

# PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Port of Chehalis Closes \$2.5M Property Sale to McCallum Rock Drilling**

*Family-Owned Company Plans to Double Their Employment By 2022*

[Chehalis, WA] — The Port of Chehalis is thrilled to announce its \$2.5 million property sale to longtime tenant McCallum Rock Drilling. The Chehalis-based contractor is expanding operations and expects to double its workforce over the next year, creating more than 100 new jobs in Lewis County.

"McCallum Rock Drilling are recognized leaders in their industry, and they offer some of the highest-paying industrial wages in Lewis County," Port of Chehalis Commission President Mark Anders said. "This property sale is the largest in the port's history and a big win for our local economy. We couldn't be happier that they chose to stay in Chehalis as their business continues to grow."

McCallum Rock Drilling (MRD) is a full-service rock drilling and blasting contractor that performs services across the western U.S. MRD performs all applications of drilling and blasting for large-scale commercial quarries, road and highway construction, residential and commercial development and more. The company purchased the property located at 123 Habein Road for its current operations and to support future growth plans.

MRD was founded by Rich McCallum in 1988 and remains family-owned and operated. Two of McCallum's children — Tyler McCallum and Hayley (McCallum) Coronel — purchased MRD from their father in 2016. At the time, the company employed around 30 people.

Since 2016, the McCallums have grown their business by more than 20% each year and started additional companies that complement MRD's services. Their companies now employ more than 100 people combined. By 2022, the McCallums project they will employ more than 200 people total.

McCallum Powder LLC is one of the companies Tyler McCallum and Hayley Coronel founded, and part of the McCallums' future growth plans. The company manufactures, stores and hauls commercial explosives and is one of the few manufacturers in the U.S. with the specialized equipment and trucks necessary to do so. The additional space at 123 Habein Road will allow the McCallums to continue current operations, while increasing the number of trucks they can manufacture.

"There are only a few manufacturers in the U.S. that produce these specialized truck bodies needed to haul the explosive products," said Tyler McCallum, President and Co-owner at McCallum Rock Drilling and McCallum Powder. "After ordering the first two from one of our suppliers, we decided to experiment with building them on our own. Thanks to some talented Lewis County employees, we now make some of the most well-built explosives hauling trucks in the U.S."

All three of Rich McCallum's children attended Chehalis public schools, and both Tyler McCallum and Hayley Coronel reside in Chehalis with their families. MRD was previously located at 115 Sturdevant Road in the Chehalis Industrial Park.

"We are pleased to continue our investment in the Chehalis community and look forward to expanding our workforce in Lewis County," Tyler McCallum said. "We have found high-quality employees here, who share our family values and strong work ethic."

For more information about the Port of Chehalis please visit <https://portofchehalis.com>.

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