



Get to Know Our Newest Board Member

For the past 20 years, Steve Lindley has worked throughout the country in various aspects of the electrical contractor business. As a result, he understands firsthand the important role apprentice training programs play in the industry and is pleased to serve on the board of Missouri Valley Line Constructors Apprenticeship and Training Program. We caught up with Steve for the following interview at Hooper Corporation in Madison, Wis., where he is vice president of the electric power division.

Having worked around the country, what's your impression of Missouri Valley Line Constructors Apprenticeship & Training Program?
From our experience, apprentices who come out of the program are well trained and ready to help Hooper achieve its goal of doing quality work as safely as possible. I am most impressed with the program's commitment to continual improvement. I've seen some positive changes in the past year that dramatize that point, including a recent restructuring of the staff that resulted in the addition of key staff members and functions to enhance the efficiency and quality of the training process.

How important is safety training for apprentices?

Safety is our number one priority at Hooper Corporation, and we are glad to see it is a top priority at Missouri Valley. It is important that apprentices learn a certain skill set but it is also vital that they learn to apply those skills in a safe manner. As the electrical contracting industry continues to seek improvements in safety performance and OSHA continues to refine and introduce regulations, it will become even more important for training programs and contractors to invest in continual safety training.

Besides a growing emphasis on safety, what other changes do you see for the industry in the years ahead?

We are anticipating a tremendous growth in transmission system work as a result of the need to provide increased capacity and more efficiently move electricity through our system. We are also anticipating a "changing of the guard" as many baby boomers in the business retire and younger workers assume more managerial and leadership roles. Needless to say, these are exciting times for our industry and the people who choose to make this their career.

What are the prospects for someone starting the apprenticeship program today?

There will always be strong demand for good quality linemen who have the skill set and can work safely. If you are willing to learn how to do things the right way, there are no limits to what you can achieve in this business. If you are that type of person and don't mind traveling, you will make a good living in a personally rewarding career.

Tell us more about Hooper Corporation?

Hooper Corporation is a full-service electric power and mechanical contractor headquartered in Madison, Wis. Celebrating its 100th year in 2013, Hooper has extensive experience in completing large and complex projects throughout the continental U.S. and Canada. Our success is due in part to our continuous commitment to performing the work correctly. For Hooper Corporation, that means completing each and every project safely and delivering a quality end product to our customers.

More About The Missouri Valley Constructors Apprenticeship & Training Program:

The apprenticeship program based in Indianola, Iowa, is one of seven locations operated by the organization. The others are in the states of Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The Iowa program occupies a training facility, which includes an outdoor pole yard. The Iowa program trains thousands of apprentice linemen each year.

For additional information, or to schedule a visit to our training facilities, contact
Michael Brown, Executive Director at mbrown@movalleyjadc.org or call 515-961-5062.



MISSOURI VALLEY LINE CONSTRUCTORS APPRENTICESHIP & TRAINING PROGRAM

1707 NORTH 14TH STREET | INDIANOLA, IA 50125 | P 515.961.5062 | F 515.961.7332
TOLL FREE: 888.254.0714 | WWW.MOVALLEYJADC.ORG

