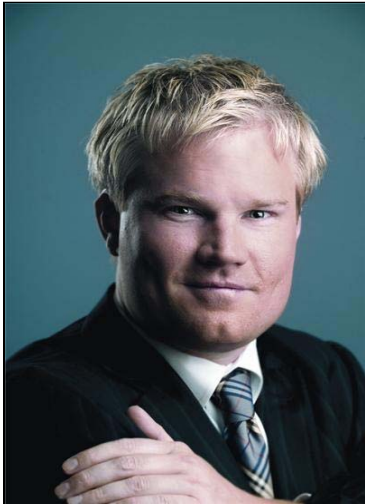


Keith Albertie
September 26, 2005



Keith Albertie, 33

Vice president of wholesale marketing and secretary
RKA Petroleum Cos.
Romulus

Biggest achievement: Taking over as the top family member in the business and increasing revenue by nearly 50 percent after his father's death in June 2004.

Current goal: To expand the company through acquisitions, add to its fuel storage at the current site and buy another terminal.

When Roger Albertie, president of **RKA Petroleum Cos.**, was killed in a car accident last year, Keith Albertie found himself trying to fill his father's shoes.

Keith Albertie, vice president of wholesale marketing, said that becoming the company's top-ranking family member was tough emotionally. But he and the company moved forward thanks to a succession plan set in place before his father's death and a 58-person staff that he credits with keeping the company strong.

"Everybody just came together," Albertie said. "It's a true testament to the people who work here."

Albertie has put the company in a position to increase revenue to \$126 million this year, up from \$85 million in 2004. Much of the growth comes from new supplier contracts, a more-aggressive sales strategy, alternative-fuel sales and expansion into Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Kentucky.

Albertie also has spearheaded the company's use of technology. He and Information Systems Manager Jason Hittleman developed software that lists and quotes fuel prices online. That program helps customers know what they're paying, no matter how often the price changes, Albertie said.

The company also uses remote sensors to track how much fuel a customer has and create a new fuel order once the supply

gets too low.

"It helps us reach many more customers without needing more manpower," Albertie said.

Although Albertie acknowledges the role he's played, he credits his father for doing much of the groundwork.

"It's a lot of his hard work that's getting recognized," Albertie said.

— *Sheena Harrison*

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