



## Wes Roberson's Adventure Continues

### AS A RELATED TRAINING COORDINATOR

One of the first people Missouri Valley apprentices meet is Related Training Coordinator Wes Roberson. It's his job to teach new recruits the basic skills needed for success in the field — climbing, first aid and CPR, safety, bucket truck training and tool use. As Wes describes it, "my job is to make recruits less green."

Wes can remember a time when he was a green recruit at the California-Nevada apprenticeship program. "I was looking for an adventure, and I certainly found one as a lineman," says Wes, whose career path included throughout the west before he moved to Indianola, Iowa. He spent his first several years in Iowa commuting from his home to work on substation and transmission projects for PAR Electrical Contractors. "I had no idea the Missouri Valley training program was less than 10 minutes from my house," admits Wes, who heard about the program's locations from apprentices on the jobsite. "Needless to say, my commute to work is a lot shorter now!"

For Wes, the challenge of training future linemen remains the same as it was when he was an apprentice — trying to get independent thinkers to think with the right mind set. "Being a lineman is a unique job because it combines physical ability with mental acuity," explains Wes. "I feel fortunate to work with an awesome group of recruits who are ideally suited to meet that challenge."

It was a sense of adventure that got Wes involved in the profession, and today he is proud to share that adventure with new recruits. "Linemen are some of the most talented people I know," explains Wes. "They drive trucks; operate heavy machinery; understand high voltage; work with wood, cement and steel; climb to extreme heights; and do light mechanic work. That skill set that is hard to match, which explains why the demand for qualified linemen will always be strong."

#### 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

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#### MISSOURI VALLEY LINE CONSTRUCTORS APPRENTICESHIP & TRAINING PROGRAM

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