

# NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL FRANKLIN CAMPUS

## PROJECT SNAPSHOT:

**Description:**  
Specialty metal fabrication,  
railings, stairs

**Owner:**  
Northwestern Mutual

**General Contractor:**  
Opus North Corporation

**Architect:**  
Eppstein Uhen Architects

**Engineer:**  
Affiliated Engineers

**Completed:**  
April 2004



Photo Courtesy of Northwestern Mutual. Copyright 2004.

*Northwestern Mutual completed work on the two-year, first phase project of its new Franklin, Wis., campus in April 2004.*

## GRUNAU METALS' INGENUITY ENHANCES QUALITY OF NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL BUILDING

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

Northwestern Mutual is developing a campus in Franklin, Wis., to accommodate their expanding needs over the next 10-20 years. Work was completed in April 2004 on the two-year, \$125 million first phase of the project, a half-million square foot low-rise office building.

### SITUATION

Grunau Metals helped Northwestern Mutual maintain the architectural quality of their building with its keen sense of style and attention to the smallest details. The metals team fabricated the building's ornamental stainless steel railings, and when the general contractor requested a minimum amount of visible welds, they devised an innovative fastening system with unexposed fasteners. Details such as the distinct linear polish on the stainless steel components, rather than the traditional polish around the metal's circumference, gave the metal a high-end look. Grunau Metals conveyed their attention to detail while managing the contractors who installed the wood cap and glass infill for the railings. The metals team also installed the galvanized grilles in the building's parking structure, exhibiting their wide range of metal fabrication skills.



*Grunau Metals used a distinct linear polish on all stainless steel railings at Northwestern Mutual's Franklin campus, adding to the architectural quality of the building.*



*Wisconsin Builder magazine recognized the Northwestern Mutual – Franklin Campus project as one of Wisconsin's 20 best projects of 2004.*

## RESULTS

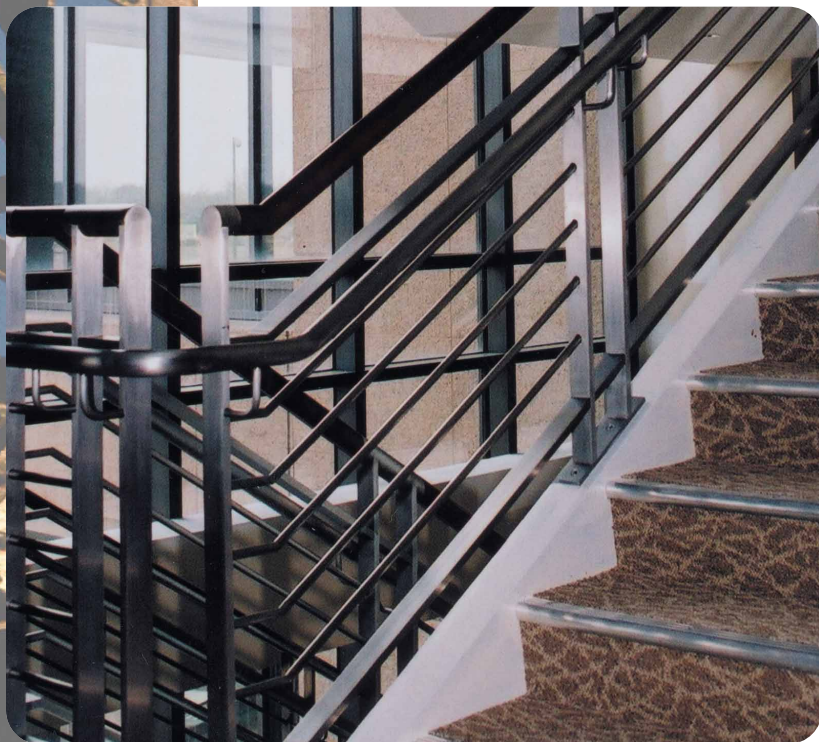
Grunau Metals worked closely with Northwestern Mutual and the general contractor to ensure the highest quality of work and to maintain the sophistication and integrity of the building. "We looked to add the details that are important to Northwestern Mutual and their overall image in this architecturally noteworthy building," said Mark Gall, vice president, Grunau Metals division manager. "We strive to be innovative in our work to meet the needs of our clients."



*Grunau Metals used an innovative fastening system on the building's handrails to eliminate visible welds and create a sleek, continuous design.*

## ABOUT GRUNAU METALS

Since 1977, the Grunau Metals team has been led by highly skilled professionals who specialize in metal fabrication. Our extremely versatile team prides itself on taking the time to understand your vision and bring your ideas to life. We put your interests first and offer complete service and cost-saving efficiencies.



*Grunau Metals fabricated interior stairs and mezzanine railings in the half-million square foot low-rise office building.*