

McGrath Powersports

Location: Center Point Rd. NE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Completed: Summer 2008

Size: 27,600 s.f.

Construction: Horizontal & vertical
steel siding &
steel structure

Developer: Mike McGrath



After decades of successfully operating a network of car dealerships, the McGrath family decided to branch out into more “sporty” vehicles, and by sporty we don’t mean the latest Corvette or Charger.

Mike McGrath, long time automobile dealer, had a vision for a new business that would serve the needs of area motorcycle and personal watercraft enthusiasts.

On the site of their former used car location, across the street from existing McGrath automobile dealerships, Mike set out to construct this new facility, and he turned to Brost Architects and Planners to help him find ways to create an economical building that was interesting and exciting.

One of the chief challenges faced with this site was poor soil conditions for the building foundations. In order to avoid the need to excavate nearly 20 feet of soil, an unusual foundation system called geopiers was utilized for the site.

With the goal of creating an “industrial” feel, various colored metal siding systems were used, along with flat exposed steel canopy elements. The showroom floor is full of shiny exposed ductwork to further the industrial look of the space. The wide open floor plan and high ceilings provide occupants with a soaring sense of freedom to enjoy their powersports passion.

