

I hope that 2010 finds you well. Our industry continues to be knee deep in the recession and work acquisition remains tough, extremely competitive or even non-existent. As a result, it puts more pressure on our future planning and highlights the value of our top resource — our personnel. Because after all, it is our team that truly provides the customer focus our clients have come to expect from “the Grunau experience.”

In May, we were designated as one of the Top 100 Workplaces in Southeastern Wisconsin. It is a vote bestowed on us by our employees, and it demonstrates the commitment and enjoyable culture we continue to inspire in our 90th year. This public acknowledgement speaks volumes about how we, as a team, treat each other, work well together and celebrate our successes together. It is this attitude that permeates our business and our relationships.

In this edition of our newsletter, we highlight some of our team’s recent successes. Marquette Law School’s Eckstein Hall is a showcase project for both the University and the City of Milwaukee, and Grunau is proud to be associated with it. Our work at Brookfield East High School used innovative heating and cooling solutions to provide students and faculty with a more comfortable learning environment.

We continued to expand our international project work by managing an equipment relocation for Strattec, and leveraged the strength of our in-house specialty divisions on a fire protection project for Briggs & Stratton. Also, check out our Project Snapshots section to see what we’ve accomplished for clients with a variety of budget ranges.

Finally, as part of this issue, we celebrate the longevity of many of our team members. When we talk about our desire for long-term relationships, we strive for that both internally and externally.

*Lawrence E. Loomis*  
Lawrence E. Loomis  
President, Grunau Company

## GRUNAU HELPS MARQUETTE LAW SCHOOL SET THE BAR

“Build the best law school in the country.” That was the dean’s goal when Grunau joined the Marquette Law School project team in its early design stages. Over the next four years and 63,500 man hours, Grunau helped do just that by installing HVAC systems, plumbing and fire protection in the new six-story Eckstein Hall.

The building’s quarter-circle shape with its four-story atrium created a unique working environment—one that proved challenging at times. Grunau relied on building information modeling (BIM), along with the team’s new electronic total station to pinpoint optimum equipment locations and implement creative solutions in the field.

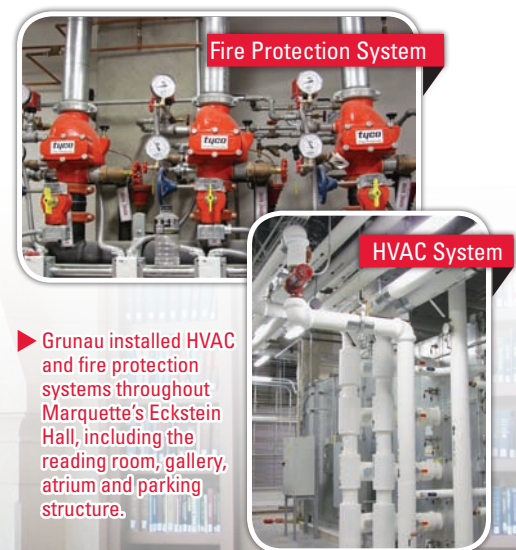
Because of Grunau’s long relationship with Marquette University and general contractor Opus North, the team adapted quickly to design changes, particularly when an emphasis on LEED certification became important for Marquette. Grunau drew on its previous green building experience to help accomplish this goal. Eckstein Hall now uses 14 percent less energy and 40 percent less water than a traditional building. The team recycled nearly 95 percent of construction waste. This, along with many other sustainability measures has resulted in an expected LEED-NC Silver certification.

To obtain the high finish levels desired by Marquette, Grunau used custom color materials and equipment that blend into the building’s décor. The team integrated ventilation equipment into the design and concealed the rooftop cooling tower, while leaving additional space for future expansions to the HVAC system.

Managing fire protection and smoke control in the atrium was particularly challenging. Its large volume and high, open ceiling required a comprehensive smoke evacuation system and careful coordination with the fire alarm contractor. The system had to be fully completed before it could be tested—Grunau’s attention to detail ensured that the installation and the final test were successful!

Eckstein Hall was one of three simultaneous Grunau projects at Marquette. Zilber Hall has recently been completed and construction on the College of Engineering recently commenced. The combined project magnitude put Marquette’s chilled water plant at capacity, so Grunau constructed a second central plant in the lower level of the Law School, which is connected to other buildings throughout the campus.

The completion of Eckstein Hall marks a step toward positioning Marquette as the best law school in the country.



## GRUNAU MOVES STRATTEC OVER THE BORDER

Strattec had a complicated operation in mind when it asked Grunau to decommission, repair and reconstruct its environmental test chamber. The equipment needed to be moved from Strattec's Michigan-based plant to its plant in Juarez, Mexico.

Strattec's environmental test chamber can generate temperatures anywhere from -50F to 135F and create varying levels of humidity to locate design faults in the company's products. This ensures improved quality and reliability, prior to distribution.

Grunau decommissioned the equipment in Michigan and organized its challenging transportation through customs to Juarez. As a result of customs delays, equipment sometimes arrived late or damaged to the new site, and Grunau used locally purchased supplies to conduct repairs. This saved Strattec additional transportation costs.

Extreme temperature conditions in Mexico, combined with increased risk of area violence, also made for a difficult working environment. The team overcame these concerns and ultimately delivered the functional equipment Strattec needed.



- ▲ The Grunau team re-commissioned this environmental test chamber in Strattec's Juarez, Mexico plant by repairing existing refrigeration leaks and faults.

## A LESSON IN COMFORTABLE CLASSROOMS

Grunau recently revitalized the space at Brookfield East High School by installing an energy efficient HVAC system during a comprehensive remodel and field house addition.

The school's 40-year-old pneumatic heating system needed an upgrade, so Grunau replaced it with a digital system that runs only when the building is occupied and can be adjusted to meet specific heating needs. The change increased the school's energy efficiency.

Grunau also installed air-conditioning units in each classroom to provide

"Grunau's follow-through and after-hour monitoring of the new equipment ensured my confidence for successful, comfortable graduation ceremonies."

— Richard Boesel, facilities manager, Brookfield East High School.

faculty and students with a more comfortable learning environment. The unique system takes advantage of low overnight energy costs to produce six large blocks of ice, which are then stored

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## EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

Grunau Company recently honored 40 employees for their years of outstanding service and commitment.

- ▶ **Pittsburgh:** Ed Pletsch (10 years); Doug Kulwicki, Donna Slaney, Ron Talbott and Larry Walk (15 years); Keith Thomas (20 years).
- ▶ **Youngstown:** Jason Lisko and Jeff Nickel (10 years); Jack Carney, Richard Davis, Ed Newsome and Kevin Wilkinson (15 years).
- ▶ **Milwaukee:** Sal Angelo, Mike Bachmann, Chris Hartmann, Brian Kwiatkowski, Mike Steffes and Brent Trickel (10 years); Kris Klumb (15 years); Russ Ferris, Joe Naylor and Steve Johnson (20 years). **Pictured below:** (Left to Right) **Front row** - Mark Gall, Duane Mielke (10 years), Roger Frycienski (20 years), Jay Baillargeon (15 years), Paul Shilts (10 years), JoAnn Bude (25 years), Amy Malnory (20 years), and Ken Bhatia (35 years). **Back row** - Peter Brzezinski (35 years), Aaron Block (15 years), Larry Hendrickson (35 years), and Larry Loomis (20 years).



- ▶ **Orlando:** Pictured Above (Left to Right) **Left Photo** - Larry Loomis and Frank Johnson (15 years). **Right Photo** - Josh Truebe (15 years), Larry Loomis, and Jimmy Horn (10 years). **Not pictured:** Dan Duff (10 years).
- ▶ **Indianapolis:** Pictured Right (Left to Right) Greg Wittman (25 years), Larry Loomis, and Bob Harlow (25 years). **Not pictured:** Billy Glassing (20 years).





Continued from page 2: A Lesson in Comfortable Classrooms

and used to cool the water circulated throughout the school during the day. Since the system works hardest at night, when energy is cheaper, it saves money.

The school remained occupied during much of the build and Grunau took extra precautions to ensure safety.

**"We tried to maintain a sense of normality as best we could."**

*– Paul Lentz, project manager*

As each classroom was renovated with new HVAC systems, the team moved students and teachers into six "swing classrooms" until updates to the original room were completed. This allowed teaching and construction to continue simultaneously. Grunau completed the most disruptive work during the summer months when fewer people were in the building.



▲ As further cost savings, Grunau recommended placing piping on Brookfield East's roof, rather than in the building's ceiling.

The field house was ready in time for the school's 2010 graduation ceremonies, and the remainder of the building opened this fall, ahead of schedule and under budget.

## FALL SNAPSHOTS



Grunau Company is involved with a wide variety of projects –both large and small –on any given day. These "Project Snapshots" give you an idea of what we've accomplished for our clients on several recent jobs.

### MULCAHY/SHAW WATER, INC.

**Contract Amount:** \$5,000

**Request:** Our customer designed a Weir Box, a device used to accurately measure water flow, which needed to be fabricated and delivered in less than a week to one of their own customers.

**Solution:** We quickly detailed and fabricated the box per a hand sketch, and improved on the original design by adding leveling legs and other elements to provide a quality end product.

**Result:** Grunau Metals successfully met our customer's deadline and provided a finished product that worked perfectly.

*Andy Schroeder, project manager*

### WELLS FARGO

**Contract Amount:** \$53,000

**Request:** Wells Fargo wanted to update old systems with higher efficiency equipment and remove hot water heating coils from the boiler system.

**Solution:** Grunau replaced two "twined" fan coil, split systems with a new down foam package rooftop unit and duct work distribution system. We then balanced the system according to the building's current floor plan.

**Result:** Our project allowed the customer to replace old, continually problematic equipment which often was in some state of repair. The customer will see increased energy savings and a reliable HVAC system for years to come.

*Kurt Fies, project manager*

### US GOVERNMENT/ COAST GUARD/ TSA

**Contract Amount:** \$36,980

**Request:** Grunau was asked to inspect a 1,000 gallon foam tank and install 1,000 gallons of aqueous film forming foams (AFFF) 3-percent foam concentrate.

**Solution:** We checked the foam tank for internal and external corrosion, and conducted hydrostatic testing. We also tested the existing bladder per the manufacturer's specifications and replaced defective check valves and piping.

After that testing, we disposed of the existing foam concentrate and installed 1,000 gallons of new AFFF 3-percent foam concentrate.

**Result:** Grunau Company partnered with API National Service Group on this lead. The air and marine operations group was very satisfied with our constant communication and the professionalism of our service technicians.

*Ken Cross, project manager*

### CASE NEW HOLLAND (CNH)

**Contract Amount:** \$20,000

**Request:** Agricultural equipment manufacturer Case New Holland (CNH) requested a replacement chute system that would provide better containment and allow better flow for its cutting fluid at four computer numeric control (CNC) machines.

**Solution:** Grunau surveyed the four production cells and worked closely with line managers and machine operators to identify key considerations to take into account for the new chute system. We fabricated and presented prototypes to the end users for comment prior to final fabrication. We also added hinged covers for accessibility.

**Result:** The final installation improved the coolant flow, reduced the amount of spray in the work area, and provided better access to the machines for cleaning and repairs.

*Travis Nehring, project manager*

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### DID YOU KNOW?

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## FIRE PROTECTION

### FIRE PROTECTION UPGRADE FOR BRIGGS & STRATTON

Changes in the usage of buildings can render existing fire protection systems inadequate, requiring retrofits or upgrades. That was the case when Briggs & Stratton's Slitter building, originally designed for manufacturing components for small gas-powered engines, was altered into a 35-foot-high, rack storage facility for company products. Briggs & Stratton awarded Grunau the project, in part, because of its trusted reputation for quality work, and the project's scope and overall budget.

The project required construction of a 20x20-foot fire pump room in the 50,000 square-foot Slitter building. Within this new fire pump room, Grunau needed to bring in a 10-inch water main to connect the diesel operated fire pump to the main water supply. To meet the unique fire protection needs of rack storage, the team installed two early suppression fast response (ESFR) fire sprinkler systems capable of releasing 159 gallons per minute, instead of the standard 56 from traditional sprinkler heads.

Grunau drew on its vast internal resources to manage the project, which required four different specialties—fire protection work, underground plumbing to connect the fire pump to the water main, metal work on the structural ceiling supports in the pump room, and HVAC duct work for the fire pump.

Thanks to this in-house expertise, Grunau delivered a turn-key project and saved Briggs & Stratton money



without engaging additional subcontractors. "This is a perfect example of how we can provide comprehensive services to our clients," said Project Manager Eric Radke.

▼ Grunau relied on four different in-house specialties to install this new fire protection system for Briggs & Stratton's rack storage facility (shown in photo above).



## TECHNICAL CONTRIBUTORS

**President's Corner** – Larry Loomis, *president*

**Marquette Law School** – Jeff Kuhnke, *LEED AP, project executive*, and Sarah Meyer, *LEED AP, project manager*

**Brookfield East High School** – Paul Lentz, *project manager*

**Strattec** – Kurt Fies, *service sales representative*

**Briggs & Stratton** – Eric Radke, *fire protection manager*

**Project Snapshots** – See individual snapshots for contributing project manager