



SOUTHERN IDAHO  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
ORGANIZATION

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **WEL COMPANIES ANNOUNCES NEW FACILITY IN GOODING**

February 11, 2011 -- WEL Companies, Inc -- a national warehousing, transportation and storage company with 14 facilities throughout the United States -- announces they will expand operations in Gooding, Idaho. WEL, headquartered in De Pere, Wisconsin, will take over the 120,000 square-foot former Kiefer Built building in Gooding's Industrial Park.

"The Gooding location provides us with a large building capable of retrofitting for full refrigeration and is ideally located next to rail for more efficient transport of stored products to our customers throughout the country," said Bruce Tielens, president and CEO of WEL Companies. "Along with good highway access, this Gooding facility will be a prime location for our storage and transport operations," he said.

According to Greg Krall, northwest warehouse and operations manager, "The facility will be turned into all refrigerated space over the next several months to store dairy and food products, the main commodity that will be stored and transported out of this new facility."

Trans docking will begin in the next few weeks with full operations ready once refrigeration changes are complete. Hiring and training for at least 15 commercial truck drivers and five warehouse staff will begin immediately. The College of Southern Idaho will be working with the company on developing truck driving training courses for the operation.

“We are delighted to welcome WEL to our city,” said Gooding mayor Duke Morton. “This is a good, solid company that will bring new jobs to our community. We look forward to working with them to build up our industrial park,” he said.

“This was a true Idaho team effort in support of recruiting this quality company to our region,” said Jan Rogers, executive director or Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization. “With the help of the City of Gooding, Idaho Department of Commerce, the Idaho Department of Labor, Region IV Development and many others, we were able to secure this new economic opportunity for our region.”

Family owned and operated for 35 years, WEL Companies is an asset-based trucking and warehouse company offering services in: 48 states with refrigerated transportation and a base of approximately 500 trucks, refrigerated and dry full service warehousing in 14 locations throughout the United States with over 1 million square feet of food grade facilities. The company also provides services in cheese buying and financing, WEL Logistics (brokerage), rail services, container drayage and stripping services and WEL Companies Tax Recovery Services. [www.welcompanies.com](http://www.welcompanies.com)

WEL has a satellite terminal/business office in Idaho Falls with 30 OTR drivers.

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