



## SUCCESSOR

### John "Mike" Vander Haag Vander Haag's, Inc., Iowa

The Vander Haag auto recycling company is big. It consists of four locations in Iowa and South Dakota and has a reputation to match. And John "Mike" Vander Haag is the man to fill those respectable and historical shoes.

In 1939 John's father, John Vander Haag Jr., opened a small "junkyard" in Sanborn, Iowa. In the 68 years that followed, the business grew to four locations. Earlier this year, John took over the reigns of Vander Haag's, Inc.

Tom O'Brien, an employee at Vander Haag's, Inc. nominated John for Boss of the Year and boasted that he was a visionary leader. "He is an inspirational person that is dedicated to Vander Haag's, Inc. and to taking the business to the next level and beyond," he wrote.

In the late 1960s the Sanborn headquarters was moved to Spencer, Iowa and since then, additional locations have opened in Des Moines and Council Bluffs, Iowa and Sioux Falls, S.D. The company has grown to collectively encompass more than 146 acres and more than 190,000-square-feet of warehousing. The business has grown to become one of the largest truck part recyclers in the Midwest.

"I've grown up in the business," John said in a recent interview. I always knew that this is what I wanted to do." ❧

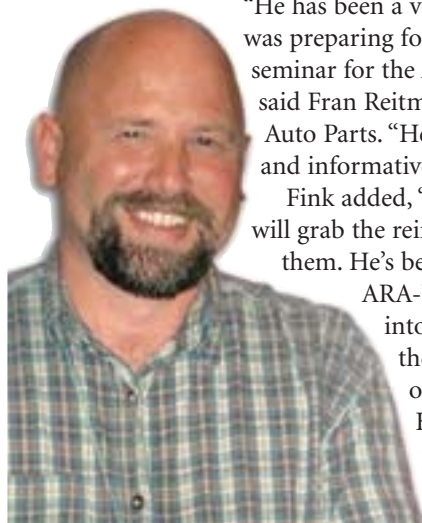
BY BERNIE PISCZEK • PHOTO THE LOCATOR

## MOTIVATOR

### Mark Eiss Eiss Brothers Auto Parts, New York

If you want to stay at the forefront of the industry, just follow Mark Eiss' lead. The recycler, a co-owner of Eiss Brothers Auto Parts, was named Most Influential Motivator for a reason. In the business for over 25 years, Eiss has inspired others in the areas of quality, integrity and professionalism.

"Mark has set the standard for the rest of us," said David Fink of Benwood Auto Parts. "He's definitely a guiding force in the industry."

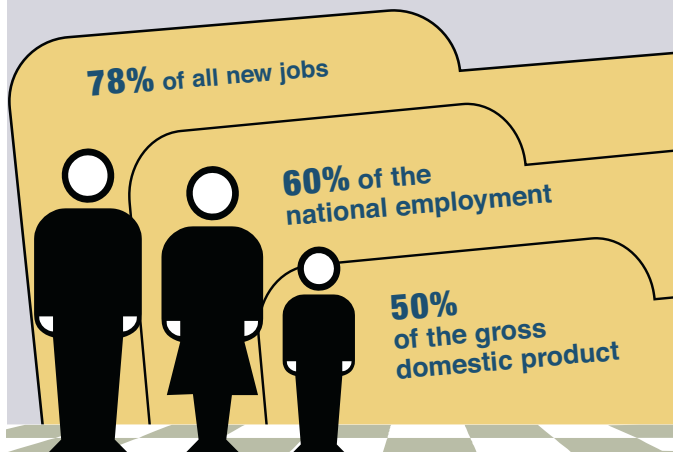


"He has been a very big help when I was preparing for the small yard seminar for the ARA Convention," said Fran Reitman of Reitman Auto Parts. "He's very motivating and informative."

Fink added, "He's a guy who will grab the reins and run with them. He's been president of ARA-NY. He's plugged into the industry. He's the one who can look outside the box. He's a great example of what a modern recycler should be." ❧

BY FELICIA LOWENSTEIN NIVEN • PHOTO THE LOCATOR

### In the United States, **FAMILY BUSINESSES ACCOUNT FOR:**



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