



Meet Our Newest Instructor: Eric Boyer

Throughout his life, Eric Boyer learned valuable lessons that have prepared him for his current responsibilities as a Missouri Valley Line Constructors Apprenticeship and Training Program instructor.

Watching his father, a 39-year veteran of the utility industry, Eric learned about the satisfaction that comes from a job well done and the benefits of working in a profession that provides a quality of life for a growing family. Training with a U.S. Navy search and rescue team taught him the importance of being cautious on the job. As a lineman, he learned the skills needed to handle everything from distribution and transmission lines to wind farms and substations, including helicopter work. Today, he shares all of these lessons with students in Kansas City and St. Louis, where he teaches electrical theory, transformers, circuitry, cranes, CPR and first aid, and pole top and bucket truck rescue.

Tips for Linemen

In addition to training apprentices the technical skills needed for the job, Eric is quick to share the following tips on making the most of the career.

- Embrace brotherhood. If linemen don't stick together, the unions will fall apart and our future will suffer.
- Look after each other. Sure you have deadlines to meet, but remember the person you are working with has someone who depends on him or her at home, so keep everyone safe.
- Pay attention to seasoned linemen. They can teach you so much just by watching and listening to them.

The Possibilities for a Better Life Start Now

"Where else can you go with a high school education and, if you are willing to apply yourself, have the potential of making as much as \$150,000 a year, traveling and enjoying outstanding benefits?" asks Eric when talking to potential apprentices.

"Plus, the availability of work will always be there," he adds. "Millions of dollars are expected to be invested in rebuilding transmission lines over the next 10 to 15 years, and anytime you add transmission lines, substation work is right behind," comments Eric, who is anxious to share his experience, enthusiasm and perspectives with the next generation of linemen.

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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