



Celebrating 70 years

History

At the end of WWII, there was a growing need to modernize and expand the nation's warehousing capabilities. Entrepreneurial business people began to develop innovative storage rack designs to fill those



John B. Pellegrino Sr., P.E.
President and CEO

needs. Company after company was springing up, headed by owners who carved out a market share by providing a high level of personal service. In recent decades, however, most of those early family owned companies have been replaced by holding companies, investment bankers or corporate raiders. Virtually no companies like Ridg-U-Rak still exist.

Ridg-U-Rak was a minor player in those early years. Although limited in marketing vision and hampered by a lack of manufacturing automation, Ridg-U-Rak had some survival strengths that helped the company to continue to grow. Today, as the operation celebrates its 70th year of serving the storage rack market, Ridg-U-Rak is commonly

acknowledged as a company built on Integrity and Service, guided by the able leadership of its president and CEO, John B. Pellegrino.

Capabilities

Ridg-U-Rak now has two plants in North East, Pennsylvania, covering 160,000 square feet, with a production capacity of more than 100,000,000 pounds of finished steel products per week. It remains one of the largest storage rack manufacturers in North America and is still a family owned business.

One of the key contributors to the company's success has been the increased talent base of its staff, with the ability to completely manage large projects from design and code compliance, through manufacturing, to final installation and customer approval.

Major capital investments in its manufacturing plants have been instrumental in improved productivity. Recent investments include the latest rolling mill equipment, a total shop layout re-vamping, an automated beam manufacturing line, and a 600-foot-long state-of-the-art powder coating line, which not only improves product quality,

but also the company's environmental imprint by reducing its liquid paint usage. From recycling programs to major transformations in manufacturing processes, the corporate philosophy includes doing what is necessary to meet 21st century sustainability expectations.

Products

Ridg-U-Rak provides an unlimited array of storage options. Whether deep and dense storage systems like Push-Back, Drive-In, and Pick Modules, or Narrow-Aisle and Deep-Reach systems, design engineers can layout storage arrangements to meet a customer's unique load, throughput and capacity requirements. Ridg-U-Rak also provides small storage systems for pallet loads or hand-stacked cartons, and offers replacement parts that interchange with competitive racks. Many specialty storage options are available, including a rack-supported crane system to store large dies and tools.

Seismic Base Isolation System

Warehouse storage racks have proven to be particularly vulnerable to earthquake damage, and new FEMA guidelines mandate rack structure integrity during a moderate to severe earthquake.

Ridg-U-Rak took a quantum leap in the design of storage racks for earthquake-prone areas when it developed and patented the *Seismic Base Isolation System*, a design that will resist rack damage and product spillage through the most powerful anticipated earthquake that the country will ever experience. Because of this innovated work, Ridg-U-Rak received the **Excellence for Innovation** award by the National Earthquake Conference.



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