

SHEKELL

EDGE

FALL 2016

KEEPING CUSTOMERS COMFORTABLE SINCE 1978

CUSTOM SOLUTIONS FOR UNIQUE NEEDS: TAUBENSEE STEEL & WIRE COMPANY

By Kevin Shekell ~ President, J.E. Shekell, Inc.

At J.E. Shekell, Inc. we're proud to provide unique, custom solutions for residential, commercial and industrial customers of all kinds.

Our clients rely on the J.E. Shekell team to develop solutions that reach health, safety and compliance goals that are critical to the success of their operations. That's been the situation with Taubensee Steel & Wire Company, a family owned and operated business since 1946 located in Henderson, Kentucky.

Taubensee Steel & Wire provides cold finished steel bars and steel wire used in an array of products including automotive and farm equipment parts, outdoor fencing, household appliances, and studs, bolts, and machine parts.

THE CHALLENGE

The making of Taubensee's products begins with large rolls of steel wire which are lubricated with a soap film that improves usability and decreases friction during the wire drawing process. It is the soap and steel dust that occur during processing that brought Taubensee to the team at J.E. Shekell, Inc.

This floating steel dust, combined with floating soap dust (Taubensee uses a half-million pounds of soap per year) poses a serious risk of dangerous secondary explosions in the company's processing facility. As specialists in turn-key solutions, J.E. Shekell's challenge was to design a dust collection system that would work with their existing processes, equipment layout, and equipment operators to aid in the prevention of fires and/or explosions, purify the environment AND meet guidelines set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

QUOTE HERE FROM TODD SWANSON re: Initial concerns with the project, goals for improving, specific challenges, experience working with J.E. Shekell.

THE CUSTOM SOLUTION

The design of the new dust collection system was based on the Taubensee facility's electrical and control components, dust levels, and other production and environmental factors. The new system is comprised of a dust collection system rated at 80,000 cfm at 16" negative w.c. with custom ductwork, hoods, and collection devices. Installation of this system began October 3rd, 2016, with an expected completion date of March 2017.

May need other details about the new system?

Because Taubensee Steel & Wire Company has its own well-regarded technical support, process improvement and troubleshooting team, J.E. Shekell, Inc. is especially honored to have been chosen to design and install this custom dust collection system. We value the company's trust and the relationships that develop when we work so closely with industrial clients on the creation of custom solutions.



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AND People & News





Thanks for XX Consecutive Years Readers Choice ~ HVAC Best of the Best

It is gratifying when Readers Choice voters confirm our team is doing its job, and doing it right.

Inside the company, J.E. Shekell, Inc. has always measured our success based on customer satisfaction. We believe this standard is the foundation of our longevity and partnerships in the community.

When John E. Shekell founded his HVAC company in 1978, it was done with a strict commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction. Today, two generations of the family help guide HVAC, electrical, and plumbing operations at J.E. Shekell, Inc. with that same commitment.

Thanks, Tri-State, for voting us a winner in HVAC services, AND for the opportunity to thank our residential, commercial and industrial customers, partners, and vendors.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT HVAC Project Manager Phil Hartig

When J.E. Shekell, Inc. purchased the service department of George Koch Sons in 1990, our company had the great fortune of also acquiring Koch Air Conditioning's service manager, Phil Hartig.

Because George Koch Sons was the area's first Carrier distributor, Phil brought to J.E. Shekell, Inc. a knowledge of Carrier products that was unmatched at the time, and he positioned our company to provide this superior brand to J.E. Shekell customers. But we soon learned that Phil's greatest attribute is his drive to help clients find solutions for specific, sometimes very specialized needs. His commitment still shows in everything he does.

We were lucky that along with Phil our company also gained Pat Wolf, an experienced parts and equipment professional, six exceptional HVAC technicians, and our exceptional receptionist Debra Canary, who now sells and manages services contracts for the light and heavy commercial market vehicles.

Phil now serves as an HVAC Commercial and Industrial Project Manager, where he oversees HVAC projects of varying sizes and scopes. His knowledge is a huge asset to our company and our customers.

Phil earned a degree in Business & Industrial Management at Purdue University. During college he began learning the HVAC business at Kuebler Heating & Air, where he met our company founder, John E. Shekell (John's final employer before launching his own business). Phil then worked at Industrial Contractors Inc., Pyle Electric, and AD-Craft before his ten-year stint at George Koch Sons.

A lifetime Evansville west-sider, Phil is a 1971 Reitz High School graduate and long-time supporter of the sports programs at Mater Dei High School. Attend any football game, girls' softball game, or just about any Mater Dei sporting event and you'll probably find him there.

Phil enjoys spending time with his daughter, Shanna, and six grandchildren (with another due this spring). Add to that nine more grandchildren through his fiancé, Jalane, and the two have 15 grandkids between them (not counting the one on the way)!

In addition to spending spare time with his daughter and grandchildren, Phil enjoys water skiing, snow skiing, cars and motorcycles.

At J.E. Shekell, Inc. we're always glad to tell you about the outstanding individuals who make our company one of the best in the Tri-State. This time we're proud to introduce Phil Hartig. Thanks, Phil, for your excellence, commitment, and dedication to the needs of our industrial and commercial HVAC customers.



Phil in 19xx



*Phil Hartig
HVAC Project Manager
Commercial & Industrial*

ASK THE EXPERT

THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW!
J.E.SHEKELL
INC.
PLUMBING

WINTER HOME MAINTENANCE: TIPS TO HELP PREVENT FREEZING PIPES

The cold months of winter are about to hit the Tri-State. And for homes and even apartments, that can mean frozen water pipes, excess water loss, and the cost and interruptions cold-weather problems cause.

But taking certain steps can prevent much of that. The rundown below will help safeguard against serious plumbing damage AND help maintain your system beyond the winter season:

KNOW THE LOCATION OF THE MAIN WATER VALVE

- It's critical to know where the main water valve is because you may need to shut off all water in the house if a major incident – such as a ruptured pipe -- occurs.
- The main water valve is usually located in basements or by the water heater or water softener, and should be kept in good condition. Open and close the main water valve once a year to help keep it in working order.

INSIDE PIPES

- If you have water pipes that are placed within outside walls or wall cavities, seal all leaks and holes in the walls to keep cold air from coming into these poorly insulated areas. (In this case you want warmer, inside air to circulate around these pipes.)
- Where sinks are located, open lower cabinet doors to let warmer air circulate around the water pipes.
- In coldest weather, keep the home thermostat at a constant 68 degrees if possible, and let water faucets drip slightly to help prevent frozen pipes.

OUTSIDE WATER FAUCETS

- Remove any attached hoses (this is a must!) and drain residual water.
- Shut off individual, lever-style faucet valves (if installed) for each water supply line leading to an outside faucet. Then open each faucet and drain any remaining water.
- Cap faucet with a Styrofoam cap cover that can be purchased at a hardware store.
- Older homes with no outdoor faucet shutoff valves can be retrofitted with a frost-free faucet to help prevent freezing.

Talk to J.E. Shekell, Inc. if you would like an inspection of your home's plumbing system. Your technician will assess any steps needed to safeguard against winter damage.



People & News

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J.E. SHEKELL, INC. PROVIDES NEW LIGHT TO CENTURY-OLD MONASTERY

When Evansville Christian Life Center faced the requirement of upgrading its outdated lighting fixtures, J.E. Shekell, Inc. was glad to assist. Our company is a long-time supporter of this non-profit organization, knowing its work to fight poverty and strengthen families is so important to our community.

Evansville Christian Life Center is housed in an iconic former monastery that is more than 100 years old. When we surveyed the job of replacing its 524 old light fixtures, we knew completing the conversion throughout this 85,000 square-foot building would be no small task. But the J.E. Shekell, Inc. team doesn't mind a good challenge.

Our team worked on replacing the old light fixtures during a period of six months. The challenge became greater when the building's elevator stopped functioning. This new development meant we had to move equipment and lighting fixtures in and out of the three-story building by way of numerous, tall flights of stairs.

Despite the various obstacles the job presented, the result was very satisfying to the J.E. Shekell, Inc. team -- and well worth the effort. Today the lighting in Evansville Christian Life Center is again up to code, and visibility within the building has improved dramatically.

"The difference in the quality of light in our workspaces and hallways is literally night and day," says Executive Director Gina Gibson. "We're thrilled and thankful to have such a significant upgrade to our facility."

As a long-standing partner of Evansville Christian Life Center, J.E. Shekell, Inc. has taken part in many improvement projects on this downtown building located at 509 South Kentucky Avenue. As stated earlier, we're happy to stand by the organization because of the wonderful work it does.

"The problems of poverty and resulting family issues are complicated and affect many adults and children in the Tri-State area," Gina Gibson says. "At Evansville Christian Life Center we work to reverse those effects by offering a realm of services that help people move from a place of need toward their true potential."

Services provided by the Center include a health clinic, hot meal program, food co-op, parenting rewards, classes and coaching, and a long-term anti-poverty initiative. Many who take part in these services make significant improvements in their lives, and some leave poverty behind them for good.

Please learn more about Evansville Christian Life Center's many life-changing services, and how to get involved, at restoringpeople.com.



NINTH ANNUAL J.E. SHEKELL, INC. GOLF EVENT BENEFITS EVANSVILLE CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER

J.E. Shekell, Inc. held its Ninth Annual Golf Event in September. For the first time, this customer appreciation event was planned as a fundraiser for a worthy local organization.

Teams made of up customers, J.E. Shekell employees, and vendors filled the course at Oak Meadow Country Club, enjoying a great day of golf, lunch, and awards for the winners. Working together to raise funding for Evansville Christian Life Center was another highlight of the day.

Our company would like to thank those who assisted in raising the money through a half-pot, Mulligan sales, and a live auction of items provided by our vendors. J.E. Shekell, Inc. has supported Evansville Life Center, in different ways, for a number of years.

While some of the golfers on the course were outstanding – and some, not so much – we met the objective of having a fun, friendship-filled day with valued J.E. Shekell, Inc. customers.

Now we're looking forward to next year's shot-gun start to our tenth annual golf event! Thanks again to all who planned, contributed to, and took part in this year's successful day.

