

Safety 2012

Ruben Bera – Corporate Safety Director

Another year has come and gone. Safety at Commonwealth continues to make positive improvements. Although we experienced a few accidents in 2012 we still maintained good accident rates. These rates are important to customers and potential customers. In 2012, we provided valuable training to our employees on all aspects of electrical safety. As we all know, the big item has been Arc Flash protection. Customers are recognizing the importance of being in compliance. We have been able to provide our customers with arc flash studies and employee training. It's been beneficial for both the customer and Commonwealth Electric. Once we trained the employees at their facilities they usually hire us, the experts, to work on their electrical equipment. Working with and around electricity can be dangerous and only skilled and trained workers should perform this task. Fortunately we at Commonwealth Electric have those employees. We, in the safety department, get calls frequently from customers asking if we can provide training on Arc Flash and other electrical safety. Helping customers is just another part of our "Commitment to Excellence."

In 2012, Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest received an "Award of Excellence" for our safety performance from our insurance carrier. As I've said many times, awards are nice to receive but

keeping employees safe will always be our No. #1 goal.

This year we are gearing up to do more training on many aspects of our work. New OSHA changes are coming on the revised Hazard Communication Standard. Changes are coming on rigging and confined space entrances. We will be ready for these challenges. Additionally, customers are requiring more and more safety information on bid proposals. An item frequently asked is our training records. Customers want to make sure we send only trained workers to their facility. We can meet their demands based on the performance of our workers.

In 2013 I will be focusing on keeping all employees up-to-date with safety related issues. This includes not only field employees but office staff and warehouse personnel. Exposure to injuries is not just on a job site.

Working together and keeping everyone informed and up-to-date will continue to be our goal. We strive for safe work environments and trained workers.

Boy Scouts Mid Iowa Council Sporting Clay Invitational

T. Michael Price - Vice President

Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest and Barsol teamed up again to help support the Boy Scouts of Central Iowa. The team participated in the Mid Iowa Boy Scouts Sporting Clay Invitational. The tournament took place in late October at the New Pioneer Gun Club near Waukee, Iowa. A total of 18 teams participated to help raise money and awareness for the Boy Scouts. The CECM/Barsol team shot well and placed 2nd in the Invitational.



Members of the 2nd place team - Michael Price, Dave Richards, Dave Casten and Michael Duffy



Commonwealth
Electric Company
of the midwest

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New Leadership Team in Columbus

Ruth Chermok – Business Development

Senior Vice President, Gary Demmel, has established a new leadership team in our Columbus Branch. Branch Manager, Jake Gable; Service Manager, Jamey Beck, and Assistant Project Manager, Sean Martys. Jerry Keller continues to manage manpower and oversight of projects.

Jake Gable is a 4th generation Commonwealth team member, and has been with our Omaha office since 2008. He has experience managing large projects and has most recently coordinated and managed all of our work at B D Medical, and other projects in Columbus. Our organization and success on projects has improved greatly with Jake's oversight. Jake and his wife, Erica, are moving to Columbus and we are looking forward to having him involved in the community, as well as assuming responsibility for the operation of the Columbus office.

Jamey Beck has been with Commonwealth Columbus since 2007. He has worked on a variety of projects, and his primary responsibility in the past has been the coordination and supervision of our work at Archer Daniels Midlands. Jamey has great customer service skills and is working to organize and improve our service department.

Sean Martys is in the last few months of his apprenticeship program. He has experienced a wide variety of projects while with Commonwealth. Sean has been involved in our ADM work, has experience on our service team, and numerous other projects. He is working into the role of an Assistant Project Manager and is getting involved in estimating and planning for projects. Sean's organizational skills will serve him well in this new role.



Left to Right: Sean Martys, Jake Gable, Cathy Cole, Jamey Beck, Casey Ziemba, Jerry Keller and Andy Connelly

Jerry Keller continues as our Superintendent, and is doing a great job of coordinating manpower, hiring and developing the skill level of our field personnel. Jerry has an extensive background in the electrical field in the Columbus area, and has worked at a number of facilities and a variety of projects. That experience is serving us well, as he helps our field personnel with the large variety of projects our office has underway.

The coordination of the office and billings, etc., continues in the capable hands of Office Manager, Casey Ziemba and Administrative Assistant, Cathy Cole. Casey and Cathy handle such a wide variety of tasks with great service skills and ease. Andrew Connelly has joined our team as Warehouse Manager and has already made great strides in organizing and tracking materials and tools. Ruth Chermok continues to work on Business Development for the Columbus area, Northeast, and Central Nebraska as well.

We look forward to a very successful 2013 – with the experience and dedication of this Leadership Team!

Simpson College Opens New Campus Student Center in Indianola, Iowa

Mark Ramsey - Project Manager

On October 19th, Simpson College officially dedicated the Kent Campus Student Center. As approximately 450 people looked on, Simpson President John Byrd started off the ceremony by saying "Wow, what a great day in the life of Simpson College". The 55,000 square foot, two story addition, houses The Black Box Theater, a bookstore, a food court on the first floor, two large multi-purpose rooms, several meeting rooms, an art gallery and the college administration offices on the second floor. Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest installed a 2000 amp, 480 volt electrical service with distribution panels throughout, along with a state-of-the-art lighting control system and automated controls. There were 71 different types of light fixtures selected for the project with a total of 1,159 light fixtures installed on the project. Commonwealth also installed the voice data cabling, an addressable fire alarm system, a sound system, a security system and all of the theatrical cabling and distribution.

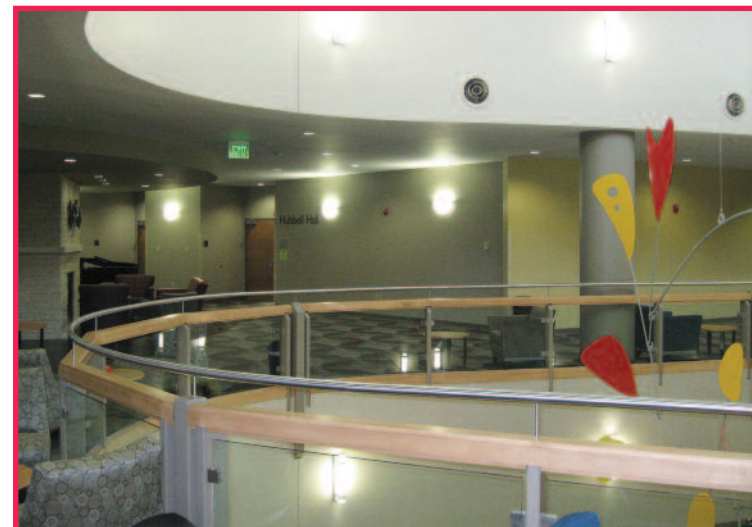
The design team of SVPA Architects and KJWW Engineering helped make former student body President, Dan Carver's dream become a reality. During the commencement, Dan mentioned he wished he was a student again so he could enjoy the facility. Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest's Project Manager, Mark Ramsey and Foreman, Tracy Simmons worked alongside Graham Construction and their team of Project Manager Ken McCormick, Project Coordinator Stephanie Wright and Project Superintendent Paul Johnson on the project.



"We are really excited to have been a part of this wonderful project with Simpson College and Graham Construction. This is a building we can all be proud of! Go Storm!"

-T. Michael Price, VP Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest.

Additionally, Commonwealth was part of a group of sub-contractors that donated a flag pole to the graduating class of 2012. The flag pole was installed near the Main Entrance to the Kent Campus Center, and as their part CECM donated and installed an LED flag pole light.



Continuing Work at Mary Lanning Healthcare in Hastings, NE

Clayton Anderson - Sr. Service Manager

The Digital Imaging project has had many obstacles. This project is in the middle of the hospital directly above the kitchen. We worked with the owner and the general contractor to install the entire under floor duct system, install the conduit, and core drill all the holes above the kitchen without shutting the kitchen down. We installed a new transfer switch in the electric room to feed the imaging equipment. We had to relocate two electrical panels and create two new electrical rooms one on ground floor and one on first floor. Install new feeders from the electric room to the new panel room and to the digital imaging equipment, all the time keeping the existing digital imaging room up and running. Once the new Digital Imaging equipment was installed, we began the demo of the existing unit and continued with the completion of the project.

Our project team consists of James Haake, Project Foreman, Clayton Anderson, Project Manager, and Melissa Brown, Estimator.



Commonwealth Electric Helps with Fire Safety in Iowa

Mikayla Jewett - Service Coordinator

Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest worked with two local fire departments in the Des Moines Metropolitan area to install new smoke detection systems that included strobe lights to help alert people that are hearing impaired in case of a fire. The fire alarms and strobe lights were provided by the Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office.



John Schoolen Working on FA Installation

The first installation was an apartment building in the City of Norwalk that was occupied by two friends, one of which is hearing impaired. The second installation was in a Des Moines home where an elderly deaf couple live.

While installing the fire alarm system we also found problems with the main circuit breaker in the electrical panel. We found a loose connection causing some arcing, so we replaced the breaker for them and brought the installation up to code.

Our installing electrician was John Schoolen and the project was spearheaded by Michael Duffy in the office. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity of donating our services to our local community.

Blank Children's Hospital Festival of Trees and Lights

T. Michael Price – Vice President

Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest along with Breiholz Construction volunteered to help with the setting up and tearing down of the 29th Annual Blank Children's Hospital's Festival of Trees and Lights fundraising event in November. Over 20 Commonwealth employees donated over 300 hours during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend to help unload crates, setup the electric train and put up holiday decorations. Additionally, we helped with tearing down and repacking after the event was over.

Over \$440,000 dollars was raised to support the Child Life Program and the Center for Advocacy & Outreach at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines. Commonwealth has a long history with Iowa Health System and Blank Children's Hospital. We were thrilled to be part of the event this year and look forward to many more years of service to Iowa Health Systems and Blank Children's Hospital.

A big thank you to all the Commonwealth employees and their families that volunteered for this very worthwhile event. A special thank you to Michael Duffy and Dianna Merritt for their organizing and coordination of our efforts.



Commonwealth employees Carolyn Cole, Dianna Merritt, Michael Price, Mike Duffy, Trevor Schmidt and their spouses at the Gala Celebration

Scribner-Snyder School Project – CECM Partners with Beckenhauer Construction

Ruth Chermok – Business Development

Commonwealth Electric Columbus was pleased to be selected as partners with Beckenhauer Construction, (Norfolk), to complete the classroom addition at Scribner-Snyder schools.

This project is very necessary for the community in order to retain their local school. The new classrooms are needed, as the current high school building is not compliant with fire code and handicap accessibility laws. According to the School Superintendent, Ginger Meyer, the State Fire Marshall has given the district until 2014 to come up with a plan for correction.

Superintendent Meyer, has had a difficult task to get the necessary funding in place for the addition. A recent bond issue was not successful, and Meyer and the School Board were able to achieve the necessary funding thru an Educational Leasing Corporation. This initial classroom addition will satisfy the immediate issues, and following this project there are planned renovations to the vocational agriculture building.



Beckenhauer is a quality partner that CECM enjoys working with. Sean Martys, Assistant Project Manager, is in the initial planning and organization stages of this project. It will involve all ground work, lighting, and controls for a separate new building to be built east of the Voc Ag Building. Commonwealth Communications is also installing intercom, wireless clock system, all telecommunications, digital fire alarm and a media distribution system for all audio visual. A Light Harvesting system is also being installed for automatic light reduction in the classrooms when outside lighting is supplementing inside fixtures.

We are looking forward to a successful project and working with our friends at Beckenhauer, and assisting the community with improving and retaining their community school.