

# COMMON GROUND

MARCH 2024

## CELEBRATING WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION WEEK



Above: GEM sheetmetal worker **Titania Adesi** assembles HVAC ducts and fittings at the GEM sheetmetal shop. Right: RLI operator **Molly Baumgartner** in her loader at First Solar's PGT-04 work site.



## RLI EXPANDS CO-OP PROGRAM TO INCLUDE VDC

### Many career paths available for prospective construction professionals

There are co-op positions other than engineering that college students can apply for at RLG: accounting, marketing, information technology and preconstruction among them. RLI has added its own Virtual Design and Construction co-op program to the list.

University of Toledo senior **Kade Vogel song** is RLI's first VDC co-op. Vogel song said he likes the variety of technology he is exposed to: Drones, Virtual Reality, BIM, CAD, Augmented Reality and others are giving him the base of knowledge he needs to secure

a professional construction technology position.

GEM has had a co-op in its VDC Department for a few years. At RLI, Vogel song moves from project to project, but he says VDC Manager **Trent Mahaney** makes sure he is not overwhelmed.

"There are so many different projects you can work on," said Vogel song, whose goal is to work for RLI after graduation. "It feels like I'm helping out on all of them."

VDC co-ops learn how they provide critical

## GEM SERVICE OFFERS HYDRO JETTING

New service helps keep customers' money from going down the drain



The hydro jetting machine sends water through clogged pipes and drains at 4,000 PSI.

There has long been a need for many GEM Service customers to have someone they can rely on if a drain or pipe at their facility becomes clogged – especially if it's at 3 a.m. on a Sunday.

GEM Service, in response to numerous customer requests about drain and pipe cleaning, has invested in a hydro jetting machine to quickly deal with the clog and get the customer operating normally again.

"This cuts through just about anything," GEM Service Regional Manager **Chris Weeks** said. "This unit

gives us the ability to clear drain lines throughout an entire facility."

Debris from manufacturing processes can get in floor drains and interfere with the facility's normal operations.

A technician uses a hose with a special cutting head to blast high-pressure water into the pipe and clear the clog. The machine has enough hose length to run from the facility to the street or in reverse.

GEM Service has one technician trained to operate the jetter and will be training others in the near future.



RLG attends many college job fairs to discuss construction careers with prospective co-ops.

support to field operations by using technology to improve efficiency, save on costs and reduce schedule impacts. Mahaney said another RLI VDC co-op will be hired once Vogel song's rotation is complete.

RUDOLPH LIBBE INC  
GEM INC  
GEM ENERGY  
LEHMAN DAMAN  
RUDOLPH LIBBE PROPERTIES



## THANKS FOR THE LEADS!

Every associate who reports a new business lead is entered into a drawing for \$100 in GEM and RLI merchandise.

The next drawing is in April for leads generated in January, February and March.

New Leads: **Vince Piscopo; Bob Briggs; Ron Bodin; Austin Bischoff; Jason Quisenberry; Hunter Huffman; Zach Ziderin; Will Conser; Liz Cook.**

Report your leads to:

**RLI — Shannon Deppen, ext. 3005,  
Shannon.Deppen@rlgbuilds.com**

**GEM — Elizabeth Hancock, ext. 2603,  
Elizabeth.Hancock@rlgbuilds.com**

## PROMOTED

### Paul Anderson

Senior Mechanical  
Project Manager  
GEM Walbridge



### Chris Babcock

Security Manager  
Information Systems  
RLG Walbridge



### Jennifer LaCourse

Project Cost Accounting  
Supervisor  
RLI Walbridge



### Chris Brandt

Field Operations Supervisor  
GEM Service  
Walbridge



## APPOINTED

Northeast Ohio Business  
Development Manager

**Jaime Hart** was appointed to the board of ONE Lorain County, which encourages growth and prosperity in the county in coordination with other economic development organizations, public sector leaders and philanthropic organizations.



## NEW WORK

**Woodville, Ohio** — GEM is performing the electrical work on a building addition at the Martin Marietta quarry site for their West Lime Load Out operation.

The addition includes a new electrical room. The work includes electrical equipment installation and power feeds and controls for new process equipment, along with general power and lighting.

There are multiple contractors on the site whose jobs impact GEM's work, which will also need to be performed under Mine Safety and Health Administration requirements.

The team: Electrical Project Manager **Eric Fair**; Electrical Foreman **Jake Hauenstein**.

**Luckey, Ohio** — The transformation of the never-used former Peloton building to a First Solar warehousing facility has begun.

RLI started fine grading with the first slab pour in mid-March.

RLI expects to form, pour and finish 793,000 square feet of 8-inch unreinforced slab for the project. There will be about 30 slab pours over 13 weeks with the project wrapping up by June 28.

The team: Project Manager: **Will Conser**; Preconstruction: **Troy Fritch, Travis Maag**; Project Engineer: **Vlad Sokol**; Superintendent: **Lee Meiring**.

**Lake Township, Ohio** — GEM will replace a 30-ton rooftop HVAC unit and two small

## RLI WINS VP HONORS



RLI received three awards from Varco Pruden at the metal building contractor's annual builder's meeting. The honors were for \$7.5 million in annual sales; \$125 million in cumulative sales; and RLI's 25th anniversary as a Varco Pruden Builder.

## A SIGN OF PROGRESS

### Bricklayers set sign at Lake



RLI bricklayers recently set pre-cast stone panels that spell out Lake Elementary on the west side of the new school



Lochinvar boilers at Lake Middle School. Because of the size of the unit, GEM will have the crane company put down mats and plates to prevent damaging the concrete.

There is a 22-week lead time for the rooftop unit, so a start date for the work is not yet determined.

The team: GEM Service Account Manager **Scott White**.

### New GEM Service Contracts

**Matrix Technologies**, Maumee, Ohio  
**Soulbrain MI**, Northville, Michigan  
**Hollywood Casino**, Columbus  
**Dana Corporation**, Napoleon, Ohio

## NEW ASSOCIATES

### Welcome to RLG!



**Majdi Herzallah**  
Project Engineer  
RLI Walbridge

**Joel Domer**  
Truck Driver  
RLI Walbridge



**Jordan Prosser**  
Business Development  
Manager  
Northeast Ohio