

JANUARY JRE 2007 NEWSLETTER

2006 PARTY RECAP—December 9, 2006 at Doubletree Bay City

ABOVE AND BEYOND FIELD RECIPIENT

The 2006 recipient of the Above and Beyond Award is a person who is characterized by strong leadership, self-motivation, and commitment to the task. The majority of this recipient's work has originated out of the Sault Ste. Marie office, and this recipient has been an accomplished, dedicated JRE foreman for over 6 years.

We respectfully acknowledge Russ McLean as the recipient of the Above and Beyond Award for 2006.

Russ confidently accepted the challenge of supervising the largest project for JRE in the year 2006: the Petoskey Casino. This project began in the spring and, to date, has accumulated over 40,000 manhours. The project averages daily approximately 50 employees. Along with Russ as General Foreman, there are 4 other foremen that supervise this multimillion dollar project. The size of this project has deemed it necessary to house an onsite Project Manager and an Administrative Assistant, along with providing the normal staff assistance from the corporate office.

It takes unique characteristics to be able to supervise a project of this magnitude, including design and schedule adjustments, adjustments to manpower, and coordination with numerous trades. Russ does all this with ease while understanding that the customer expects the slots to receive coins by June 2007.

Russ was hand-picked for this project for several reasons. First, he displays insightful leadership ability. He looks ahead to see what needs to be done, understands what needs to be done, and does it decisively and cooperatively. Second, he is serious and self-motivated. A project like this needs focused yet accelerated attention. Third, he is willing – willing to work with anyone to solve the task at hand, willing to come early or stay late to complete the task, and willing to complete the project with success for the company. Finally, he is fair; fair to both his coworkers and fair to his employer.

Because he has risen to this substantial challenge and gone above and beyond, we acknowledge Russ McLean as the recipient of the Above and Beyond Award for 2006.

ABOVE AND BEYOND OFFICE RECIPIENT

The 2006 recipient of the Above and Beyond Award is a person who is characterized by boundless energy, tireless commitment, and a relentless pursuit of success. In 2006, this individual went above and beyond when he was hand-selected to oversee the hurricane relief work in Florida.

From December 2005 through July 2006, Rob Hentkowski lived in Florida, where he worked on 4 simultaneous hurricane relief projects. The largest of the 4 projects was repairs JRE did as a result of 2005's Hurricane Wilma. Simultaneously, Rob was responsible for 3 large pole-pulling projects, which involved the removal of over 3,000 poles whose service was relocated by Florida Power and Light.

On any given day, between the 4 projects, Rob oversaw approximately 8 different crews, totaling over 50 electricians. Obviously, Rob's most difficult task was organizing manpower across many different locations. Initially, before a solid crew of foremen was in place, Rob was working over 20 hour days, getting only 3-4 hours of sleep each night. At 10:00 each evening, he would be preparing paperwork to be sent to his PMA at the Flint office for the next morning. Finally, when a crew of foremen was selected, his days eased a little, and he and his crew worked 12 hour days, 7 days a week.

Once the crew was established and a system of streaming paperwork back to the Flint office was implemented, the project did smooth itself out. He even found time to fish! In fact, when he wasn't working, he would be out on the water fishing. He fished every opportunity he got, sent pictures to the office staff showing off his catch, and cooked fish dinner for his crews on the weekends.

The Florida Hurricane Relief Project was not a success as a result of only one man; it took a team effort of dedicated foremen and electricians, and the assistance of Barb Yarbrough in the Flint office. However, without Rob's oversight and endless determination to make this project a success, it very easily could have gone the other way.

JRE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

There are people who steadfastly perform their job duties in an exemplary manner and with a spirit of motivation and pride. These individuals, the Ambassadors of the company, demonstrate a commitment and loyalty to the company that is constant and selfless. We honorably induct Michael Hottinger, director of safety, into the JRE Hall of Fame.

The 2006 inductee is an individual who has diverse experience, knowledge, and skill. Cumulatively, he has served the Safety Industry for over thirty years and has achieved notable recognition and respect during his employment with this company. He aligns himself with the corporate culture and philosophy of J. Ranck Electric, while exhibiting an attitude of pride and enthusiasm that is admirable. The management of JRE greatly values Michael's pride and praise for this company, and his ability to incite the same enthusiasm among the crew.

Michael's commitment to a safe worksite goes far beyond the role of Safety Director, and resembles that of a father and a friend, who places the safety of each employee before himself. His exemplary standards for safety have rewarded this company with numerous honors and recognitions, and most importantly, has returned many employees home safely at the end of the day.

Because Michael has shown limitless commitment, expertise, and leadership, we honor him with this prestigious 2006 induction into the JRE Hall of Fame.

JRE LIFETIME SAFETY AWARD RECIPIENT

It is with great pleasure that the Safety Department presents a Lifetime Safety Award to James A. Ranck for his dedication to safety, its programs, and goals.

The preservation of safety policies and procedures has become increasingly important in the daily operations of JRE today. Concurrently, J. Ranck Electric has become the contractor of choice for certain owners who have stringent safety requirements that very few electrical contractors can or want to comply with, in order to perform the work.

Under Jim's direction, J. Ranck Electric has made the commitment to comply with such requirements in order to acquire this work and provide a safe worksite. It has proven to be a good ethical and business strategy for J. Ranck Electric, Inc.

Jim has set aside a portion of monetary, technical, and professional resources to assist in the efforts to make "Safety a Way of Life" companywide. In accomplishing this action, he has taken an important step that acknowledges J. Ranck Electric as a safety leader in the electrical contracting industry.

"Safety Is a Way of Life" and it is with honor that on behalf of J. Ranck Electric and its employees, we present Jim Ranck with this Lifetime Safety Award.

JRE SAFETY AWARD RECIPIENT

The Safety Director Recognition Award is presented to the J. Ranck Electric employee who is most deserving for his outstanding commitment to safety along with an emphasis on his notable accomplishments throughout the year.

This year, the distinguished honor is presented to Craig Egerer for his performance, professionalism, and devotion to safety.

Craig's notable 2006 safety achievements include working with the JRE Safety Director at the GM Metal Casting Project while undergoing the GM Worldwide Safety Audit, from which J. Ranck Electric, Inc. received extremely high marks.

Currently, Craig is working as a supervisor at the Hemlock Semiconductor Project. Craig leads this project of 39,000 manhours without one single injury. As the representative of this project, Craig always attends the weekly contractor's safety meetings. He leads with an exemplary standard for safety that is respected and practiced by himself and the crew of JRE.

JRE recognizes Craig for his positive input and ideas regarding safety, not only through communication with the Safety Director, but with his fellow workers, as well as his steadfast leadership by example.

It is with great pleasure that J. Ranck Electric honors Craig Egerer with the 2006 Safety Director Recognition Award.

JRE RECOGNITION

- ◆ Craig Egerer was presented the “Keepin’ It Cool Award” from Hemlock Semiconductor. His award reads: “Craig is a dedicated participant at the Big Chill Safety Meetings. Craig’s genuine concern for HSC Contractor Safety is clearly evident in the fact that he continues to identify hazards and bring those to the Big Chill Meetings where they can be communicated, eliminated, or controlled. Thanks, Craig!”
- ◆ A letter from Dan Wyers, Parks & Rec Director for the City of Sault Ste. Marie addressed to Buddy Weber reads: “On behalf of the city of Sault Ste. Marie, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the electrical work J. Ranck Electric performed on the lighting system at Alford Park. We appreciate your work and hope that your company continues to bid projects with the City of Sault Ste. Marie.”
- ◆ A letter from Mike Crower at HSC addressed to Jim Ranck reads: “Jim, congratulations to you and your crews for the safe year. This is fantastic news and certainly validates our selection of your firm for the S-62 expansion work. By the way, they also did a great job on that for us as well. You have a great corporate philosophy that shows itself with these types of results. It is hard work staying at the top of your game, but what you are doing is working well for both you and your clients. Keep it up.”
- ◆ An e-mail from John Ruwart with E & L addressed to Adam reads: “J. Ranck is on our “A” list whenever any electrical opportunities come to us.” Thanks to all the JRE employees that keep us at our “A” game!
- ◆ Regarding the completed MDOT St. Ignace project, John Landrie with M & M Excavating had this to say: “The supervisor, Russ McLean, was excellent to work with. Very responsive and easy to work with. The traffic signal crew as well as the office staff were very professional. Jim and Russ worked well with our schedule.” Good job to Russ and the crew!

JRE NEWS

- ◆ Foreman Meeting is February 2, 2007 at the Mt. Pleasant office. Invitations will follow.
- ◆ Company apparel is for sale on the web. Contact Angie if interested, (800) 792-3822.
- ◆ JRE has implemented an inventory system for MDOT items. The system is functioning in Mt. Pleasant, Flint, and the Warren yard. The foremen have been doing a great job of following the material transfer procedure and/or seeking out Loren or other warehouse staff for assistance.
- ◆ Joe Hobbs was hired as a Mechanic in the Mt. Pleasant shop. Currently, he will be spending most of his time on the road, servicing vehicles at the warehouses and on jobsites, in preparation for the upcoming MDOT season.
- ◆ Pat Higgins was hired as a Project Manager in the Mt. Pleasant office. Pat is originally from Michigan, but has lived in California for many years. His specialty is managing roadway projects, so hopefully we will be able to tap into his strengths come MDOT season.
- ◆ Check the website in the next couple months for new project photos, updated project information, and current employment information.