

NATIONAL TRADESMEN DAY

MARK STAUB PROJECT EXECUTIVE

Q: What are some of the biggest advancements that have taken place in our industry over the course of your career? This could be in the industry as a whole, in your geographic region and/or here at Danforth.

A: Using platforms like Procore to organize information electronically. It has really changed our process / procedures for document control - (drawings / submittals / RFI's etc.) We seem to use a lot less paper and our field staff level employees are accessing information electronically with.

Using platforms like Raken to complete daily logs documenting progress / conditions on the job also using Raken to input time sheets and help with productivity tracking.

The use of VDC - CAD has also continually grown improved over my time in the industry. When managed correctly and all trades are involved it can be a tremendous benefit to a project, it helps with schedule and often eliminates clashes / re-work in the field.

Q: What changes/advancements do you think are next on the horizon?

A: I believe we will see more modularization and pre-fabrication in the future. Skids / Kits - more segments of our work "systems" will be pre-manufactured off site.

Q: What are the challenges facing our industry in the near term?

A: Skilled field labor, we need young skilled tradesmen that can complete the work at a high level.

- Leadership, we are having a hard time finding crew leaders - foremen.*
- We also have challenges on the management side of our business in Syracuse finding qualified project managers.*

Q: How are we - as an industry and as a company - working to recruit, retain and prepare the next generation of tradespeople?

A: I know in Syracuse we are trying to train and retain key apprentices; we understand the importance of these people. We are trying to match them up with our better foremen to share industry knowledge and get them real time experience in the trade. We are focused on rewarding the high performers developing a strong bench for the future. This has been one of the biggest challenges we have faced since opening our office in Syracuse roughly 6 years ago.

Q: Other thoughts on the industry and where it is headed, the benefits of working in the trades, etc.

A: I honestly believe there is great opportunity within our industry at all levels.. field and management. There will always be a need for mechanical and plumbing systems.



jwdanforth.com

since 1884
 **danforth**