

PIPELINE

Fall 2015

INSIDE:

**Spotlight on
Milwaukee** See Page 4

Living United See Page 6

ALSO INSIDE:

Fire Alarm Monitoring
Now Available!

Sharing Ideas, Delivering Success

Winterize Your Sprinkler Systems!



Ahern Now Offers Fire Alarm Monitoring!

Service brings total facility fire protection to new and existing customers

Ahern recently added fire alarm monitoring to the Company's line of facility fire protection services. The service is available to owners of all fire protection systems, regardless of who performed the original installation.

Ahern's fire alarm monitoring service includes a range of features that ensure quick response and comprehensive facility safety, including:

- 24/7 live monitoring
- Redundant, geo-diverse central stations across the U.S.
- Rigorous dispatcher training under supervision of an industrial psychologist
- UL-listed and FM-approved equipment and facilities



Monitoring services round out Ahern's full line of fire detection and alarm system services, which include installation, testing, and service. The Company is an authorized distributor of NOTIFIER® by Honeywell,

the largest manufacturer of engineered fire alarm systems.

"Ahern's goal is to bring customers total facility fire protection, and this leading edge monitoring service is a strong addition to our product and service line," said Jace Hierlmeier, executive vice president of Ahern Fire Protection. "From system design and installation through ongoing maintenance and inspections, Ahern fulfills every fire protection need through the life of our customers' facilities."

For more information, email info@jfahern.com.



Ahern Named One of Wisconsin's Healthiest Employers

Ahern is proud to announce that the Company was recently recognized as one of Wisconsin's Healthiest Employers by news publisher *The Business Journal*. Recognized in the large-size category (1,000 employees or more), Ahern demonstrated a companywide strong commitment to improving employees' quality of life and overall well-being. The award is based on attaining a high overall score on a survey and essay completed through Healthiest Employer® LLC, *The Business Journal's* partner in the awards program, which graded Ahern's Human Resources department, benefit and wellness programs, finances, safety, and overall employee wellness scores.

"The Company is very committed to continuous improvement of our employees' health and wellness, and we are honored to rank alongside some of Wisconsin's largest companies," states Travis Moser, Director of Human Resources.

"By offering a comprehensive wellness program, Ahern provides its employees with many resources to enrich their lives both in and outside of the office, creating a positive work/life balance."



Ahern is a full-service mechanical, pipe fabrication, and fire protection contractor.

The Company's executive officers include:

John E. Ahern | Chairman

John E. "Tripp" Ahern III | President and CEO

Anthony J. Ahern | Executive Vice President
Fabrication and Operations

Krista J. Ebbens | General Counsel and
Corporate Secretary

Robert J. Fischer | Executive Vice President
Milwaukee Region

Jace T. Hierlmeier | Executive Vice President
Ahern Fire Protection

James R. Jarvis | Executive Vice President
Northern Wisconsin & Madison Regions

Adam J. Wunderlin | Chief Financial Officer

PIPELINE

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Ahern's Core Purpose:

To create and maintain systems that save lives, improve the environment, and ensure personal comfort and well-being.

Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action

J.F. AHERN CO. is an equal opportunity employer. It is our policy not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or other basis prohibited by applicable local, state or federal fair employment laws. This policy applies to all personnel actions and activities, including recruiting, selection, hire, placement, training, transfer, promotion, layoff and recall, compensation, discipline, and termination.

J.F. AHERN CO. is also committed to a policy of affirmative action with regard to female, minority, handicapped, Vietnam era and disabled veteran employees and applicants for employment. Pursuant to that commitment, the Company has adopted policies and procedures to meet the requirements of Executive Order 11246, Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Act of 1974, as well as various state and local laws, including, but not limited to, sec. 16.765, Wis. Stats. (Contract Compliance Law) and the City of Madison Affirmative Action Ordinance, sec. 39.02.

Our EEO/AAP policies are a matter of continuing interest and importance to all our employees. For that reason, it is the policy of J.F. AHERN CO. that officers and management personnel periodically review and, as appropriate, revise such policies to better promote equal employment opportunities and affirmative action. Our EEO/AAP policies are regularly communicated both internally and externally, including to all construction trade unions, referral agencies and sources, and subcontractors with whom we do business.

The responsibility for coordinating the implementation of our EEO/AAP policies has been assigned to Travis Moser, Director of Human Resources. Mr. Moser shall serve as EEO/AAP Officer and shall report, with regard to such matters, directly to J.F. AHERN CO.'s Executive Management Team.

Ahern Collaborates Across Offices to Deliver on Conveyor Project

Ahern's Quad Cities office recently installed a fire sprinkler system to protect the conveyors at FedEx's newly constructed Rock Island, Illinois distribution center. While this was a new customer for the Quad Cities team, FedEx is certainly no stranger to Ahern. In fact, this project was awarded in part because of the relationship and past performance that other Ahern offices have established with the global delivery giant.

Ahern Project Manager Doug Kitzman gathered a team of the Company's field and design professionals, all of whom had previous experience working with FedEx and on conveyor systems, which present unique challenges. Electrical, sensing, and water lines beneath the conveyors leave little room for error when fabricating and installing the sprinkler pipe, and the conveyor systems themselves change elevations throughout the facility, making the installation even more complex.



Ahern installed two dry systems to protect multiple conveyors throughout the 180,000 square-foot facility, and the finished systems met the stringent requirements of both FedEx and the City of Rock Island.



"We brought in Dennis Rauls, an experienced foreman, and our Senior Designer Al Gustafson, who took good care of the customer and were able to handle all of the project's challenges," said Kitzman. "We also collaborated with our St. Louis and Des Moines offices, both of whom had worked on similar projects for FedEx."

"Our ability to meet tight schedules on this challenging installation while staying in constant communication with the customer is what made us successful," Kitzman said. "We're looking forward to providing FedEx with fire protection systems on future projects, and becoming yet another Ahern office to establish itself as FedEx's trusted partner."

Natural Gas Market Fuels Pipe Fabrication

It's no secret that the natural gas industry has been a growing market. Over the last two years, Ahern's Pipe Fabrication team has experienced a steady increase in piping production for the market and it doesn't show signs of slowing down heading into 2016. Completing a total of 19 projects in 2014 and 2015 with 17 different customers and 12 different owner/end users, Ahern's expertise in the natural gas/power/transmission/processing market landed six new projects for 2016 alone – and that number continues to grow.

With projects located throughout the U.S. and seven international countries, project location has no effect on Ahern's on-time delivery rate. In fact, 98% of the Company's shipments arrived per the client's installation schedule. And to give customers peace of mind, Ahern's Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) team utilizes in-house resources to ensure piping meets project and end-user expectations, such as:

- Hydro testing
- Radiographic (X-ray) examination
- Dye penetration, liquid penetration, and/or magnetic particle
- Photographs of piping/skid/truck loads before it leaves Ahern's facility

Since 2012, Ahern has made 520 deliveries with only one that resulted in product damage.

As the natural gas market continues to advance, Ahern's team continually adapts to the industry standards and demands of QA/QC. With an average of 9 years of pipe fabrication experience, and 13 years of welding experience Ahern's QC team is ready to take on this growing market in 2016.

For more information, contact Ian Schumacher at ischumacher@jfahern.com.



Spotlight on Milwaukee



Keeping it Cool (and warm) at Kohl's

Ahern provided the HVAC system needed to keep over 1,500 people comfortable at the newly constructed Kohl's Innovation Center outside Milwaukee. The 366,000 square foot facility brings together all of the department store chain's technology employees, who were previously spread over three separate facilities about 10 miles apart.

Kohl's purchased the vacant building, just down the street from its corporate headquarters, in 2013. It was previously a warehouse and needed to be essentially rebuilt to become the high-tech, sustainable building it is today. General contractor Mortenson Construction started work in June 2014, and the entire project took about a year to complete. Ahern was brought on to install and perform testing and balancing on a high-efficiency HVAC system that helped earn the building LEED Silver certification. Equipment included:

- 3 Air Cooled Chillers
- 3 Boilers
- 6 Pumps
- 20 Custom Air Handling Units

- 20 Roof Top Units
- 181 VAV's, UFTU's & FCU's
- 20 Exhaust Fans
- 2 Make Up Air Units
- 1,300 Ceiling Grilles & Diffusers
- 1,500 Floor Diffusers

Ahern Project Manager Joe Hofman and Foremen Sereno Steindl (sheet metal), Eric Schoebel (steamfitter), and Paul Roseland (test & balance), along with the rest of the Kohl's project team, developed a strong relationship with the customer that extended beyond just this HVAC installation. "Our success on this project has led to a fire protection service agreement for the Innovation Center, a large project at their data center, and has secured our position as their preferred mechanical contractor," said Hofman. "Ahern's ability to deliver both construction and service offerings enables us to help customers like Kohl's throughout the lives of their facilities."



Rendering of Kohl's Innovation Center

Ahern Helps Bring High-Rise out of the Shadows

Fulcrum Asset Advisors and Millbrook Properties recently purchased a 20-story office tower and parking structure in downtown Milwaukee. Millbrook hired property manager Chase Gravengood to lead the building back to its glory days, when the tower was nearly fully occupied and boasted tenants such as the longtime upscale restaurant Grenadiers. Over the last 10 years, the building had seen numerous owners and property management companies come and go, but nobody was able to properly renovate the infrastructure that was in desperate need of updating and repair. A few key tenants and the parking structure provide revenue for the new owners, but Gravengood and his team needed to attract new tenants and businesses to this bustling corner. When a new potential tenant was lined up for the long-vacant restaurant, demolition began and plans were made to begin construction once the lease was inked. Scaffolding currently surrounds the south and east facades as Millbrook works to compete with new office towers being constructed nearby, almost within the shadow of its tower.

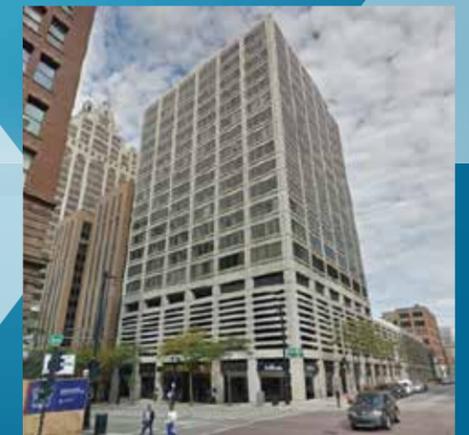
A top priority for the general manager and Millbrook's chief engineering team was to analyze all of the mechanical systems in the building and get them operating properly and

efficiently. Many of these systems had been basically abandoned and left to fail. Millbrook began working with Ahern from day one, within hours after the sale became official. Having worked with many office towers and 1970's-era buildings in the past, the team at Millbrook had the foresight to look toward the upcoming heating season and to implement the necessary projects immediately, rather than being reactionary.

Ahern helped revitalize pre-heating systems for the three main air handlers for the entire building – rebuilding and re-using existing pumps, starters, and electrical equipment, repairing leaks and replacing failed piping and fittings. Devices were added to measure and reduce water usage and help the building engineer to perform his maintenance more efficiently. Equipment that was still running, but on the verge of failure, was swiftly repaired, with projects stretching through the evenings and weekends so as to not disrupt the building occupant's comfort. Ahern's team has worked hard and diligently to ensure when the new tenants sign on that comfort in their new space is not a concern.



An Ahern field team member at work in the facility.



Rendering of the restored high-rise

Living United

Through Service

When it comes to community involvement, there is never a shortage of Ahern employees who are willing to lend a hand. No matter the task - whether creating a brand new walking trail, deep cleaning, or raising money through office events – Ahern has a lifelong, genuine dedication to each other and the community. And as you probably know, service needs are nonstop throughout the year! Working with the local United Way organization(s), here is what Ahern’s employees have been up to the last couple of months:



Madison Office United Way Fundraiser

Ahern’s Madison office completed a two-week-long United Way campaign which raised \$4,000 for the Madison United Way chapter! The office held a variety of events throughout the campaign including the purchase of mystery prize bags (gift cards, Ahern logo apparel, etc.), a bake sale, a silent auction, and a penny war game. Employees put money in jars to vote for three different managers to get “pied” - as evidenced by the photos at left!

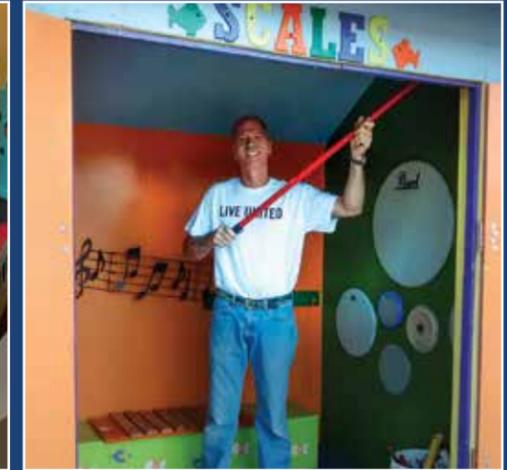


Pancake Breakfast

Ahern’s management team came into work bright and early to make pancakes for Ahern’s employee breakfast. The event kicked off the Fond du Lac office’s United Way campaign in October and was one of four ways employees could help contribute to the cause. Additionally, employees could pay for extra casual days to use throughout the month of October, purchase raffle tickets for a Wisconsin Badger Football game, and donate more through voluntary pledge forms.

United Way Week of Caring

During the week of September 7-16, Ahern employees volunteered for different organizations throughout the community on a number of different projects. Here is a sampling of the work that was completed:



Winterizing the “Winneplaygo” Exhibit at the Fond du Lac Children’s Museum



Camp Evelyn Projects – Building Backpack Cubbies, Building a Fire Pit, and Creating a Walking Trail



Assisting the Fond du Lac ARC on a Field Trip to the Madison Zoo

Don't Freeze Up!

Winterize Your Sprinkler System

Winterizing your fire sprinkler system is critical to keeping it operating effectively. Don't wait until it's too late to schedule your winterization service! Failure to winterize can result in costly freeze-ups, spontaneous activation, water damage, or cracked fittings.

Ahern provides comprehensive winterization services as a part of your routine inspection. Services include:

- Draining of low point auxiliary drains and condensate from compressor tanks
- Checking the priming water level
- Verifying the temperature of valve enclosures
- Checking the strength of antifreeze solutions
- Inspecting air compressor oil levels, belts, and all related equipment
- Verifying that all systems are in service



Contact Ahern today to schedule your winterization service... before it's too cold!

800.532.4376 | info@jfahern.com

Celebrating 135 Years!

