



Janco Industries, Inc., manufacturer of Handy products, has a new place to call home. After more than 18 months of planning and hard work, the Sully-based company is happy to finally have all of its employees working together under the same roof.

“In one word, (it feels) overwhelming,” said general manager and owner Joel Jansen, whose company is planning an open house to celebrate the new building from 1-4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 25. “To see it come together was very rewarding. The whole team worked together to create this,” Joel said.

Joel and his wife, CFO and human resources manager Deann Jansen, had plans to eventually bring the Handy team from its Marshalltown facility to a new, 50,000-square-foot location in Sully, but a fire at the Sully location on Jan. 30, 2014, changed the game plan. Instead of operating out of multiple facilities in Sully, the Jansens decided to construct a brand-new, 75,000-square-foot facility a few blocks south of the fire-ravaged building.

Groundbreaking for the new facility occurred on May 14, 2014, but above-average rainfall during June and July — a total of 50 inches during the two-month span — delayed the process, which was expected to take nine months to complete.

“The process went very well — there were hardly any issues,” Joel said. “The only setback was Mother Nature — that was nothing we could control.”

Fourteen semi-trucks delivered the 426,000 pounds of steel necessary for construction in August of last year and the first of 14 sections of steel rafters were successfully set in place by Sept. 30. A month later, the building had steel siding and doors, and by January 2015, the entire building was fully enclosed and heat was turned on so the indoor process could continue. The final pieces of the puzzle came together in April and May, and the moving process began for members of the Janco and Handy teams.

As of August 2015, only a few team members remained operating in the original Sully location, and all the members of the Handy team from Marshalltown were moved into the new location.

“I’m happy to be where we’re at right now,” Joel said. “We do have the room for expansion on this site in the future, as soon as we need it.”

Janco Industries is a family-owned business, founded more than 40 years ago by Joel's father, Ron Jansen. The company has grown from fewer than five employees to nearly 50 and currently serves such diverse industries as agriculture, construction, and recreation. Janco Industries purchased Marshalltown-based Handy Industries in 2010.

For more information on Janco Industries, visit www.janco-ind.com or phone 641-594-2760. To learn about the Handy product line, visit www.handyindustries.com or phone 855-752-5446.