

PSSI: A SMALL-TOWN SUCCESS STORY

Have you ever wondered how a company of 17,000 employees ended up being based in a small town in Wisconsin? Dive into the history of PSSI and learn how we grew into the company we are today.

PSSI was founded in 1970 in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, by Tom Turner and John Wright. Tom owned a small janitorial company, and John worked at a construction company in the early 1970s. John started working on Tom's cleaning crew for a local processing plant during the winter months. Union membership peaked in the 1970s, and small processing plants couldn't afford to pay union wages for production. Both Tom and John recognized the need for outsourced cleaning while working at the plant and founded the company in a nonexistent market. Contract sanitization services using a non-unionized workforce helped small plants afford cleaning and took responsibility away for staffing so they could get started on time.

As customer demand for outsourced cleaning grew, PSSI merged with Chemidyne Corporation, a chemical supply company. Being one of the only companies who had both food industry knowledge in chemicals and sanitation, we quickly grew. New ownership was established in 1989, and more companies were purchased into the PSSI umbrella. For over a year, PSSI had two corporate locations, one in Kieler, Wisconsin, and one in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, until 2011 when Wisconsin obtained the corporate office, which is still there today. We realized a need to have everyone under one roof. With most of the leadership team already living in the Kieler area, the decision to move the corporate location to Wisconsin was determined.

Why did the corporate office stay in Kieler, Wisconsin?

The values and hard work in rural communities are the backbones of our organization. Most meat processing plants are based in the Midwest and small towns that are close to cattle ranches, corn, and feed. Logistically, our office is in a great spot, and our employees understand the needs of our workers coming from and living in rural America. Another reason is PSSI's former CEO grew up in Kieler and wanted to provide opportunities in his hometown for years to come.

"I wanted to leave my hometown in a better position economically than it was when I grew up there," says Jeff Kaiser, former CEO of PSSI.

A vision for success

PSSI's vision is to be the leading food safety solutions company that owns the standard of health and safety for our



PSSI family and brand protection for our partners. Our vision has been focused on family and safety from the start. PSSI's owners all grew up and learned the business together, which developed successful leaders today. All senior leaders are homegrown, including all CEOs, which is why our vision of the company has never changed.

"For over 50 years, our devotion and investment to Food and Employee Safety have advanced PSSI to be one of the leaders in the industry," says Dan Taft, CEO of PSSI. "Food Safety has become more important to consumers throughout the years, and we will continue to own the standard of health and safety for our families and yours."

Through the changes and growth, our entrepreneurial culture, and commitment to serving our customers have always remained the same. Our goal was to create the best cleaning company in the industry, and we look forward to the future of PSSI and Food Safety.