



2024 Woman of Distinction Business



Emily Riggs Korn

President, *Somerset Welding & Steel*
Founder & President, *Uptown Works*

Emily Korn is the president of Somerset Welding & Steel, makers of J&J Truck Bodies and Trailers, located in Somerset, Pennsylvania. She is co-owner of the parent company, Riggs Industries, a third-generation family business specializing in the design, fabrication, construction, and maintenance of industrial facilities and equipment. Emily is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh.

While her family business has been a lifelong pursuit, Emily spent most of her career in consumer-packaged goods and healthcare. Emily began her career in Pittsburgh at the Allegheny County Health Department and General Nutrition Centers (GNC) and moved to New Jersey to pursue roles at Mars, Incorporated and Nestlé. She returned to western Pennsylvania in 2011 to raise her family in her hometown while working in

a global executive learning & development role for Mars. Emily opened a successful coworking center for remote workers, Uptown Works, in 2018. In 2022, she took the helm at Somerset Welding & Steel and has been focused on implementing new manufacturing processes and workforce recruitment and retention strategies.

Emily lives in Somerset with her husband, Justin, and three children, and she enjoys running, paddleboarding, skiing, and reading. She is a new Girl Scout mom—her 7-year-old daughter, Catherine, is a Girl Scout Daisy. She is passionate about economic development and entrepreneurship and serves on several local advisory boards. She was recently elected to the board of directors at Catalyst Connection and the National Truck Equipment Association.

“The character traits embodied by the Girl Scouts are exactly what we need in our business leaders. Community, entrepreneurship, ethics, grit, and adventure! It’s an honor to be recognized by Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania as a business leader.” – Emily Riggs Korn