



NORTH PIKE SCHOOL DISTRICT IS EXPANDING

Metro is installing six outdoor VRF systems with 42 indoor units, outside air, roof-top package units, and make-up air for the kitchen area and all plumbing.

NORTH PIKE UPPER ELEMENTARY
SUMMIT, MISSISSIPPI

After an \$11 million bond issue passed last year, the North Pike School District in Summit, MS is making progress on a new upper elementary school adjacent to other school property. This 51,000 square foot facility includes classroom space, computer and media center, gym, cafeteria, kitchen, and administrative offices. The school will be ready for the fall, 2019 session.

Mac's Construction of Hattiesburg is the general contractor for this new building. They have a long history in general construction beginning in 1970. Mac's has worked across the industry spectrum with projects including office buildings, industrial, banking, healthcare, churches and government work. This is Metro's first project with them.

Our work on this school includes six outdoor VRF systems with 42 indoor units, outside air, roof-top package units, and make-up air for the kitchen area. In addition to the HVAC, we are completing all plumbing for this school.

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METRO: IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

Generations ago, it was common to follow in the footsteps of your parents in whatever trade or skill they had chosen. Farmers raised more farmers, brick-masons trained more masons, and so on. Education, a mobile society, and transition to the service environment has largely changed our workforce. At Metro, we are breaking the mold of the modern tendencies and have a fair number of two generation workers. They work side by side in a variety of roles.



David and Frank White Frank was a founding member of Metro in 1994 serving as President since our inception. David joined full time in 2010 after graduating college (USM) and works in Hammond as a Project Manager/Estimator.



Cameron and James Wimberly James is our longest tenured plumbing foreman joining Metro Mechanical in 2001 (we began plumbing in 1998). Cameron graduated high school and is following James with a career in plumbing.



Scott and Adam Shiflett Scott is one of our longest tenured managers joining Metro in 1994. He is our Piping Superintendent and oversees our Insulation group. Adam joined Metro in 1998 out of high school as a helper to Scott. He is now a Project Manager overseeing some of our largest projects.



Hale and Grant Gonzales Hale joined Metro in 2005 close to the time we opened our Louisiana division. He now heads the LA office as General Manager and oversees all projects for that region. Grant came to Metro in 2014 in our sheet metal group and recently assisted with the completion of the Southeastern University Student Housing.



Zach and Brad Blount Brad joined Metro in 2012 as we were beginning to self-perform insulating work. He now is the lead foreman in this group overseeing all insulating work. Zach joined his dad in 2014 and together they manage insulation work on service and construction projects.



Alan and Roger Coley Roger joined Metro in 2007 in our Piping group and has been a lead foreman managing construction and equipment change-out projects. Alan followed his dad in 2008 working with him and now leads a number of piping installations.



Ralph and Allen Marble Ralph and Allen joined Metro in the summer of 2017 with Allen working in our HVAC install group. Ralph came to Metro after a long career with another mechanical firm in the area and works in our fabrication shop in Bolton. His specialty is turning out various products such as curbs, curb adaptors, and other welded items.



Rick White and Allison (White) Wilson Also a founding member of Metro in 1994, Rick works on the administrative side of the Company serving now as Chief Financial Officer. Allison came to the Company in 2010 after a brief stint in the public accounting arena. She is now Company Controller managing much of the day to day accounting.

We are proud of each of these family members who have chosen to make Metro a career choice. When we say we are treating each other like family, it takes on a new meaning with many of us. We promote family and enjoy seeing this trend working well here.

THE SAFETY CORNER: AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

The old axiom attributed to Benjamin Franklin was “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”. There is no place this is any more true than in safety. Our safety program is geared around training, being your co-worker’s eyes and ears, and jobsite awareness.

The year 2018 has been our busiest in our 25-year history. Extra overtime, extreme heat this summer, and adding new personnel all can be a recipe for accidents. Our construction team has come through this hectic period with a great record of no accidents.

As we move into the fall, a new crop of projects are beginning. Safety leadership will replicate this same plan of job planning, site reviews, and hazard awareness to keep our accident rate at zero. Every ounce of prevention is worth it!



BY: RICK WHITE

DESIGN CONSTRUCTION SERVICE

MY VIEW: THE HAMSTER WHEEL

I saw a plaque on a friend’s desk years ago that said, “Just when I thought I was winning the rat race...along came faster rats”. Many of us can identify with this dilemma. We seem to be on a hamster wheel. The demands of the job pile up and we feel exhausted, overwhelmed, and out of time to finish the task.

The year of 2018 has been an incredibly busy season of construction and service. Overall construction sales are up over 50% from the previous year. Plumbing service has seen a 40% increase. Personnel hours are reflective of this with added weekend and overtime efforts. This boost of sales produces good financial results, but there is a human toll associated with this pace.

It is easy to get discouraged when times are this busy. Like the hamster, it feels like you are running in circles, never progressing, doing the same things and making some of the same mistakes. We all need to take a breather or just stop and come up for air.

It is important as managers and leaders to be the cheerleaders during hectic times. The message is YES, we are making progress. We are finishing many jobs on time and on budget. Even with some missed deadlines, all is not lost. Focus on what you can do and the plan forward rather than rehashing yesterday’s complaint.

As we roll into the last quarter of 2018, our challenge is to finish strong. Healthy backlogs and many new service opportunities all bode well for next year. For the Metro team, we anticipate great things to come.

NEWS FLASH! METRO OPENS HATTIESBURG, MS OFFICE

Growth plans for Metro have included the possibility of a Hattiesburg regional office for several years. Our personnel have completed a number of projects there over the past two decades. We have done ground-up new construction, renovations, and service work for some long-term clients.

The timing was right for us to officially stake our place there for future growth. With an office on Highway 49 North just north of Interstate 59, we are centrally positioned to offer every facet of mechanical construction for this area. Our plans include growing a local staff to meet the needs of current work in this region and pursuing additional work. We presently have a number of personnel in Hattiesburg working on two major projects and are excited about the potential ahead. Stay tuned for future announcements in this area.

FEATURED PROJECTS: HVAC SOLUTIONS DELIVERED



MADISON, MISSISSIPPI

ST. CATHERINE’S VILLAGE

St. Catherine’s Village is known as an all-inclusive continuing care retirement community. Set on 160 acres, this center is affiliated with St. Dominic Health Services and offers a range of services for those entering retirement years. Mid-State Construction is the general contractor for our project scheduled for completion late this year. Our work includes construction of a new central plant with two 350-ton chillers, pumps and mechanical piping loop.



COVINGTON, LOUISIANA

BENILDE HALL

St. Paul’s School is part of the Christian Brothers’ Lasillian School and celebrates their 100th anniversary in Covington this year. Benilde Hall is a three story classroom renovation under the direction of Donahue-Favret Contractors. This was a design/build project for Metro done over the summer break and is now open for the fall semester. Our work included new HVAC systems for the building.



LACOMBE, LOUISIANA

NTCC STEM

Northshore Technical Community College continues its expansion on the Northshore with this 19,000 square foot addition to their campus. With a focus on a variety of technical trades, this building will house the HVAC, welding, and health sciences curriculums. Ragusa Construction is the general contractor for this project scheduled for completion in spring of 2019. Our work includes roof top units and VAVs for the HVAC system.



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ASHRAE: METRO HOSTS LOCAL ASHRAE CHAPTER MEETING



We were host to the local chapter of ASHRAE in September with many of the mechanical engineering community in attendance. Frank White led an educational demonstration on the proper techniques of duct construction. Our shop had assembled examples of fittings and duct for this program. John Todd, President of Capital Air Balance also spoke on the subject of duct testing. He demonstrated proper duct testing and gave information on how the test equipment works to measure leakage.

Continuing education is a valuable tool for the engineering community and this was a great opportunity to see some hands-on practical application. Metro sponsored a lunch for the meeting.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Q4 2018

ZUPPARDO'S FAMILY SUPERMARKET

Kenner, Louisiana
with Kent Design/Build

HORNE LLP OFFICE BUILDING

Ridgeland, Mississippi
with White Construction

VICKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

Vicksburg, Mississippi
with Thrash Construction

FIRST GUARANTY BANK

Hammond, Louisiana
with Frank Anzalone Construction

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS FOR METRO COMPANIES

METRO OFFICES CLOSED >> NOV. 22-23 · DEC. 24, 25 & 31 · JAN. 1



We give thanks for all our clients, vendors and professionals who support us with business and services throughout the year.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise! Give thanks to Him and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100:4-5 (ESV)