

"Enterprise Minnesota works very hard to justify and validate that every dollar invested yields a strong result, and the peer councils are no exception. Everyone I've worked with takes obvious pride and ownership in their work. When you work with Enterprise Minnesota, you're going to get matched up with a consultant that knows how to get the job done. You're going to get results.

I also appreciate the fact that even with the number of businesses that Enterprise Minnesota serves, the president, Bob Kill, will stop by and maintain a relationship with me. It feels like a family."

-Brandon Anderson, President

## RESULTS



2 created or retained jobs



\$250,000 in new investment



\$140,000 in new or retained sales



\$40,000 in cost savings

## CONTACT US



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