

Rick Wallace

General Manager, Lima Office
Rudolph Libbe Group

While working at the University of Toledo Medical Center, formerly the Medical College of Ohio, Rick was given the opportunity to take welding classes. After admiring the work others were completing in the field, he determined that becoming a boilermaker would fulfill his desires to perform hands-on work and have a different task to tackle day-in and day-out.

Understanding that an apprenticeship was necessary for him to be successful in the field, Rick applied to and was accepted in the boilermakers Local 85 apprenticeship program.

Rick quickly realized that in this industry, you get out of it what you put into it. Opportunities were endless if you were open minded and willing to work. Union building trades have exposed Rick to numerous mentors and instructors who have helped him achieve his goals.

Rick began working as a boilermaker at GEM Inc. in 2002 and left 3 years later for another opportunity. After completing his MBA at Baldwin Wallace in 2015, he was offered a position with GEM as a project manager and was promoted to general manager of the Rudolph Libbe Group Lima office in 2018. In this role, Rick is able to be a hands-on leader for his associates and enjoys getting out in the field to assist his team in any way possible.

Safety is a common theme that surfaces when talking with Rick. RLG has a strong reputation for completing work safely and he strives to meet those expectations daily. According to Rick, as a building block of the RLG business, if you can't get safety right—there's no point in trying anything else!

Rick hopes to utilize his leadership role to bring unity among different trades and to educate the community on the benefits that lie within the unions. There are endless opportunities to make a good life for yourself working in the industry. He is living proof.

