

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BALDWIN, MICH. (March 25, 2020) —One of the manufacturing buildings at Stealthcraft Boats burned down during the overnight hours of Tuesday, March 24. Nobody was in the building at the time and the damage was confined to the structure and its contents — all of which were destroyed during the blaze. Video security cameras were active at the time and footage has been made available to investigators working to determine the circumstances that lead to the fire.

The Baldwin-based company is a premier manufacturer of drift boats, power drifters, jet sleds and other specialized recreational fishing and first-responder vessels.

"While Stealthcraft is reeling from this loss, the most important thing is that nobody was hurt," says Stealthcraft owner, Captain Mike Batcke, who wishes to reassure customers that Stealthcraft maintains multiple manufacturing facilities and physical production capability remains.

"Due to the global pandemic, manufacturing has slowed considerably around the country. This includes the critical supply chain throughout the automotive and marine industries," says Batcke, who, like other business owners, faces additional challenges relative to Governor Whitmer's stay-at-home executive order. "While devastating fires are never a good thing, this timing will allow Stealthcraft to attend to essential details which will help mitigate the impact of the fire when production ramps up again," Batcke says.

"This company comes from humble beginnings in a garage, and we've gotten to where we're at by consistently overcoming obstacles," Batcke continues. "We are forever grateful for our valued customers and dedicated employees. Our boats are designed and built by avid anglers and guides and are perfected through trial and error. Stealthcraft will remain at the forefront of design, innovation and capability, even in the face of all current challenges. We want to thank our customers for their patience and continued support."

Mike Batcke:

(C.E.O. and President)

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