



## **OUR STORY**

The vision for Eagle Creek was born in the San Jacinto Mountains of California, where youthful, energetic Steve and Nona Barker sold mountaineering gear, taught climbing, and sewed custom mountain packs from a store called, "Mountain People." In 1975, Mountain People closed, and Steve and Nona turned their energies full-time to their passion: manufacturing high quality packs for a budding industry they coined, "adventure travel". The name, "Eagle Creek" was chosen and production began from a small warehouse in Southern California's Solana Beach. Humble beginnings with a simple purpose: making travel easier.

Since then, Eagle Creek has expanded into a global brand with distribution throughout Europe and Japan. In 1999, the company moved into a 92,000-sq. ft. facility in Vista, California that serves as corporate headquarters today. That same year, with the vision to create a new urban lifestyle brand, Eagle Creek introduced Clive to the marketplace.

No history of Eagle Creek would be complete without an understanding of the primary force guiding the progress - the "Creekers" who work at the company. It's noteworthy that years later, there are still those working for EC who remember the "good old days" of the Solana Beach storefront. Though much has changed, unwavering purpose, quality of service and uncompromised product has remained consistent throughout the years.

### **1975**

Steve and Nona started producing packs from a modest warehouse in Solana Beach California. Eagle Creek was born, as was the 'adventure travel' category.

### **1980**

Ricky Schlesinger joins the Barker's, eventually taking over the reigns of sales and marketing. Today he serves as Executive Vice President of Eagle Creek.

### **1978**

EC retail stores, "The Pack Factory" were opened in Solana Beach and La Jolla. In 1986 the Solana Beach store was sold to a long-time customer, Adventure 16.

### **1987**

Eagle Creek was 'busting at the seams' in Solana Beach, so the company moved into bigger facilities in San Marcos, California.

**1990**

European Sales and distribution was set up in Bochum, Germany. Today, Eagle Creek has grown to include well over 800 accounts in countries worldwide including Germany, France, England, Scotland, Scandinavia, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Italy, Spain and Portugal. Products can also be found in Canada, South America, Australia, Japan, Singapore, Korea, Taiwan, New Zealand, and Hong Kong.

**1996**

The Switchback debuts as the first convertible backpack on wheels. Same year, the first Pack-It pieces hits stores, forever changing the way people pack.

**1999**

Eagle Creek outgrew the San Marcos facility and moved into a 92,000 square-foot facility in Vista, Ca. – with a climbing wall to boot. In the same year, EC launched urban lifestyle brand, Clive.

**2005**

Velocity Travel Gear was introduced for the perpetual business traveler.

**Present**

Today, Eagle Creek continues to lead the market as an innovator and manufacturer of adventure travel gear, luggage and packing solutions for active, adventurous souls. We're committed sharing our love and passion for travel with others, while making every journey a little easier.