

PIPELINE

Summer 2017

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New Building Controls Drive Energy Efficiency at UW-Eau Claire See Page 4

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New Corporate Website

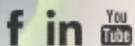
Welders Recognized by Apprenticeship Program

Protecting an Illinois Summer Resort

Community Matters



Building Comfort for Generations.



New Corporate Website



Check out our newly re-designed website. The new user-friendly experience is designed to quickly find information on our wide array of multi-trade mechanical, fire protection, pipe fabrication and facility services, and to provide easy access to our vertical market solutions and industry insights.

Recent Ahern Achievements

Ranked 18th out of the Top 100 mechanical contractors in the US. Contractor Magazine also ranked Ahern as one of the top mechanical contractors in the Midwest coming in at number 4.

Recognized in the Milwaukee Business Journal's 2017 Best Places to Work.

National Safety Council - Nebraska's Safest Companies Award Winner

Winner of two awards at the AGC of Greater Milwaukee's Annual Past Presidents' & Awards Night dinner: Leadership in Safety & the Chairman of the Year Award went to Angie Benike.



Angie (L) accepting her award

Fire Alarm System Expertise at Your Service

Ahern is a **NOTIFIER**® Premier Distributor for the state of Wisconsin and northern Illinois. **NOTIFIER**® by **Honeywell** is the largest manufacturer of engineered fire alarm systems.

The Premier Program is only offered to **NOTIFIER**® distributors who heavily invest in employees' technical skills and demonstrate exceptionally high levels of ability and performance. Ahern meets the program's stringent customer support requirements, which include multiple upper-level NICET-certified designers; a formal marketing plan; and active participation in state and local industry associations.

As a Premier Distributor, Ahern receives several direct benefits, including product pricing and registration incentives, advanced training opportunities, warranty extensions, and preferred recommendation for large and complex projects.



Building Comfort for Generations.

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. Hiermeier | Executive Vice President
Ahern Fire Protection

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

Timothy M. Schneider | Vice President
Northeast Region

Adam J. Wunderlin | Chief Financial Officer

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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.



Ahern Welders Recognized by Apprenticeship Program

As a stepping stone to many desirable careers, apprenticeships are a great introduction into any industry. Ahern places great focus on properly training and mentoring its apprentices. The program is five years long and involves both school and hands-on work. The apprentices must attend 300 hours of night school in addition to attending 8-hour Friday classes for four years. Three of our pipe fabrication apprentices graduated from the program this year.



Nick Dahlinger became interested in welding by working in the garage with his Dad. He always had an interest in building things. With the skills Nick has learned, he can apply them to his hobbies of hot rods and vintage motorcycles.



Gavin Bessette became interested in welding in his high school years through taking shop classes.



Troy Burgess started as a metal tradesman and after watching other welders, decided to pursue welding as a career.

Q. What made you want to join the apprenticeship program?

Nick: I always had an interest in welding and working hands-on. I liked to build stuff that had an end product.

Gavin: A teacher in high school gave me some advice for a successful future; get an apprenticeship for welding and stick with it.

Troy: I joined the program as it is a great way to learn a skilled trade and work at the same time.

Q. What did you like about the program?

Nick: I liked that I could learn with fellow co-workers. We were all at different levels of welding so we were able to teach each other when we weren't in school.

Gavin: Learning my career inside and out. Also, how to accomplish my work more efficiently and do things I've never done before.

Troy: I liked how the teachers were very approachable as they were fellow workers like me.

Q. How was it balancing school vs. work?

Nick: It was a bit of adjusting to start out but once I got used to it I enjoyed it more.

Gavin: Wasn't easy but also wasn't impossible either.

Troy: The night school classes were a challenge. Between trying to get enough hours of work in a week and getting enough sleep when I was on the night shift.

Q. What is one thing you will take away from the program?

Nick: The appreciation I have for people that are in a skilled trade. Many of these jobs aren't talked about going through high school and really should be.

Gavin: The ability to teach what I learned and to learn what I haven't encountered yet.

Troy: The sky is the limit. Through the program, we still have opportunity to grow with continued education in our union.

Q. Would you recommend others to participate in the program?

Nick: Yes, absolutely would recommend it. The skills you learn can be brought to other jobs and be applied.

Gavin: Yes

Troy: I would recommend it as it is a great way to learn.

Q. Do you see yourself staying at Ahern for the remainder of your career?

Nick: Yes, for the most part. I am always looking to the horizon on where I can go and grow in the company.

Gavin: Yes, it is a fast paced company that is always staying busy and new projects keep it interesting.

Troy: I would love to stay with Ahern.

New Building Controls

Drive Energy Efficiency at UW-Eau Claire Campus



Pictured is a Distech VAV controller that Ahern installed

Part of this project involved Ahern installing VAV's in McIntyre Library located on UWEC's campus

Ahern has formed a lasting relationship spanning 15 years with the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire. This relationship has given Ahern intimate knowledge of the campus and a reason to be a partner on the University's latest energy improvement project. The project consists of two phases. Phase 1 involved installing new air volume valves on fume hoods and VAV supply air in Phillips Science Hall. New control valves and all new Distech Controls were also installed replacing the pneumatic controls that were out dated and out of calibration.

Currently underway is Phase 2 of the project. The major installations include 526 VAV controllers, 280 VAV boxes, and 792 control valves. Ahern's project team has faced a number of challenges on the project, but have been able to come up with a solution every time. Early on in the project, the team realized that several of the buildings included in the project did not have accurate mechanical system drawings. Using whatever information they had, the team created drawings that could be used for construction. The drawings have since been revised with more detailed and updated information, allowing for additional remodel projects in the future.

Another significant challenge was installing wall fin steam valves in Schofield Hall which was originally built in 1916. "We are quite sure that some of the original steam piping is still being used and did not want to disturb any more of it than necessary," said Mike Traynor, project manager. The project team also discovered that two of the buildings where new control valves were installed had plugged heating lines on some of the wall fin and reheat coils. Ahern was hired to install a new filter system and to clear the plugged lines resulting in additional coordination and time being expended.

Working in tight spaces can often be difficult, however, Ahern was up to the test. Thirty-nine VAV boxes and reheat valves were installed in an attic space that only had a thirty-two inch clear-

ance. This air supply system along with another building had flexible duct work going to the VAV boxes. Even though a significant amount of time and coordination was required, the flexible duct work was all replaced.

Close communication between the project managers has been vital to the success of the project, especially in regards to the schedule. Most of the controls work, valve replacement, and sheet metal work for the first building was accomplished during the winter break. For the second building, some of the VAV box replacements were done during the evening and night when the building was unoccupied. The controls and valve replacement was completed with cooperation from the staff working in the building. The other three buildings were able to be completed during the regular building hours working around and with the staff to minimize disruption. The majority of the balancing was done in the evenings.

The goal of this project is to save on energy consumption. Ahern is working for McKinstry, an engineering consultant in Wisconsin who is required to ensure that energy projects pay for themselves in less than 16 years. Mike had the following to say, "The huge benefit to the campus is getting new controls and equipment that would not otherwise be eligible for funding. The University of Eau Claire now has seven buildings that have been retrofitted with new Distech Controls which is the preferred choice of the campus. Each of the seven buildings still has some other types of controls, but the University personnel are planning to continue to replace the old existing controls with new Distech Controls that will work perfectly with their new systems."

Ahern continues to work very well with the University's engineering staff to complete minor renovations on a variety of remodeling or partial system replacement projects. This work has been and will continue to be on-going.

Iowa's Templeton Rye is Coming Home

Until recently, Templeton had to rely on purchasing its whiskey from an Indiana distillery and then bottling it in Iowa. This is all changing with the new 99,000 square foot complex that includes a 34,500 square foot distillery as well as a museum and barrel-aging warehouse.

Ahern worked with the state Fire Marshal to get a performance-based design approved after an extended time of the consulting engineer being unsuccessful in completing the process. Since the storage of high alcohol content liquids in wood barrels is not addressed in NFPA, Ahern had to follow the recommendations of

DISCUS (Distilled Spirits Council of the United States), a national trade association representing America's leading distillers whom creates building guidelines for these types of projects.

Ahern's project team is using their fire protection expertise to help install a fire sprinkler system which includes a 660,000 gallon water tank. The tank is necessary since there is limited local water supply with the town population only being 362. Once installed, the water tank will actually end up being larger than the town's water tower. The coordination of the tank included working with the AHJ to come up with a water supply that

would meet the needs of the project with the available water supply from the city.

Huge distillation tanks are currently being installed as the steel is erected and before the building is closed, giving Ahern no open floor space to use a scissor lift. Ahern met with a lift rental salesman and came up with a safe solution; depending upon the work use either a crane basket or specialized articulating boom lift. Ahern kicked off their portion of the project in July with completion coming in December 2017.



Protecting an Illinois Summer Resort

What started out as a quick turn project for Abat Builders, evolved into a full year project for Ahern's FSE team. The Fox River Resort located in Sheridan, IL is made up of fifteen buildings with each building totaling 15,000 square feet. Ahern first started the project with only doing work in two of the buildings. Even with a scope change the first two buildings were a success, awarding Ahern the remaining thirteen buildings.

Ahern is in charge of all the fire alarm and life safety upgrades. These upgrades are to meet Holiday Inn standards as well as to provide occupant safety. Installations include fifteen fire alarm systems, sprinkler monitoring, manual pull stations, emergency signs/lights, attic space heat detection, and hearing impaired audio/visual devices.

For each building, the project team has two weeks from the time the buildings are given to Abat to complete the installations until they are given back over to the Resort. Given the fast paced schedule, the team took the initiative and timed out what floor to begin on in each building as well as how to move about so all trades are not bumping into each other.

"It has been great working with Kevin, Brian, and Hector. Their responsiveness is outstanding," says Teresa Szafranski, Project Manager for Abat Builders. The job has been put on pause during the summer months as this is the Resort's busiest season. Ahern will be returning to the jobsite in mid-September to start on the last three buildings with final completion expected to be in November.



Community Matters

a Our Twin Cities office participated in a team building event packing food at Feed My Starving Children. The food was packed for children in Haiti.

b Two Ahern teams participated in the Young Professionals of Fond du Lac Amazing Race. The teams raced around downtown Fond du Lac deciphering clues and completing challenges.

c Our Des Moines office donated a riser stand to the Des Moines Fire Department to use for their training class.

d Ahern participated in the 9th Annual Fond du Lac Area Project GRILL which pairs local manufacturers with area high school tech-ed students to mentor them for a year-long project to design and build a working charcoal grill from scratch.

Intern Summer Event

Twenty-eight interns from eight different Ahern offices, across four states participated in our second annual Intern Summer Event. On this 2-day event our interns were given the inside scoop on Ahern, showcasing our different facilities and capabilities along with some quality networking time with our management committee.

Our interns toured our Fond du Lac Office and Shop as well as our Milwaukee Office and Shop. In addition to these tours, our interns were given advice on career development and DiSC Communication training. The career development offered insight on what a career path looks like for different positions at Ahern. DiSC is a personal assessment tool used to improve work productivity, teamwork and communication.

One highlight for the interns was the Management Committee MC for 60 panel discussion. During this session interns were encouraged to ask questions to Ahern leaders to facilitate open discussions. Many interns felt this was the best part of the Intern Event because they were able to see how much our Management Committee cares.

The event wrapped up with 2 Milwaukee jobsite visits where our interns were able to learn more about what Ahern does in real time. These multi-trade jobsites offered the interns insight into the work that is done with the ability to ask questions as they walked through the site.



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 Krista Ebbens, General Counsel. Ms. Ebbens shall serve as EEO/AAP Officer and shall report, with regard to such matters, directly to J. F. AHERN CO.'s Executive Management Team. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact Krista Ebbens, EEOC Officer and General Counsel, at (920) 907-5492 or kebbens@jfhern.com.