
FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF
BENJAMIN.JOHNSON@COLLIERS.COM

From the Columbus Business First:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2023/03/27/middle-west-spirits-upping-production-by-10x-with.html>

SUBSCRIBER CONTENT:

Middle West Spirits upping production by 10x with new distillery

Mar 27, 2023, 1:51pm EDT



Project Design MA Design / Rendering by Kelley Design Co.

With the brand's expansion on Alum Creek Drive in Columbus, Ohio, Middle West Spirits is one of the country's top 10 grain-to-glass whiskey and spirits producers and the largest distillery in Ohio.

A Columbus spirits-maker is growing again with plans for a second distillery, 80 new jobs and more.

Middle West Spirits is expanding its campus at 1165 Alum Creek Dr. It plans to build a new 75,000-square-foot distillery, a grain recycling center, a packaging and bottling facility and new offices. Future plans also include a possible hospitality component somewhere down the road.

When the distillery began moving into the Alum Creek complex in 2020, future expansion potential was part of the appeal.

“This is a big jump for us,” founder and CEO Ryan Lang said of the latest project. “We need this for now and for the long view.”

Lang said the new facility will have more than 10 times the production capabilities of the original distillery on Courtland Avenue in the Short North, though it will take time to build up to that figure. Its production focus will be on American whiskey and bourbon, product categories with high demand and sales both in Ohio and nationwide.

The Courtland facility will continue to operate. Its focus will be on vodka, gin and small-batch production. The adjoining Service Bar restaurant and the company’s retail bottle shop also are at Courtland.

The Ohio Tax Credit Authority Monday approved a seven-year, 1.423% tax credit for the Alum Creek Drive project. It is valued at \$420,000 over that time period should Middle West Spirits hit all of its job creation goals.

The company expects to create \$4.71 million in new annual payroll while retaining \$3.03 million in payroll for the 46 jobs currently at Alum Creek, according to information from the state.

Lang said Middle West’s total employment is actually around 100 including the Service Bar restaurant and retail operations in the Short North.

The expansion will make Middle West the largest distillery in Ohio.

MA Design is the lead designers on the project.

Hiring has begun for some of those 80 new jobs which will include operations, sales, logistics and front office roles.

Sales continue to grow; Middle West and its related brands are now sold in 43 states.

But the expansion will help grow more than its own products. The company also helps other brands hone, test and produce spirits through its strategic partner program. Collaborators in that include Hotel Tango, Horse Soldier and Old Line Spirits. The expansion will further Middle West's bottling and labeling capabilities, test kitchen and barrel and finishing space for those partners as well.

Middle West was founded in 2008. It's grown its product portfolio to 15 different spirits including its assortment of Middle West bourbons, ryes and whiskeys, its OYO-branded vodkas and the Vim & Petal and Lux & Umbra gins.




Dan Eaton

Staff reporter - *Columbus Business First*

[Back to Top](#) ▲

COLUMBUS BUSINESS FIRST

[User Agreement](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Ad Choices](#) |  [Your Privacy Choices](#)

© 2023 American City Business Journals. All rights reserved. Use of and/or registration on any portion of this site constitutes acceptance of our [User Agreement](#) (updated January 24, 2023) and [Privacy Policy](#) (updated January 24, 2023). The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of American City Business Journals.

