B.I.D.A.—Berwick Industrial Development Association

The Complex Summer 2022 Volume 4, Issue 1



Connection Special Edition

B.I.D.A. Celebrates 60 Years—1962 to 2022

B.I.D.A. Has been Manufacturing Success for 60 Years — Berwick Industrial Development Association (B.I.D.A.) is celebrating a huge accomplishment , 60 years of continued service and management of the B.I.D.A. Complex.

B.I.D.A. formed their association in 1958; however, it was October 23, 1962 that this group took ownership of and cut the ribbon for the B.I.D.A. Industrial Complex.

The complex itself is over 100 years old and was home to the American Car and Foundry (ACF). ACF manufactured tanker cars for the rail, subway cars and was where the Stuart Tank was manufactured for WWII. It was esti-

mated that during the busiest time at ACF, they employed 3,000 people.

The B.I.D.A. was founded in 1958, when ACF had announced plans to close the manufacturing facilities in Berwick, PA. Business and community leaders alike came together with the hopes of saving as many of those jobs as they possibly could.

Since that time, there have been numerous companies that have started, expanded and/or moved into the facilities and have called Berwick home. B.I.D.A. has leased, sold, bought back and leased again properties within the Industrial Park throughout the years. Today B.I.D.A. owns just about 30 % of what the original complex was in 1942 which stretched from Vine Street to LaSalle Street and Third Street to Back Road, in two municipalities; Berwick Borough and Briar Creek Township.

Today, the B.I.D.A. Complex still stretches to Back Road, however, B.I.D.A. no longer owns the buildings and parcels along Vine Street or on the LaSalle Street side. B.I.D.A. does own approximately 40% of the buildings inside the Industrial Complex's current perimeter and is still home to companies that "Manufacture Success" in Berwick.

See the before and after photos of the complex in this Special Edition of the Complex Connection.



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B.I.D.A. Facilitates the following programs:

Business Think Tank—Business Leaders and Legislators

Employer Round Table—HR Directors in our regional businesses

Private Property Owner Program—Owners of land or commercial/industrial buildings

For information on any of these programs or to find out what we are up to:

Visit: www.bida.com

B.I.D.A. Pictures Then and Now







WE MANUFACTURE SUCCESS!

A message from our Executive Director.

Manufacturing is the making of a product and **Success** is the accomplishment of an aim or purpose. Our tagline says it all. B.I.D.A. strives to not only bring business to our region, but to help them achieve success: providing access to resources, facilitating public/private partnerships and helping business to business activities. This is happening through our efforts with the Employer Round Table and our latest Think Tank Initiative, bringing our legislators and business leaders to the table to develop solutions and overcome any road blocks we may face in our growth as a community and a region.

It is our mission and commitment to improve the economy of this region through marketing and managing our industrial assets, retain, expand and recruit business and industry; and contribute to community revitalization efforts. B.I.D.A. is working in this area through our partnership with Penn's Northeast in marketing our assets, and our partnerships with Briar Creek Borough, Berwick Borough and Salem Township, focusing on "Downtown Development", which will organically drive community revitalization.

At our 60th year, we need to take a moment and look at this fast-paced, ever-changing environment that is more global than we have ever experienced before. It is at this time, we must not rest on our laurels but face the future and evolve with a drive to continue to be true to our mission, and adapt to the needs of the market place... **YOU**, the business and industry; **YOU**, the members of our communities; **YOU**, our elected officials; and **YOU**, our children, for **YOU** are the **future success** of this region, its businesses and its communities.

I would like everyone to think about why we want our children to stay in our geographic region. What do we need to create to keep them here? What can we do to attract young, talented people to become our workforce?

We are no longer competing for job creation in this economy, we are competing for work-force, for human population, for talented individuals with skills in the trades, medical field, and information technology arena. Over the next ten years, let's work together to grow our region, get involved where you can, talk to our youth, research the successes of other areas, and most of all, share what you know. There is value in your experiences, life stories and visions for our future. Berwick IS a GREAT place to LIVE and WORK.

Sincerely, Kelly O'Brien kelly@bida.com

B.I.D.A. Staff give their thoughts on the future...

Stacy—"BIDA plays a huge role in working with Educators, Business leaders and Legislators. Residents will be PROUD to call BERWICK their home, people want to LIVE in BERWICK."

Amy—"I have always been a PROUD BERWICKIAN, and I believe that BIDA is working to make everyone in our COMMUNITY feel that PRIDE."

B.I.D.A. Complex Businesses—How long?

Berwick Offray—IG Design Group has been in Berwick for 77 years.

Cheetah Chassis has been at the B.I.D.A. complex for 45 years.

Crispin Valve has been in Greater Berwick area for 114 years !!! Go Crispin !!! They have an assembly and testing center in the complex.

Eagle Warehousing has been at the B.I.D.A. complex for 23 years.

G & B Specialties at the B.I.D.A. complex for 43 years.

Homestead Furniture has been in the Greater Berwick area for 41 years and has a warehouse in the complex.

 $\ensuremath{\text{\textbf{DYCO, Inc.}}}$ is 49 years old and has an assembly and testing site in the complex.

US Premium Molders, LLC started their business 2021—now housed in the complex.

VBC Berwick, LLC is 10 years old and new to the complex in 2022.

Stay Up-To-Date With Our Social Media Platforms

<u>LinkedIn:</u>

https://www.linkedin.com/company/berwick-industrial-development-association

Facebook:

@ BIDAR e source for Business

Twitter:

@BerwickIndustr1

Instagram:

@berwickindustdevelopment











The B.I.D.A. Staff present to you our New Logo!

B.I.D.A. wants to take the organization and the Greater Berwick Area into the next 60 years with a clear message...

WE MANUFACTURE SUCCESS!

Our goal as an organization and as individuals that know BERWICK is a great place to Live and Work, want to give everyone that message and that feeling.

The B.I.D.A. graphic on page 2, shows in each letter the assets we have and want for our area.— The B, shows a man welding. Berwick was known for a strong workforce—we can be that again.

The I, shows computer microchips. Our region is growing in technology, AI and Innovation—we can grow in this industry.

The D, shows medical/allied health or pharmaceutical.

Berwick can develop and be home to quality health care and innovation in services

The A, shows the railroad. Berwick industry was built and prospered with rail, we can do it again.

B.I.D.A. Thanks our

Program Sponsors

Cheetah Chassis , US manufacturer of high quality container chassis with dealers in 2 countries and 13 states.
Cheetah calls Berwick HOME.

First Columbia Bank & Trust, A local bank that is with you every step of the way. Banking for personal, business, home, auto, investments, and retirement.

McTish – Kunkel & Associates, Helping communities grow and connect since 1970 with engineering, environmental, surveying and construction inspection.





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