

Feature

FROM THE PAGES OF HISTORY Ankmar



Photos

1. Denver plant, 2005.
2. Denver plant, 2000.
3. Kansas City plant, 2003.
4. Sweet Home, Ore., plant, 2005.
5. Bill Smith, Ankmar president and CEO, 2005-present.
6. One of Ankmar's first CladPanel doors, the Chateau model, 2002.

Source: Ankmar corporate files.

Milestones

- 1956 ▶ Bob Martinez begins Ankmar Garage Door as an installer in Denver, Colo., starting the business with a \$500 loan to buy his first pick-up truck. The name is created by combining Martinez with Rudy Ankley, an original partner. The partnership is brief, but the name continues.
- 1974 ▶ Ankmar begins manufacturing wood garage doors in Denver.
- 1979 ▶ The company introduces the Cladwood garage door in Colorado. The panels are produced in Sweet Home, Ore., by the Cladwood division of Publishers Paper and Times Mirror.
 - ▶ Ankmar begins assembling commercial steel door sections in Colorado.
- 1982 ▶ Working as part of the Garage Door Group, Ankmar begins manufacturing steel sections in Kansas City with partners Amarr and Delden.
- 1990 ▶ Ankmar leaves its association with the Garage Door Group.
- 1991 ▶ The firm opens its own steel door manufacturing plant in Kansas City.
- 1996 ▶ Ankmar opens a new location in Colorado Springs, Colo., focusing on installation.
 - ▶ Ankmar begins manufacturing high-end custom wood-sided doors in Colorado.
 - ▶ Ankmar steel door production moves to its current location on Kansas Ave. in Kansas City.
- 1998 ▶ At Cladwood's Sweet Home, Ore., plant, a Raute press line is installed, allowing CladPanel panels to be made in lengths greater than 9'.
- 1999 ▶ Ankmar moves to a new 120,000-sq.-ft. facility in Denver, Colo., to support growing business along Colorado's Front Range.
- 2002 ▶ The company purchases the Sweet Home, Ore., Cladwood manufacturing facility from Smurfit and changes the product name to CladPanel.
 - ▶ Ankmar introduces the new CladPanel Manor House Collection of carriage-style garage doors.
- 2003 ▶ Ankmar opens a new location in Loveland, Colo., focusing on installation and wholesale.
- 2005 ▶ Gallagher Industries, a private equity group in Denver, Colo., purchases Ankmar from Bob Martinez. The company is renamed Ankmar, LLC.
- 2006 ▶ Ankmar and the Sweet Home facility each celebrate their 50th years.