



# interactive aerial

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## Mark Stephens named CEO of Interactive Aerial

TRAVERSE CITY, Michigan- Interactive Aerial, a supplier of premium UAV's used for internal confined space environments announced today the hiring of Mark Stephens as CEO of the company. Stephens' has also purchased an equity position in the company. Stephens brings 35 years of manufacturing, start-up and business knowledge to Interactive Aerial. Christian Smith will step down from CEO and assume the role of President.

"Experience with sales, manufacturing, and customer service has been a welcomed addition" says Christian Smith, President. "The more time went on, we all realized that we needed help and a fresh perspective. Mark has been in the battle for many years and has shown us the right way to grow a company. We are all very excited to have him on board as we move through a growth stage."

"I have known the owners of Interactive Aerial for two years" says Stephens. "and have been working with them recently in a consulting role. The guys have a great product with a ton of potential. The unusual thing is that they had the guts to ask for management help and that's a credit to Christian and the rest of the young owners. They are embarking on a new phase of their existence as the UAV is now production ready."



Stephens is the previous owner of Ironwood Plastics, a high-end injection molder in Michigan's Upper Peninsula which he started with his father in 1980. The company was sold to CTB, a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway in 2010. Stephens left CTB in 2014 and moved to Traverse City where he started 906 Capital, LLC, a company that invests in other manufacturing companies. His background is in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan with an MBA from Lake Superior State University. He is married with two grown children and enjoys cycling, hunting, fishing and mentoring for the local high school robotics team.

*About Interactive Aerial:* Established in 2014, Interactive Aerial is the manufacturer of confined space UAV's used in the inspection of boilers, cooling towers, ship hulls and fluid storage tanks. The Legacy One is able to operate without GPS with full collision avoidance capabilities in dark environments. The company offers full training, support and manufacturing from its headquarters in Traverse City, Michigan.