

# PIPELINE

Spring 2015

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# Ahern Welcomes Rusch as Chief Safety Officer



**Dustin Rusch**

Ahern President and CEO Tripp Ahern is pleased to introduce Dustin Rusch as the company's Chief Safety Officer.

Rusch brings over 20 years of environmental, health, and safety leadership experience to his role. He most recently served as a Health & Safety Practice Leader Senior Consultant with the Antea Group. Rusch has a B.S. in occupational health & safety management from Indiana State University and holds numerous professional safety certifications.

In his role, Rusch will be responsible for overall safety at Ahern's job sites, fabrication shops, and offices. He will lead the company's safety department as well as the Safety Steering Committee, a strategic development team comprised of safety employees and members of Ahern's business units. Rusch will provide strategic direction toward safety and operational excellence and the ultimate goal of zero accidents.

"Dustin is not only skilled from technical and regulatory standpoints; he also has the genuine concern for human welfare that makes him a standout in the safety field. We are thrilled to have him on the team." said President and CEO Tripp Ahern.

## Fabrication Invests in Local Gulf Coast Resources

To better serve Ahern's customer base in the Texas and Gulf Coast region, the Pipe Fabrication team recently hired Sales Representative Eve Green. Green brings 15 years of experience in selling services and products to refineries, chemical plants, and gas plants. She most recently held the Sales Representative role for GlobalTherm. She has sales experience with a variety of markets, including pipe manufacturing and natural resources.



**Eve Green**

Focusing on the industrial market, Green will be visiting existing clients and networking to increase her client base by attending trade shows and other duties to succeed and grow in the position.



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*

**Robert A. Mathews** | Chief Financial Officer

## PIPELINE

is published by Ahern

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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.

## A Quick Reference Guide to Fire Sprinkler Heads

### TYPICAL CONFIGURATIONS



#### Upright Sprinkler:

A sprinkler designed to be installed so that the water spray is directed upward against a deflector.



#### Pendent Sprinkler:

A sprinkler designed to be installed so that the water spray is directed downward against a deflector.



#### Sidewall Sprinkler:

A sprinkler designed to be installed so that the water is directed away from the nearby wall in a pattern resembling one-quarter of a sphere.

### SIDEWALL OPTIONS



#### Standard Adjustable:

(Default Sidewall Escutcheon) Two-piece escutcheon consisting of a cup and a skirt.



#### Semi-Recessed:

Two-piece escutcheon consisting of a cup and a trim ring.

**Standard Finishes for Sidewall and Pendent Options:** chrome & white (Not all finishes available on all types of heads. Custom finishes available at additional cost.)

### PENDENT OPTIONS



**Standard Adjustable:** Two-piece escutcheon consisting of a cup and a skirt.



#### Semi-Recessed:

(Default Pendent Escutcheon)  
Two-piece escutcheon consisting of a cup and a trim ring.



#### Concealed:

Single-piece, concealed plate with flat cover.

### Why So Many Options?

When a project is bid, it is standard to receive the most economically priced sprinkler system. For various reasons, many customers choose to select a different style sprinkler head from that which was originally included. If you are interested in upgrading to a different style sprinkler head, please contact an Ahern Fire Protection representative to discuss options and pricing.

# Ahern Puts You in **CONTROL** of Your Facility



Building controls – also called Building Automation Systems (BAS), Building Automation and Control Systems (BACS), or Building Control System (BCS) – have quickly become vital in maximizing efficiency, sustainability, and profitability in today's buildings. These systems integrate HVAC controls with a building's lighting, security, and other features, essentially creating a "smart" building.

Ahern is an authorized partner with Distech Controls, a worldwide BAS leader. Distech features a uniquely flexible platform that provides the most "open" solution for the customer. It supports open protocol platforms such as BACnet

and LON, as well as the industry-leading NiagaraAX Framework. Ahern employs five certified Niagara framework designers.

"Our access to the latest technology and graphical interfaces allow us to create a custom solution for your building," said Ahern's Control Sales Manager Daryl Zaremba. "We can maximize your existing system's efficiency, or integrate virtually any existing system into a scalable, secure, web-based controls system."

Ahern utilizes the latest in open protocol and integrated solutions to maximize your building's efficiency. Whether you have an existing control system or would like to start from the ground up, Ahern has the expertise and resources you need to create the most effective controls system possible.



## Top 12 Reasons to Choose Ahern and Distech Controls

1. **Global Experience, Locally Delivered.** Distech is a global leader in controls, and Ahern has been a part of the Wisconsin construction industry for 135 years.
2. **Open Protocol Support.** Including OPC, LON, BACnet, MODBUS, Niagara, & Tridium.
3. **Flexibility.** In addition to multiple supported communication protocols, the systems offer wireless on every controller; legacy system integration; and card access, security, and CCTV system support & integration.
4. **Scalable.** Systems range from a small building with a single controller containing an integrated color display, to a full blown multi-site enterprise system.
5. **Backwards Compatibility.** As Distech develops new technologies and controllers, great care is taken to ensure customers' existing systems remain compatible, thus preserving their investment.
6. **Alarming Flexibility.** System alarms can use email, SMS Text messages, workstation alarms, and integrated display screens. Alarms can be scheduled and prioritized and transmitted through multiple channels.
7. **Easy Scheduling.** Easy calendar-style format and grouping of systems.
8. **Intense Security Features.** Strong built-in security features comply with customers' IT staff requirements.
9. **Fully Programmable.** Every controller is fully programmable, allowing the most complex control schemes imaginable.
10. **Web Based.** Built-in webserver function and access.
11. **Fully Animated Graphics.** Real-time monitoring of equipment using animated graphics and displays.
12. **Cost.** Excellent price points make Ahern and Distech competitive for every size job.



## Putting Airgas in Control

Ahern recently installed a complete HVAC & Controls system in the new 250,000 square-foot office and distribution center for Airgas, Inc. in Germantown, Wisconsin.

Ahern preinstalled the piping valve assemblies, control valves, VAV (variable air volume) controllers, HW valves, and discharge air sensors in their fabrication shop prior to shipping the boxes to the jobsite. Additionally, Ahern provided the full spectrum of controls, included the traditional VAV and HW System controls, as well as MODBUS integration into the DC HVLS Fans, and BACnet integration into the MAUs and RTUs

- Rooftop Unit integration using BACnet
  - o (50) VAV boxes for office space
- Shipping/warehouse area features: Unit Heaters
  - o Makeup Air Units-BACnet integration to factory controls
  - o Boiler plant
  - o HVLS Fans-BACnet integration to factory controls
- Fully animated graphics, trending, and alarming

Ahern also provided Airgas with Early Suppression Fast Response (ESFR) sprinkler fire protection of the distribution center and standard sprinkler protection of the two-story office complex, including a fire pump and hose valves.



# BUILDING STRENGTH IN NUMBERS



135 years of experienced specialty contracting.



Over 300 employees have been with Ahern for 10 years or more.



Ahern is affiliated with over 300 industry organizations.



1,088 jobs were completed in 2014 without an OSHA recordable incident.



Ahern has nearly 140 service trucks and has invested \$750,000 in tools for its service vehicles.



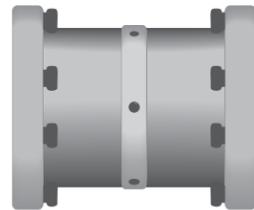
99.5% of our Ahern's clients reported in 2014 that we met or exceeded their expectations.



Ahern has 13 offices across the Midwest servicing customers.



There are approximately 630 Ahern craftspeople working on projects at all times.



Over 30,000 pipe spools have been delivered to projects since 2011.



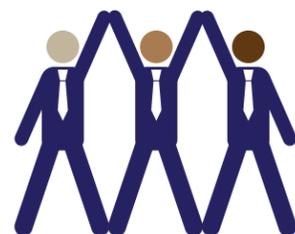
Ahern is licensed to install fire protection systems in 44 states.



Ahern has reinvested over \$6.5 million in productivity, technology, and fabrication system enhancements over the last four years.



\$27,885 was raised by employees for United Way in 2014.



Ahern has actively supported and mentored MBE/SBE/EBE firms for over 30 years.



Last year, Ahern donated to 222 charitable organizations.



In 2014, Ahern's employees finished with a total of 2.3 million man-hours worked.

Which of these are important to you?

# Ahern's Blog: Learn from the Experts

Ahern's experts possess a wide breadth of knowledge that extends beyond system design, build, and maintenance, and the best part? You have access to it! Here is a sampling of some of Ahern's technical articles:

## What is MIC? – Common Questions Answered

### What is microbiologically influenced corrosion (MIC)?

Microbiologically influenced corrosion or MIC, is an electrochemical process which involves bacteria that can accelerate previously occurring corrosion in both wet- and dry-pipe fire sprinkler systems. MIC always involves bacteria but MIC never occurs by itself.



### What causes corrosion in fire sprinkler systems?

Wet and dry fire sprinkler systems are primarily composed of metal pipe, water, and trapped or

[\[...Read More\]](#)

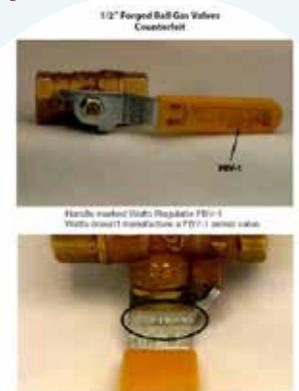
## Counterfeit, Fraudulent, and Suspect Items (CFSI)

In the last few years, the industry has become aware of an influx of counterfeit items in the American market. Counterfeiting is a problem in numerous areas. The automotive industry has seen problems with fake parts, and the aviation industry is struggling with an increasing arrival of unapproved [\[...Read More\]](#)

## Cooling For (Nearly) Free?! It's Possible with an Economizer

Free cooling in your facility sounds too good to be true, right? Well, economizing may not be free, but it is certainly less expensive than mechanical cooling. During what are referred to as the “shoulder months” for cooling, when energy demands are the

[\[...Read More\]](#)



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