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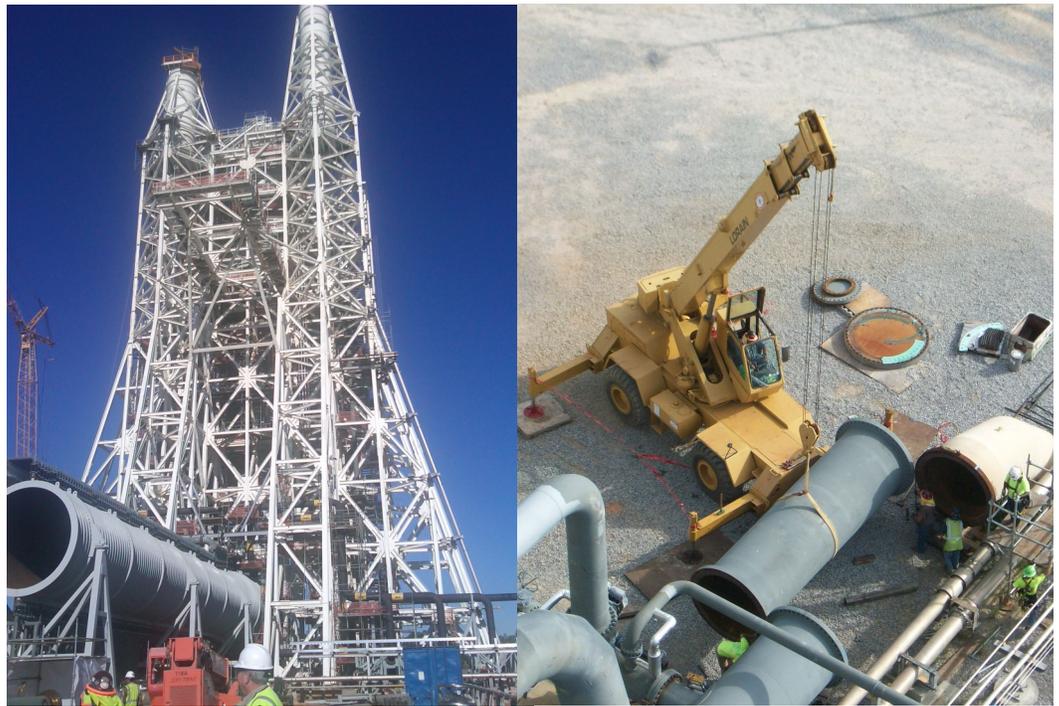
# M&D Messenger

M & D MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS, INC.

# Newsletter Updates

## THE LAST PIECE

This photo shows the last piece of the Cooling Water System piping being installed on the A-3 Test Stand project at Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. We began work for NASA on this project in April of 2010, with the fabrication and delivery of the Process Steam piping. This rocket engine test stand uses high pressure steam, condensing from a gaseous to a liquid state, at a rapid pace, to simulate high altitude (100,000 feet) conditions. The massive double-wall diffuser will funnel engine exhausts away from the stand and the cooling water circulated within keeps the diffuser from melting down. We are thankful to all who participated in this effort and especially to the "old timers"; Ken Carpenter, Wayne Bailey, Tim Mote, Larry Dison, Charles Hughes, and Joel Ellis for their contributions to the successful completion of this project.



### NOTES FROM MANAGEMENT



This summer finds us busy with multiple jobs at NASA, another job for Bunge, 3 buildings at the new Carpenter Technologies site, a Rehau expansion in Cullman, a 3M shut-down, and even a small animal clinic project at Auburn University. We are excited to welcome home our guys from Stennis Space Center after successfully completing the process piping for the A-3 Test Stand. June completed our 2013 business year and, as many of you know, we had a much better result than we did in 2012. There is surprisingly good news on the BCBS renewal premium, an additional benefit, new faces, and other information we look forward to sharing with you inside this Newsletter. As always, we know it takes all of us, doing our best work, on the safest job sites, with the right attitudes to make these good things happen. Let's keep it going; and have some fun along the way...



*Dean B. Sorenson*

# M&D Welcomes

## Justin Strasburg, CAD Operator



I graduated high school from Douglas, Alabama (a small town in north Alabama which now has one red light). I attended my first year of college at Jacksonville State University going to school for business management. I was interested in business because I worked with my father in his metal fabrication shop in Attalla, AL. After my first year at Jacksonville State I went to visit my mother for the summer in Lincoln, NE. I worked for a siding company there during the summer and liked the town and the company I was working for so much that I decided to move up there and enroll in college. While working construction during the day and taking classes at night I found that construction was in my blood. What was not in my blood however was the cold Nebraska winters. I moved back to Alabama after three years in Nebraska and finished out an Associate's degree in Business Management from Snead State and began working toward a degree in Drafting and Design Technology. In May of 2008 I graduated from Wallace State with that degree and was fortunate enough to find a job in Decatur, AL during my last semester of college. After working five years for a local mechanical engineering firm I decided to take my talents to Sherman St.

## Michael Farley, Project Manager

When my wife, Megan, and I decided to move our family back to the Huntsville area, I asked those within the industry who they would recommend. The response was a unanimous recommendation for M&D Mechanical. From that point on I have learned more about the company's history, met more of the M&D people, and believe that I made the proper move.

I greatly appreciate any and all opportunities to develop as an individual, professional and servant. My three children are my first profession and greatest opportunity to serve. I'm unsure of their birthdays, and they are aware of this. I often refer to my middle son with my youngest son's name. My daughter is cool and I, therefore, am unable to relate with her regarding several of her many concerns. Still, I work hard for them every day; and for that they allow me to give them my paycheck. Roll Tide



## 6 YEARS ? ! ?

### What Does 6 Years Mean?

6 years, or 2,190 days, or 52,560 hours, or 18,720 work hours, all equates to a long time. Our actual work hours as a company for the last 6 year time frame equals 2,068,202 hours worked. It has been over 2 million man-hours since our last lost time accident as a company. Think back during that time and remember all the work that was accomplished. A rocket test stand in Mississippi, and new hospital in Madison, a brand new chemical production plant on the river in Decatur are just a few of the many examples of extraordinary work that has been completed. What do all of these projects have in common? Zero lost time accidents.

Typically a lost time accident can impact a company for thousands of dollars of expenses and lost production. These types of accidents negatively affect insurance rates. It takes at least 3 years to work off the harmful monetary effects of a lost time accident. Not to mention the injury to the employee. Sometimes serious injuries can change a life permanently.

The M&D family has reached this great milestone by paying attention to the small things. Not cutting corners or taking unnecessary risks goes a long way towards prevention. The work place culture, that has each employee looking over the shoulder of his or her workmate to ensure compliance with safety, has also contributed greatly to this long stretch of accident free work. Take pride in the fact that 6 years is an extremely long time in the construction world. This is a fact that is way above average among our peers. Thanks for the cooperation and let's keep these numbers stacking up!

*Eddie Evans, Safety Officer, CSP, CSHM*

## Blue Cross Blue Shield News.....

**GOOD NEWS:** While healthcare costs continue to rise nationwide, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama has notified M&D of a plan premium **15% decrease** for the plan year 2013 – 2014. This decrease in premium reflects the joint efforts of each employee managing their individual health and management negotiating the best possible medical plan rates.



**DENTAL NEWS:** Currently, Guardian Dental plan has not changed. Guardian Dental has requested a ~ \$9.65 and ~\$3.85 per month increase for family and individual plans respectfully. We have negotiated a one month extension of the current plan until September 1, 2013. During this one month period, M&D will continue to negotiate the best rates, benefits and potential new company for the dental plan year 2013 - 2014. When finalized, we will communicate new rate information through the routine payroll advice.

**HEALTHCARE REFORM:** In January 2014, the new healthcare mandates will go into effect for companies with 50 or more employees. Questions you might be thinking about:

Will M&D benefit coverage change? No.

Are there fees or additional cost due to the new healthcare mandates? Per BCBS, the Affordable Care Act has additional fees and taxes beginning January 2014.

Where can I learn more about Healthcare Reform? Join The Conversation: Read up, submit a question or provide BCBS your email to get updates @ <http://www.hcralabamablue.com/>

**Stay The Course In Your Personal Health...It Makes A Difference!**



**August 30th is Wear Your Colors Day.**

College Colors Day is an annual celebration dedicated to promoting the traditions and spirit that make the college experience great by encouraging people across America to wear apparel of their favorite college or university throughout the day. M&D encourages all of our employees to show your school spirit and help kick off another great football season.



## What's New!

M&D Mechanical has acquired a Trimble Robotic Total Station, a laser guided position tool that will allow the transfer of 3D positional data to the field digitally. The Total Station will enable field installation crews to layout hundreds of points per day, increasing productivity and accuracy. The addition of the Trimble Robotic Total Station is part of M&D Mechanical's ongoing commitment to its Building Information Modeling (BIM) services.



## 2013 HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEER DAY!

Several of M&D Mechanical employees volunteered with Habitat for Humanity of Morgan County on Saturday, May 11. The employees helped paint and do other construction jobs. This is one of several Habitat projects that M&D Mechanical has helped support.



## Congratulations!

After working a year as pipe fitter helper, Chad decided to join the North AL Craft Training Foundation - Pipe Fitter Apprenticeship Program. Chad's background was Heating & Cooling but he dove right into learning everything about pipe and maintained an 'A' average over all 4 years. His mechanical drive continues as Chad is



Chad Smith, Journeyman Pipe Fitter  
NACFT Graduate June 2013

now learning how to weld pipe. Raising two children on his own, Chad's dedication & work ethics are a great example for them and M&D Mechanical.

### Our Vision:

Our vision at M & D MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS, INC. is to continually deliver superior projects while maintaining the highest level of integrity, thus ensuring success for our employees, customers and community.

### Our Mission:

To build Excellence - in People and Projects.

## HR CORNER

### What's New in August?

M&D has added a new benefit for all employees at no cost to the employee!

All active full time employees who are eligible for benefits, are automatically enrolled in a Group Life Insurance & Accidental Death Benefit of \$20,000.00.



Mutual of Omaha

# M&D Focuses on the Future

## Congratulations To Our Newest Retiree Mr. Gene "Harlon" Roan

Harlon first joined M&D Sheet Metal Shop as a SM Mechanic for 5 years, shortly after the company moved to Decatur, AL. Then in 2000, Harlon rejoined the Sheet Metal Fabrication Shop, until he made the decision to retire on April 8, 2013. Harlon's skills transformed over the years from all fabricating by hand to setting up and operating fabricating machines to cut, bend, shape and straighten sheet metal.



Harlon just didn't put down his tools but he passed them on to a fellow sheet metal helper here at M&D Mechanical.

Heartfelt well wishes go out to Harlon, we wish him the best of everything in his retirement!



## SWETy Camp Visits M&D

M&D Mechanical welcomes the young ladies of SWETy Camp (Summer Welding & Electrical Technology) to M&D Mechanical Fabrication Shop. This program is an annual event sponsored by the Decatur Chamber of Commerce to expose young women to careers in welding and electrical work. Our Pipe Shop team showed them how it's done. The ladies learned about the welding processes: Cutting Pipe, Prepping Pipe, TIG Welding, MIG Welding, and Stick Welding.



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## Support Our Troops

