



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**UA 400 Pipe Trades and the Mechanical Contractors Association Host  
2022 Apprentice Signing Day for 87 First-Year Apprentices on September 15<sup>th</sup>**

Kaukauna, WI (September 15, 2022) — UA 400 Pipe Trades and the Mechanical Contractors Association (MCA) hosted its third annual Apprentice Signing Day on Thursday, September 15, 2022, to recognize 87 first-time apprentices as they begin their five-year apprenticeships. The breakdown of the group is as follows: 15 Fabricators, 18 HVAC Service Technicians, 22 Plumbers and 32 Construction Steamfitters. The event included a brief program followed by contractors presenting certificates of achievement to the apprentices along with a USA-made Gerber pocketknife in an outdoor ceremony at the UA 400 Training Center in Kaukauna.

"Signing Day tries to put things into perspective for our new apprentices," said Trevor Martin, UA 400 Business Manager. "The importance they play in building and maintaining the future of our communities is immeasurable. Bringing everyone together, from our great employers, technical colleges, local leaders, state agencies, and area political figures really drives home the true impact of their skills."

UA 400 signatory contractors, representing the MCA, who are employing the new apprentices include [A&J Mechanical](#), [Aldag-Honold Mechanical](#), [August Winter & Sons](#), [AZCO](#), [B&P Mechanical](#), [Bassett Mechanical](#), [Beno Plumbing](#), [B & P Mechanical](#), [CR Meyer](#), [Coenen Mechanical](#), [EGI Mechanical](#), [Enerpipe](#), [Great Lakes Mechanical](#), [Haucke Plumbing](#), [Hayes Mechanical](#), [Helm Plumbing](#), [Hurckman Mechanical Industries](#), [J.F. Ahern](#), [John's Refrigeration](#), [Johnson & Jonet Mechanical](#), [Johnson Controls](#), [Kurt Zenter & Sons](#), [Meyer Mechanical](#), [Mechanical Technologies](#), [Piping Service Inc.](#), [Piping Systems](#), [Pneumatic Systems Plus](#), [R.J. Parins](#), [Schneider & Schneider Mechanical](#), [Straightline Refrigeration](#), [Team Industries Inc.](#), [Tweet-Garot Mechanical](#), and [Veteran's Plumbing](#).

"Apprentice Signing Day is a day to highlight the apprentices and the wonderful career opportunities ahead of them," said Jeff Gaecke, Executive Vice President of MCA. "The signing of more than 80 new apprentices in Local 400 is a testament of the wonderful work opportunities in Northeast Wisconsin. I think today certainly highlights the collaboration of the area contractors, Local 400, area high schools, and the families of these apprentices, bright futures are ahead."



Speakers who addressed the apprentices and invited guests were Amy Pechacek, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development; Tony Penterman, Mayor of Kaukauna; Trevor Martin, UA 400 Business Manager; Jeff Gaecke, Vice President of the Mechanical Contractors Association of Wisconsin; and Scott Wenger, UA 400 Training Coordinator.

“A typical First Year apprentice has two 3-hour nights of school per week after they are done working for the day,” said Scott Wenger, UA 400 Training Coordinator. “They attend eight hours of day school once every other week. During the weeks the apprentice attends day school, the apprentice will typically work for their contractor for 32 hours (fabricators will work 40 hours per week four ten-hour shifts Monday through Thursday and attend school on Friday). The average first-year apprentice needs 1,600 on-the-job-training hours, 136 Day School hours, and at least 120 Night School hours.

Currently, there are a total of 364 apprentices working towards their apprenticeship. The UA 400 five-year apprenticeship programs provide classroom instruction from UA Certified Instructors and on-the-job training alongside experienced UA journeyworkers. Once an apprentice has completed his/her apprenticeship and becomes a Journeyworker, the education and training doesn't stop. Continuing education opportunities are available to all UA members through specialized training and certification programs.

For more information on UA 400 apprenticeships or a tour of its training center, contact Scott Wenger, UA 400 Training Coordinator at [scott@ua400.org](mailto:scott@ua400.org).

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#### **About UA 400 Pipe Trades**

The UA 400 Pipe Trades, headquartered in Kaukauna, Wisconsin with an office in Fond du Lac, is comprised of approximately 2,400 members serving eighteen counties in Northeast Wisconsin. The organization is affiliated with the United Association of Plumber and Pipefitters with an estimated 345,000 membership throughout the United States and Canada. The group's mission is to be the preferred choice for industries, employers and workers specializing in plumbing, pipefitting, HVACR service and pipe fabrication as well as training for its members and qualified manpower to their 105 signatory contractors. The UA 400 takes pride in their partnerships and contributions to serve local communities with organizations such as Cerebral Palsy Telethon, Special Olympics, Rebuilding Together, Heat's On Program, Harbor House and Salvation Army. To keep up with the latest news and to learn more about UA Local 400, visit <http://www.ua400.org> follow us on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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