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Commercial Real Estate

Metal supplier to grow Phoenix footprint, add employees

By Corina Vanek – Reporter, Phoenix
Business Journal

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An industrial metal supplier that caters to a variety of customers, from artists to hospitals, is growing its Phoenix footprint and plans more hiring to accommodate its growth.

Los Angeles-based Industrial Metal Supply recently completed a rezoning to construct a new Phoenix location that will total 133,000 square feet near 38th Street

and Southern Avenue. The new location is about two miles from the company's existing Valley facility.

Industrial Metal Supply currently employs about 80 people in Phoenix but plans to eventually add about 25 more in the expansion, Neil Sherman, owner and CEO of Industrial Metal Supply, said. The company has outgrown its existing space near the border of Tempe and Phoenix and was looking to grow capacity and employment.

Construction on the new location is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2021 and be completed by early 2022.

Adam Baugh, a partner with Withey Morris PLC who led the rezoning process, said the case took about a year to complete and was met with some resistance from neighbors who worried about a potential increase in traffic and

would have preferred the property stay as an undeveloped agricultural site. The area had been identified in the city of Phoenix's general plan as a commerce or business park, and the city rezoned the property from low-density suburban to commerce park to accommodate Industrial Metal Supply's project.

Baugh said the industrial and manufacturing uses of the new building are “exactly what the (city's) general plan calls for.”

Sherman said he is the second generation of his family to lead Industrial Metal Supply. He hopes his son, Hayden, who is based in the Phoenix office, will one day take it over with his sister.

Industrial Metal Supply sells a variety of metals, such as aluminum, steel, stainless steel, copper and brass to different users, including manufacturers, machine shops,

fabricators and maintenance departments. Additionally, the shop offers metalworking classes such as how to make different types of metal furniture and how to apply patinas to metal projects.

Sherman said the company, which also has a Tucson location, works closely with Arizona State University and the University of Arizona on projects with engineering students and other activities.

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