



**MICHIGAN 50 COMPANIES TO WATCH™**  
AN AWARDS PROGRAM CELEBRATING SECOND-STAGE ENTREPRENEURS  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE EDWARD LOWE FOUNDATION

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» [Message From Darlene Lowe](#)

» [Economic Impact of the Michigan 50](#)  
» [Building Entrepreneurial Communities](#)  
» [Michigan 50 Alumni Shine On](#)  
» [Resources for Second-Stage Business Owners](#)

## Industrial Maintenance Services Inc.

Escanaba



**Snapshot:** Industrial Maintenance Services is an engineering contractor that also installs, repairs and maintains industrial equipment for clients. Providing both general contracting and repair and maintenance services buffers IMS from economic slowdowns.

**Broad Capabilities:** With its staff of engineers and contractors, IMS can take on a variety of projects for companies that range from mines in the Upper Peninsula wilderness to paper manufacturers in metro areas.

**Passing the Government Test:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Coast Guard have issued outstanding ratings for IMS projects. As a result of work it completed in Michigan in 2003, the firm was one of just three contractors in the eastern United States that earned the Coast Guard's highest recognition.

**Spreading Its Wings:** After building a diverse customer base in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the company opened a northern Minnesota office in 2006 to broaden its presence in the upper Midwest.

**In Contact in the Wilderness:** When crews are on location, wireless Internet service is used where there's a cellular signal. But in the remote Upper Peninsula wilderness, crews rely on satellite phones and digital satellite Internet service to be in contact with managers for problem solving and safety management.

**Investing in Safety:** IMS takes a proactive approach to comply with rules set by governmental agencies, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. In 2004 the company hired a full-time safety director and has developed training programs and safety policies.

**Visible Community Presence:** When a local school needed to address safety concerns on its playground, IMS donated use of its equipment to improve the site. The company also sponsors a \$2,000 annual scholarship to support a student at a local trade school.



John R. Soper Jr., President; Brenda Soper-Gartland, Chief Financial Officer; and Nathan J. Michaelson, Construction Manager

### AT A GLANCE

Industrial Maintenance Services Inc.

John R. Soper, President

Escanaba

Founded: 1997

Primary Business: Engineering contracting, equipment repair and maintenance

Sites in Michigan: 1

Sites Elsewhere: 1

32 Full-Time Equivalent Employees in 2006

36 Full-Time Equivalent Employees Expected in 2007

[www.imscontracting.com](http://www.imscontracting.com)

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[Receive 2010 Information](#)

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[Class of 2007](#)  
[Class of 2006](#)  
[Class of 2005](#)

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[Underwriters](#)  
[Presenting Organizations](#)  
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)  
[Program Rules and Eligibility](#)  
[Michigan Celebrates Small Business](#)  
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