



Compass Rose Power Solutions Newsletter

2008 Spring Issue

YTD project activities.

- ATCO Electric Alberta—
 - New Recruit Assessments
 - Live Line Manual development
- PowerStream Ontario—
 - Underground Switching practices
- Regina, Saskatchewan
 - SaskPower sponsored Trainers Work Methods Conference

Trade Internet Sites

Listed below are a few internet sites which are of interest to personnel in the lines trade.

- powerlineman.com
- line-man.com
- iuota.org
- Lineman.edu
- elineman.com
- members.tripod.com
- 3Dinternet.com
- fwisp.com
- powerlinemanmag.com
- electricityforum.com

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As industries face challenging times with increasing their workforce, ATCO Electric in Alberta has taken an innovative approach for the second year now.

Experiencing exponential growth in the Province of Alberta for a number of years has created an urgent need to produce capable and qualified Powerline workers to meet the demands of the boom in industry.

Although not as easy as one might think, tapping into the international pool of the Powerline trade has opened up new opportunities for skilled workers to apply for permanency as a Powerline worker with ATCO Electric in the Province of Alberta.

Upon their arrival the new recruits undergo a rigid assessment of their capabilities



and skills during a 5 day program at the Nisku Training Center.



The new recruits are keen in demonstrating their capabilities whereby allowing past work experiences either from their home country or abroad on other work assignments to mix with the variances of working within the structure of the Alberta powerline industry.



The ultimate goal is for each new recruit to achieve Red Seal Certification as a Powerline Worker within an allotted period of time.

The assessment gauges on an individual basis what practical skills are required and at what levels to allow a smooth transition into the crew structure in both a live line as well as a dead-line environment

Upon completion of the assessment stage, the ATCO Electric Training Department puts programs into motion where performance based skills training is combined with the rigid knowledge component of the trade



specific to the Alberta jurisdiction. The success rates when writing for their Provincial certification for previous new hires has been outstanding.

CRPS Ltd. has been fortunate to have been involved with this process for the second year in a

SaskPower Best Practices and Work Methods Conference

For a third year in a row, utilities from across Canada came together in an effort to discuss issues and share information and ideas at a grassroots level.

This year the workshop format conference was hosted by SaskPower in Regina Saskatchewan with an attendance of approximately 60 delegates.

Numerous presentations allowed interactive discussions whereby Work Methods and / or Trainer representatives expressed their utility practices .

SaskPower continues to move forward on computer based training initiatives and process models combining the knowledge component of Apprenticeship learning into readily accessible training modules for the Powerline worker.

Demonstrated in this year's session, there has been some tremendous strides with interactive computer based training. Leading the pack in co-development with 3D Internet Inc. is BC Hydro.

.Although the conference platform is kept to working groups and not manufacturers, this computer generated demonstration was extremely favoured by all.

The training medium provides real scenario based connections of pole mounted distribution voltage transformers at all secondary and primary voltage levels in all configurations.

An excellent training tool. Their site is well worth viewing.