MAKING THE MOVE
FROM MARINE TO LINEMAN

When he was in high school, Dustan Pease knew exactly what the future would hold for him. He enlisted in the Marines during his senior year and shipped out immediately after graduation.

After leaving the Marines, however, he wasn’t quite sure what would come next. Pease tried a few different things before taking a job with the U.S. Post Office. It wasn’t until a friend suggested that he might like climbing school that Pease considered the possibility of being a lineman. Today, he knows exactly what he’ll be doing for years to come.

“I can see myself doing lineman work for quite some time,” says Pease, who is currently a fourth step apprentice working for M. J. Electric. “The opportunities are endless, the benefits are outstanding and I love working outdoors.” When he graduates from the Missouri Valley Line Constructors and Apprenticeship Training Program, Pease plans to take his new skills on the road, traveling throughout the country. “Maybe even Hawaii,” he adds. But for right now, you’ll find Pease working on a 34-5 conversion project in northeast Iowa.

Veterans like Pease are discovering that their military career is good preparation for work as a lineman. According to Pease, his military experience taught him the value of discipline, how to work with people of different ages and races and how to stay physically fit—all valuable skills for a lineman. Missouri Valley Line Constructors took it from there, providing Pease with a solid grounding in electrical theory, safety and the equipment he uses as a lineman.

“I would definitely recommend this career path to anyone coming out of the service, especially if they like traveling and working outdoors,” concludes Pease.

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@movalleyjatc.org or call 515-961-5062.