



GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS CASE STUDY

We use fiber Internet from Great Plains Communications at all three of our locations — Thunderhead Brewing in Kearney and Axtell, and Thunderhead Taproom in Wilcox. We love it.

TREVOR SCHABEN
BREWMASTER
THUNDERHEAD BREWING

COMPANY

Thunderhead Brewing

LOCATIONS

Kearney, NE
Axtell, NE
Wilcox, NE

INDUSTRY

Retail/Specialty

SERVICES

Thunderhead Brewing is a small brewmaster-owned brewery dedicated to producing a variety of high-quality ales and lagers.

888-343-8014

gpcom.com/business



Trevor Schaben, brewmaster at Thunderhead Brewing, started the business with his wife and parents in 1999 in Kearney, Nebraska. All kinds of delicious developments have been brewing ever since.

Schaben said, "We make ales and lagers. We make pizzas from scratch. And we've been having a great time for more than 20 years."

The original Kearney location was the home of the brewery — where the beer is handcrafted by an experienced staff of beer lovers — until it outgrew the space. The brewing operation moved to Axtell in 2008, where the focus is on brewing beer with limited taproom service and the occasional food truck. Customers go to Kearney for the full Thunderhead Brewery experience, including a delicious variety of beers from Thunderpie to Golden Frau, as well as appetizers, stone oven pizza, salads, and calzones.

In 2023, Schaben purchased a bar in an old building in Wilcox, with the plan to fix it up over time. Named Thunderhead Taproom, it promises to put its own unique stamp on the Thunderhead Brewery brand and make a big impression on the little village.



"My first passion and the thing I loved most initially was making beer and designing new varieties. I still love doing that, but as Thunderhead Brewing evolved, I became more interested in the business aspect of it, including the new technology available to businesses."

TREVOR SCHABEN, BREWMASTER
THUNDERHEAD BREWING

He continued, "The basics of the brewing industry haven't really changed much in about 1,500 years. However, our hobbies are generally tied to technology, and we run a technology-forward business. Our TVs, our entertainment, our jukebox, our point-of-sale system, and our credit card processing are all done through the internet, and so we absolutely need it to be fast and reliable, which is what we get from Great Plains Communications."

One of Thunderhead Brewery's biggest challenges in the past was figuring out how it was going to provide entertainment to its customers. Online streaming services were becoming the norm, but they were data intensive and required faster Internet than what Thunderhead Brewery could get from its previous provider. Great Plains Communications saved the day by providing super-fast fiber Internet. Cheers to that!

With our previous Internet service, our connection was too slow to accommodate streaming services on all the TVs we have in our bars. But after we switched to reliable and fast fiber Internet from Great Plains Communications, we were able to successfully stream entertainment for our customers to enjoy with their beers.

TREVOR SCHABEN
BREWMASTER
THUNDERHEAD BREWING

