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March 12, 2024

### **Sleeping Giant Capital Invests in Portland Products**

Sleeping Giant Capital, a West Michigan based investment and growth platform, today announced its investment into Portland Products ([www.portlandproducts.com](http://www.portlandproducts.com)), a manufacturer of mechanical assemblies for automotive and heavy truck customers. Portland Products utilizes robotic welding, assembly, and stamping capabilities to deliver industry leading quality.

Portland Products is an institution in the city of Portland, Michigan. Located next to the city park and baseball field, Portland Products has grown to 100 employees since its founding in 1947 by Walt Sprague. Through the stewardship of Walt's children – David Sprague and Susan Dingler – along with past President Ted Alberta, Portland has maintained a close-knit culture while innovating through implementation of automation and manufacturing excellence.

Concurrent with the investment, Sleeping Giant Capital announced it has backed its CEOs-in-Residence Ben Greve and Rick Slater as owner-operators. Greve will take the role of Co-CEO and President of Operations and Slater will take the role of Co-CEO and President of Sales.

"Portland Products has always been blessed with an exceptional team of talented, dedicated people. We are a family," said Ted Alberta. "The new owner-operators, Ben Greve and Rick Slater, along with the backing of Sleeping Giant Capital, showed us that they focus on values similar to ours as defined in our PEPPS motto: People, Excellence, Performance, Professionalism, and Service. Their strategic focus on growing West Michigan companies and commitment to community support gave us great comfort. As they build upon the foundation of excellence provided by the



Sprague family over the past seventy-seven years, we are excited to see how Ben and Rick can propel Portland Products to the next level!"

Greve grew up in Kalamazoo and is a graduate of Western Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Slater grew up in Holland and is a graduate of Michigan Technological University with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Together, Greve and Slater have a combined 42 years of experience focused on small business manufacturing in West Michigan, bringing expertise in a variety of manufacturing settings ranging from small OEM's to Tier 1 automotive suppliers.

"Rick and I are looking forward to strengthening Portland Product's position as a premier supplier of metal stampings, hinges, and engineered mechanisms to the automotive, heavy truck and off-road markets," said Ben Greve. Slater added, "We are also excited to set the standard for world class manufacturing in the Sleeping Giant Capital portfolio of companies."

"We are honored to invest in Portland Products and continue their tradition of excellence and innovation," said Doug Lepisto Co-Founder and Managing Partner at Sleeping Giant Capital. "Portland Products aligns with our Big Win investment philosophy to generate financial, social, and educational returns here in West Michigan. We are excited to work alongside Ben and Rick to unlock growth and continuing to contribute to the community of Portland."

### **About Sleeping Giant Capital**

Sleeping Giant Capital is an investment and growth platform based in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The firm generates financial, social, and educational returns by investing in West Michigan based companies for the long term out of a 25-year fund. Sleeping Giant Capital empowers professionals to become owner-operators and grows investments through a platform architecture. For more information visit [www.sleepinggiantcapital.com](http://www.sleepinggiantcapital.com).