



# Great Basin Nation

## *Expansion opens in Plymouth*

**WEB  
EXTRA!**  
FOR EXPANDED COVERAGE GO TO:  
[WWW.TREMONTONLEADER.COM](http://WWW.TREMONTONLEADER.COM)

**Jessica Tanner**  
Leader Assistant Editor

Over the past eight years Great Basin Industrial has grown significantly, focusing on a wide variety of projects and putting its employees, customers, vendors and suppliers first in order to maintain success, creating the Great Basin Nation.

That success has led to the business' expansion to a new fabrication shop in Plymouth. An open house was held Friday as the shop opened its doors.

"We have grown 50 percent every year," said Scott Kent, one of six company owners. "A couple years it has been even more. We have had to keep the reins pulled back a little bit, so to speak, to keep it manageable."

That level of growth can be attributed to one thing, Kent continued. "I associate our success to good people. Taking care of them and trying to keep the family atmosphere with our office, shop and field people, the trust of our customers and vendors have been one of the main reasons we have succeeded. People are your best asset."

In November 2006, original owners, Scott Kent and Jeff Murray, who worked together with a different fabrication company, had an opportunity to go out on their own. A company in Wyoming needed a tank built, but there was no one to do it, due to demand.

They took advantage of the opportunity and started their business January 2007. A year later they were joined by Dan Clegg, the current company president, who jumped into a huge project (\$3.5M). "He helped us get going," Kent said, "that put us on the map to get where we are today."

GBI is a provider of turnkey design, fabrication, industrial construction and repair services. They engineer, design and fabricate in the following industries oil, gas and chemical, mining and aggregates, power generation, water and wastewater and pulp/paper. The products they create are industrial tanks and storage, air pollution control, maintenance repairs and alterations.

By 2008, Jesse Memmott and Jamie Astle both came onboard and J.D. Oldham joined

in 2009. The next year GBI purchased Bear River Fabrication, a supplier of theirs who was going out of business.

Presidents Jim and Justin Shelton were hired on as managers of the plant. Today Justin is the operations manager in Plymouth, while his father, Jim is the field service warehouse manager.

"I don't now where I would be if they wouldn't have done that," said Justin. "It was a blessing for us. We shut down and had nothing. We put everything we had into that business. These guys stepped up and put us to work."

Astle said, "They did a good job, they were our best fabricator, or at least the most reliable. When they were having problems, we said let's see what we can do and it has worked out pretty well."

GBI has worked in 16 different states and in Canada. It has thrived, even during the economic downturn, a feat in itself. "We are pretty diversified," said Kent. "We can move between different industries and that's what has helped us grow."

Their consistent



Leader/Ellen Cook

**Great Basin Industrial co-owner Scott Kent** *cuts the ribbon at the company's new fabrication plant in Plymouth, while President Dan Clegg, and county commissioners Jeff Scott and Stan Summers look on.*

growth made the expansion necessary. "One of the reasons we chose to expand and stay in Box Elder County is because of the great community and their work ethic," Oldham said. "This was an ideal location."

In 2010, they had only 50 people but has since grown to about 450 who work at the office headquarters in Kaysville, the field crew warehouse in Tremonton, the expanded fabrication shop in Plymouth and their field services plant in Rock Springs Wyo. That plant also opened this year.

Construction on the Plymouth site took a little over a year and has created better working conditions, as well as

plenty of room to grow.

"I don't know how we were doing it before," Justin said, "We went from 18,000 square feet (in the Tremonton shop) to 60,000 square feet, not counting the offices, and it's already full."

Astler added, "We were cramming about \$60-70 million jobs through a shop that could handle \$10 million, but they did it. We have a good staff."

The Plymouth shop sits on 32 acres with only a third of it currently developed. "We are hoping to fill up the whole 32 acres someday," Kent said.

"We are excited that we can expand and have room to work now," Clegg said. "We have

big plans, we expect to fill this shop and build a couple others."

Kent added, "You feel very grateful and appreciative to all the people who have helped make it possible. We had a vision, we wanted to grow and it's amazing to see the reality. The reality is better than the dream."

Things look to continue in a strong direction for GBI. "We have a lot of demand from big companies," Astle stated. "We have a project right now that will consume half of this shop for two years. I am already telling them we need another one of these buildings. We have no shortage of upcoming work."