

# *Made in NW Illinois*

SPOTLIGHTING MANUFACTURING IN  
CARROLL & JO DAVIESS COUNTIES

## KD WELDING, INC.



## SECOND GENERATION HANOVER STEEL

In the early 1990s, Kevin Loney was employed at a local fabrication shop that had recently started manufacturing large steel components for Illinois-based Cherry's Industrial Equipment. Kevin's attention to detail and dedication to the production process caught the eye of Cherry's owners, who approached him with an offer to help start his own business and become the sole manufacturer of the sub-assemblies that Cherry's needed.

It was from these unexpected circumstances that KD Welding opened in 1997 in Hanover, Illinois. After 25 years at the helm, Kevin retired in 2021, and sons Ryan, Mike, and Eric became second generation owner-operators. These days there are four to six welders on staff plus another five to six laborers whose jobs range from sawing, painting, and drilling to operating computer-controlled plasma cutters, press brakes, and load building.

The standard line of parts that KD Welding produces for Cherry's includes sub-assemblies for Pallet Inverters and Retrieval Systems, Pallet Dispensers, and 90 Degree Load Tippers. These heavy-duty machines are not only used for manipulating and rotating thousands of pounds of products quickly and safely, but also save companies hundreds of hours of manual labor while avoiding product damage and workplace injuries.





The staff of KD Welding, including the Loney Family

Although KD Welding has a standard line produced for Cherry's, their biggest strength is their ability to design and create custom applications in short time spans. They have worked closely with other local companies in the manufacturing and distribution of their products, including Blackjack Machine in Galena, T & T Recycling in Savannah, and Grove Tool in Dubuque. Their products are distributed throughout the United States as well as in Canada, Mexico, and Australia.

KD Welding does not sell equipment to the public, but they are open to custom jobs and steel sales. They always have thousands of pounds of steel on hand that local contractors can purchase for jobs and will also special-order steel for any size project. Examples of past custom jobs include personalized fire pit rings as well as stainless-steel countertops for private homes. They can also cut detailed steel road signage and some of these projects are proudly displayed by several area businesses.

KD Welding is constantly looking to improve processes in their work for Cherry's and plans to expand operations soon for more efficient load and parts staging at their location in the Hanover Industrial Park.

If you are a Welder looking for a new homebase, check out KD Welding!

## Contact Details

**KD Welding, Inc.**

**Address:** 2 River Bend Dr., Hanover, IL 61041

**Website:** [www.KDWeldingInc.com](http://www.KDWeldingInc.com)

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*"We are open to the public for custom jobs and steel sales. We've helped local contractors with larger steel purchases, other local manufacturers with overflow and sub-contracting work, and even simple things like firepits and steel countertops. All sorts of goofy stuff."*

Ryan Loney, Owner-Operator



The working shell of a Pallet Inverter for Cherry's Industrial Equipment. A pallet inverter is a piece of equipment that can take loads, sometimes up to 8,000 lbs., and rotate them 180 degrees in seconds.