



# THE Breaker Buzz

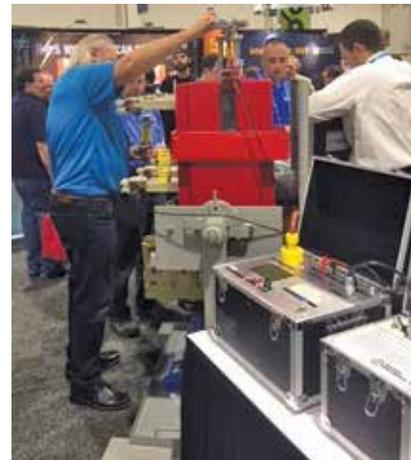
Providing Electrical Solutions Worldwide VOL. XVII

MAY 2018

## Group CBS Makes an Impact at PowerTest 2018

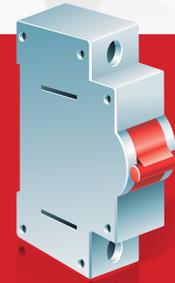
IN FEBRUARY, GROUP CBS exhibited at the InterNational Electrical Testing Association's PowerTest conference in Washington, DC. This annual conference brings together service companies, customers, and other interested parties to promote best practices, safety, and innovations in the electrical industry. Group CBS presented two new products, our VITS60M Vacuum Interrupter Integrity Tester and our SecureConnect™ Remote Operator for Allen-Bradley® CENTERLINE® 2100 Motor Control Centers.

Finley Ledbetter also hosted an afternoon hands-on seminar on medium-voltage circuit breaker maintenance. During this four-hour session, more than 100 technicians and customers examined and operated a GE PowerVac® vacuum circuit breaker and learned about all the issues involved in maintaining vacuum interrupters. Finley was assisted in his presentation by David Walterscheid, Finley Ledbetter III, Craig Rhyne, and Craig Archer.



In addition to our new products, Group CBS companies exhibited other items, including Advanced Electrical & Motor Control's molded case, insulated case, and motor control solutions; Circuit Breaker Sales' air and vacuum circuit breakers and switchgear solutions; CBS ArcSafe's

Continued on page 3



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 2

Junk Dealers Gone Wild!

Page 3

WES's Dan Hook Receives NETA's 2018 Outstanding Achievement Award

Page 4

Group CBS Affiliates Show Unity in Diversity

CBS ArcSafe Gears up in Korea

Page 6

G'Day Mate: VI Goes to Australia

Kudos to Tori on His U.S. Citizenship!

CBS ArcSafe Puts the Brake on Long Lead Times

Page 7

AEAMC Establishes Expertise in the Nuclear Power Industry

Page 8

WES Rides the Work Wave in Hawaii

Page 9

Circuit Breaker Sales Acquires Berthold Electric Power Services

AEAMC Celebrates Reman Day

Pages 10-11

Smooth Operators

Page 12

Group CBS Affiliates

Trade Show Calendar

## Vacuum Interrupters Introduces Revolutionary Reconditioning Process

VACUUM INTERRUPTERS, INC (VI, INC.), has introduced a breakthrough process to recondition and extend the life of aging vacuum interrupters and other devices that rely on a vacuum-sealed canister of any kind.

Of the thousands of vacuum interrupters in service, the biggest concerns in this class of glass- or ceramic-enclosed vacuum-conditioned contacts are their age and the percentage of vacuum interrupters that have exceeded their life expectancy. While some 30-year-old vacuum interrupters are still capable of

Continued on page 5

## THE VIEW FROM FLIGHT LEVEL 410

By *Finley Ledbetter*, CEO and Chief Scientist,  
Group CBS, Inc.

# Junk Dealers Gone WILD!



When you look at this issue of Buzz, you'll see Group CBS in transition from a *junk* business of the past to a *technology* company of the future. Man, is that scary — day I look back at our roots and hope to not run this ship into an iceberg.

The Group has made strategic pivots in the past into field service and NETA Testing I, then into developing engineered products including ArcSafe and Vacuum Interrupters, and most recently into technology-driven services and products such as MAC CBA and Switchgear Guardian.

But still in the back of my mind, I hear, "We're still junk dealers. Do not lose contact with our past." And our success was all predicated on that. Yes, we're still JUNK DEALERS and pseudo-pirates at heart. Like my dear old grandmother would tell me, "Don't forget who butters your bread!" We won't, Granny, I assure you.

### GETTING STRONGER EVERY DAY

Now, for news around the Group. We recently added Berthold Electric Power Services, which has offices and shops in Elgin, IL, and St. Louis, MO. It will be our immediate task to grow BEPS shop capabilities to better assist GCBS in completing projects in the Midwest. BEPS will maintain its current field-service capabilities and continue to service certain key accounts it has always provided for. Join me in welcoming the BEPS staff to GCBS. Let's all find ways to use their local presence to everyone's advantage.

GCBS continues to build an alliance with Shermco Industries by cooperatively running projects that require field or shop expertise where one or the other does not have that capability. Look for GCBS to open a stand-alone, larger-than-normal startup service shop in the metro Detroit area in 2018. This facility will house shop and field mechanical capabilities, leaning greatly on our Shermco alliance in that territory for NETA field services and testing. GCBS will also install the

largest inventory of surplus equipment in that region to support all of our shops and other needs locally. Group CBS is truly coming to the Motor City in a big way!

As you see in this issue of Buzz, Group CBS has been busy developing our vacuum interrupter manufacturing facility. This state-of-the-art small-batch plant will be capable of producing several thousand VIs a year, courtesy of a nimble (John, you didn't know you were still nimble, did you!) and quick development team. The plant will bring new designs and replacements to the market quickly while serving as the only truly soup-to-nuts VI manufacturer (VIM) for small-project needs in the U.S.

**Our new state-of-the-art vacuum interrupter manufacturing plant will be capable of producing several thousand interrupters a year, while serving as the only soup-to-nuts VI manufacturer for small-project needs in the U.S.**

In another VI announcement, Group CBS has filed for patent protection on a revolutionary process to recondition service-aged or old shelf-stock unused interrupters into usable long-life replacement parts. This includes a patent-pending electrical conditioning process to lower pressure and contact resistance, and extend the useful life of very old yet still functional interrupters. Look for this to be a topic at all U.S. technical conferences this year.

So now you know why I've titled this message, "Junk dealers gone WILD!" More on all of these announcements coming soon. Let's keep the pedal to the metal and the tank full of high octane! 

## Group CBS Makes an Impact at PowerTest 2018

Continued from page 1

remote racking and switching solutions; Solid State Exchange & Repair's electronic repair solutions; and Vacuum Interrupters' vacuum bottle and interrupter solutions.

More than 300 people stopped by our booths to visit with us — we even won an award for having the most visitors! And let's not forget about our Drain the Swamp hospitality party. First, we nicknamed our open bar the Swamp, and then we found 200 people to help us drain it. Our bourbon tasting was a big hit, and our food won an award as well. And the winners of The Boring Company flamethrowers were very excited their names were pulled. Thanks to all the NETA staff who assisted us and all the GCBS folks involved, especially Jackie Marchio and April Worthington.

We look forward to something even bigger and better next year in Fort Worth, TX. 



## WES's Dan Hook Receives NETA's 2018 Outstanding Achievement Award

**DAN HOOK, PRESIDENT** of Western Electrical Services, Inc., was honored at PowerTest 2018 with NETA's Outstanding Achievement Award. The award is given in recognition of an individual's commitment to NETA and leadership through service.

Hook, who sits on NETA's Board of Directors, has been an active member of the association for 12 years. One specific accomplishment highlighted by the award is the role Hook played in the recent restructuring of NETA's certification exam.

"We were at a crossroads with the exam, and we needed a leader to guide us through NETA's single largest project in the history of the association," says Ron Widup, a member of NETA's Board of Directors and CEO of Shermco Industries. "Dan was that leader, and he did a fantastic job. We could not have completed the exam project without him, and everyone should be forever grateful for his efforts."

Under Hook's guidance as chairman, the certification exam committee ensured that the exam reflected current technology, equipment, and best practices used by electrical technicians in the field. That process involved surveying more than 600 technicians and the NETA accredited companies for which they work to develop relevant questions, as well as creating a new study guide and detailed content outline to thoroughly prepare candidates for the exam.

"Receiving the Outstanding Achievement Award is a big honor and a bit humbling," Hook says. "Although my tenure with the association is a

lot shorter than previous recipients of this award, I'm proud to keep the same company as the individuals who grew NETA into what it is today."

In addition to his position on the certification exam committee and board of directors, Hook serves on NETA's Standards Review Council and is assistant editor of NETA World Journal. 

**Dan Hook (left) accepts his award from NETA president Jim Cialdea.**



# Group CBS Affiliates Show Unity in Diversity at Protective Relay Conference

By Andy Collins, Business & Inside Sales Support, Circuit Breaker Sales & Repair

A JOB WORTH doing right is a job worth doing together. Such was the motto for Group CBS at the 71st Annual Conference for Protective Relay Engineers in College Station, TX, in March. Three GCBS affiliates took to the Texas A&M University campus to promote the Group's vast capabilities within the power distribution industry.

Sertec Relay Services, a division of CBS Northeast (Seymour, CT), traveled to the Lone Star State to team up with Texas-based affiliates CBS ArcSafe and Circuit Breaker Sales & Repair. While the show is hosted in CBS&R territory, the exposure to industry experts and engineers nationwide is a huge advantage in promoting the GCBS brand.

"We have been exhibiting at the relay conference for nearly a decade, and each year we find new ways to garner attention from the attendees," says Lee Heine, vice president of sales at CBS&R. "CBS ArcSafe is always a popular attraction at our booth, but it was a no-brainer that Sertec should join us at this conference to share their extensive knowledge of electromechanical relays. After all, their inventory and expertise are the best in that niche of the industry."

The conference and trade show boasted roughly 300 attendees and provided three days of vendor education on the exhibit floor. Attending the conference for the first time, Sertec was a perfect fit. "We have to believe this is what the Group intended with developing affiliates with specific



Relay group (left to right): Austin Holmes, Jackie Marchio, Tim Kelly, and Andy Collins

product offerings," says Tim Kelly, vice president of sales and marketing at CBS Northeast. "Our life extension services and quick lead times enhance the package each of our locations can offer."

Group CBS will continue to showcase annually and looks forward to next year's Conference for Protective Relay Engineers, March 25-28, 2019. 

## CBS ArcSafe Gears Up in Korea

CBS ARCSAFE CONTINUES its push into Korea. Our representative, Martin Lee (pictured on the left), safely tested four RRS-1 units at power plants in the country. It's just one more step in our global journey of electrical safety! 



Continued from page 1

## Vacuum Interrupters Introduces Revolutionary Reconditioning Process

performing much longer, others in operation for 20 years have already failed. VI, Inc. has developed a proprietary process for breathing new life into these aging interrupters.

After identifying whether the vacuum interrupter is suitable for reconditioning, technicians puncture the interrupter and clean it, and then electro polish the existing contact in the canister. Next, the interrupter is re-vacuum-brazed shut, with a new getter material and a new plug installed, then properly conditioned, which includes magnetron effect pumping and a pressurized leak test to ensure the new vacuum seal is as good or better than the first time it was manufactured.

“The real utility of this process is getting 20 to 30 years more life from the existing canister,” says Finley Ledbetter, CEO and chief scientist of Group CBS. “If the interrupter has outlived the wear limits of its contact structure or has seen too much damage, it will not be suitable for reconditioning. But most vacuum interrupters have seen little operation or use and only need to be reconditioned to go right

back into service.”

VI, Inc. expects this innovative technology to greatly disrupt the existing mind-set, plans, and conservative world of arc physics and power distribution equipment life extension.

“The real disruption starts with the cost-effectiveness of our reconditioning process, the reuse of the original type certified vacuum interrupter design, and a very long warranty,” Ledbetter says. “Reconditioning vacuum interrupters will be the norm in 50 years, keeping old vacuum breakers in service for 100 years after their original install date.”

All reconditioning work will be performed in VI, Inc.’s new vacuum interrupter manufacturing facility in Denton, TX — the only new vacuum interrupter plant built in the U.S. in the last 40-plus years. 

**The new Vacuum interrupters manufacturing facility features a clean room to ensure that work is performed in a controlled environment (left), as well as a high vacuum furnace for brazing vacuum interrupter assemblies (bottom left and right).**

**Upper right: the first interrupter brazed in the new facility**



## G'Day Mate: VI Goes to Australia

WHEN THE SOUTH32 aluminum mine in Perth, Australia, needed to maintain and upgrade aging vacuum breakers, they turned to Vacuum Interrupters, Inc. The mine has a large amount of GE PowerVacs manufactured in 1980 with vacuum interrupters that were starting to fail, so Finley Ledbetter III flew to Australia to train workers on how to use the MAC-TS4, so they can test their vacuum breakers and replace interrupters before they fail in service. Ledbetter also trained technicians on how to remove, install, and adjust the replacement vacuum interrupters South32 had ordered. But the job wasn't complete without a few special guests. "There were kangaroos inside the plant, just hanging out," Ledbetter says. 



## Kudos to Tori Gomez on His U.S. Citizenship!



CONGRATULATIONS TO CIRCUIT Breaker Sales employee Toribio "Tori" Gomez for becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen! During a ceremony on January 9,

Gomez took the oath of allegiance after completing the requirements for U.S. citizenship. Among these requirements are five years of permanent U.S. residence (or three years with a U.S. citizen spouse), passing a civics and English test, and completing an interview. Gomez, currently a low-voltage breaker technician, has worked for CBS for 17 years and is well regarded for his exceptional attitude and the speed and quality of his work. You may have seen Tori on the CBS YouTube channel as the star of several time-lapse videos. Say hello and congratulations to Tori the next time you visit CBS! 

## CBS ArcSafe Puts the Brake on Long Lead Times

CBS ARCSAFE IS expanding its in-house fabrication capabilities with a new AccurPress 7606 hydraulic press brake. A press brake is used to bend flat metal by sandwiching a part between a V-shaped holder, called a die, and the pressing apparatus, called a punch.

The new machine can bend material up to 6 feet wide and up to ½ inch thick with 60 tons of force. An intuitive computer numerical control system performs all calculations for the operator and ensures a high degree of accuracy.

ArcSafe will use the AccurPress to bend steel and aluminum parts into custom shapes for its remote switch actuator (RSA) products. 



# AEAMC Establishes Expertise in the Nuclear Power Industry

By Bill Schofield, President, AEAMC

OVER THE LAST 13 months, three dozen folks at Advanced Electrical & Motor Controls have been quietly building motor control buckets for the nuclear power industry. The work has been challenging but beneficial.

There are only a few competitors, and the rewards for this work are high, but building motor control buckets for the nuclear power industry is very different from other industrial or commercial projects due to its exacting standards for the traceability of components and testing protocols. In response, AEAMC developed new checklists to ensure complete traceability and meet quality specifications throughout the process.

The new forms (including a detailed purchase order AEAMC designed specifically for the nuclear industry), along with controlled receiving and inspections, a climate-controlled storage area, and a final inspection, allow the company to trace everything from the initial order to the final product delivery.

Enhanced testing protocols prevent problems from showing up toward the end of the production process. While performing functional acceptance testing, or FAT, as required by the nuclear power industry, AEAMC is able to identify problems such as damaged or defective components, preventing motor control bucket failure at the front end.

Though AEAMC has always been detail conscious, managers are now using the new test and acceptance forms developed for the nuclear power industry with commercial clients as well. The new forms and best practices provide better documentation and traceability of AEAMC's quality control procedures.



Our staff continue to refine the procedures and best practices to help nuclear power industry clients deliver on the Nuclear Promise, the multiyear strategy to ensure excellence in safety and reliability.

This year, the initiative will transition to focus on implementing the most significant savings opportunities in the most efficient manner possible.

AEAMC has completed motor control bucket projects for Paragon (formerly Argo Turbo Serv), Exelon, Luminant, and Nextera. We anticipate several more projects in 2018, which will continue to help grow this complement to the Group. 



**Top:** The AEAMC crew follows exacting requirements when developing products for the nuclear power industry.

**Left:** AEAMC built ITE 5600 motor control buckets for an East Coast nuclear power plant.

# WES Rides the Work Wave in Hawaii

By Tony Ascitutto, SVP/COO, Western Electrical Services

HAWAII IS CALLING, and Western Electrical Services is answering! Thanks to our West Coast presence, strong customer relationships, and reputation for excellence, our field service division has been able to take on several growing opportunities for electrical testing services in the 50th state.

WES recently landed a project to perform acceptance testing on low-voltage circuit breakers and infrared thermal imaging at a wastewater pump station. This is an ongoing project, and we look forward to future opportunities with our new customer.

When another customer with whom we do regular work in the Southwest won a job in Hawaii, they brought us along. WES is now doing programming and acceptance testing of microprocessor protective relays at two separate photovoltaic projects.

One of our more exciting jobs in Hawaii is the in-progress rail transit project, where we are doing low-voltage acceptance testing at multiple stations on a variety of equipment, including circuit breakers, automatic transfer switches, distribution panels, and transformers.

Meanwhile, for a building renovation in Oahu, we've been hired to do acceptance testing on medium-voltage air switches, circuit breakers, and microprocessor protective relays.

Perhaps the most challenging project of all has been on Wake Island, where WES recently completed the first phase of a major electrical retrofit project. Located 2,300 miles west of Honolulu, the atoll is so remote that flights land and take off there only every two weeks.

"The extreme remote location of this project presented several hurdles to ensure the test equipment and personnel arrived on time and ready to execute our given scope," says Matt Wallace, vice president of field services. "As if these challenges weren't enough, another set of obstacles nearly torpedoed the project before it ever got started."

Shortly after the WES crew arrived, the island lost all communications for several days because someone misidentified a cable, accidentally cutting the main internet and telecommunication service line. A barge carrying Conex containers



Honolulu, Hawaii

hit a reef and had to be evacuated and eventually sunk by the Navy. Back on the island, several pad-mount transformers had to be replaced either because they did not meet rating specifications or failed WES testing.

"Let's hope the second mobilization, scheduled in fall 2018, goes much smoother," Wallace says.

## Meanwhile, Back on the Mainland . . .

WES's other divisions have been busy stateside. The machine shop services team is heavily involved in a field-service job with a coal-fired power plant in Arizona. The team will rotate through an oil circuit breaker rebuild program in the plant's switchyard.

The Southwest apparatus crew recently finished an emergency job with a steel manufacturer. The manufacturer had an old GE Magne-Blast that had been damaged by a competitor's remote racking equipment. The breaker was jammed and only partially connected. The customer jacked the breaker into the fully connected position and blocked it in place to continue running until our crew could get on-site, remove the breaker, and restore the elevating mechanism to full functionality. The project marked another great save by the talented WES apparatus guys! 

# Circuit Breaker Sales Acquires Berthold Electric Power Services

CIRCUIT BREAKER SALES CO., INC. (CBS), which specializes in the sales and service of low- and medium-voltage circuit breakers and other power distribution equipment, is pleased to announce the acquisition of Berthold Electric Power Services (BEPS), the service division of Gus Berthold Electric Company. Serving the Midwest from its modern, fully equipped centers in Chicago and St. Louis, BEPS specializes in quality maintenance, repair, remanufacturing, and testing of low- and medium-voltage switchgear and circuit breakers. The company also provides on-site preventive maintenance and emergency on-call services. From its extensive inventory, BEPS offers new, surplus, obsolete, and remanufactured circuit breakers and other power distribution equipment. Renewal parts are a specialty of BEPS.

Although now part of Circuit Breaker Sales, BEPS will continue to operate as Berthold Electric Power Services at

its two existing locations and will maintain current management and personnel.

The acquisition of BEPS brings the number of CBS locations in North America to five, including its headquarters in Gainesville, TX, plus Lakeland, FL, and Crown Point, IN. “The addition of Berthold Electric Power Services continues our efforts to strengthen our ability to better serve our customers’ power distribution equipment requirements,” says Tim Brewer, president of Circuit Breaker Sales.

Details of the transaction were not disclosed. To discuss joining Group CBS’s family of electrical equipment supply, service, and engineering companies, contact Randy Roumillat at 972-250-2500, or visit [GroupCBS.com](http://GroupCBS.com). To contact Berthold Electric Power Services, call 800-657-6646, or visit [BertholdElectricPowerServices.com](http://BertholdElectricPowerServices.com).

## AEAMC Celebrates Reman Day

AEAMC RECENTLY HOSTED Reman Day at its Irving, TX, facility.

Group CBS COO Randy Roumillat led a tour of the plant. He showed Mayor Rick Stopfer, members of the Irving Chamber of Commerce, and several business leaders our capabilities to custom-build panelboards and switchboards as well as to repair, remanufacture, and recondition customers’ legacy electrical equipment. We also held a brief discussion on remanufactured products in general and our products specifically.

The goal of Reman Day is to advocate for remanufactured goods, educate people on the advantages of reman, and collaborate with our communities in order to identify future remanufacturing leaders.



# SMOOTH OPERATORS

## SPOTLIGHTING LONGTIME GROUP CBS EMPLOYEES

By Andy Collins, Business & Inside Sales Support, Circuit Breaker Sales & Repair

**THIS APRIL MARKED** a milestone for Daniel Sosa at Circuit Breaker Sales & Repair: The company celebrated his 20th year of service. “Daniel is an important go-to guy for us,” says CBS&R vice president Lee Heine. “Daniel was one of the company’s very first technicians and one of my first hires. Throughout the years, he has grown to be a leader in the shop.”

Roger Vogel, CBS&R production manager, echoes similar thoughts about Sosa. “Daniel has a ton of experience, and we can trust him with any breaker we throw his way. He is a well-rounded tech who stays quiet and constantly pumps out a quality product.”

Sosa serves as a mentor for many of the younger techs in the shop but is never safe from “big brother” lurking nearby. Daniel’s older brother, Izzy Sosa, who was honored with his 20-year distinction in 2016, is CBS&R’s shop supervisor.

“Yeah, he’s my brother, so we go back and forth and joke around, but I am so proud of how far he has come,” says the elder Sosa. “It’s so cool to come to work every day and have him here with me.”

So, what has kept Daniel Sosa on the job for 20 years? “It’s the people, especially my bosses,” he says. “They take good care of me.”

Away from the shop, Sosa enjoys being on the water fishing, and he relishes the time he spends with his three children and extended family. 



Daniel Sosa

By Michael Smolen, Inside Sales & Marketing, CBS Northeast

**IT WAS 1979** when Ronnie True, field-service supervisor and all-around answer man at CBS Northeast, embarked on a career in power distribution services that may be second to none. Nearly 40 years later — and 25 years with CBSNE — all who know Ronnie welcome his gruff, deadpan-hilarious, and incredibly knowledgeable take on getting the job done.

Back in 1993, Ronnie was the very first employee of Diversified Electrical Services (acquired by Group CBS in 2014), and by now he’s most likely been on more field-service jobs than you have hairs on your head. Insane hours, intolerable working conditions, clueless clients, and malfunctioning gear are the story of Ronnie’s life, but never will you see him without

that wry grin on his face. If anyone can honestly put forth the phrase “been there, done that,” it’s Ronnie True.

Asked what job he is most proud of in his career, Ronnie instantly quips, “I’m proud of every job I do. That’s who I am” — though Ronnie does get a bit uncharacteristically excited when talking about CBSNE’s recently completed job for Eversource’s South End facilities. He spearheaded the three-year project to build 58 complete relay doors from scratch here in Seymour, CT.

In response to some final words of wisdom, Ronnie simply says, “Don’t I get a damn watch or something?” Please join us in wishing Ronnie a heartfelt congratulations on 25 years of remarkable service. 



Ronnie True

# SMOOTH PERATORS

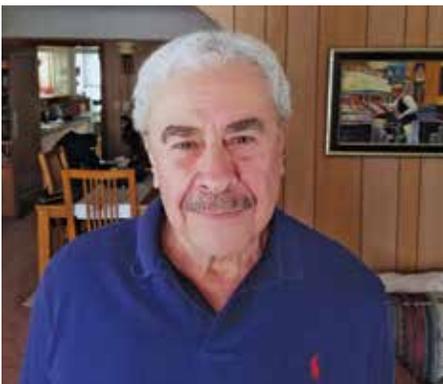
## SPOTLIGHTING LONGTIME GROUP CBS EMPLOYEES

By Craig Archer, CEO, Western Electrical Services

**A VETERAN OF** the U.S. Marine Corps, Kosta “Gus” Napoles boasts a 20-plus-year career in the electrical business. Gus is a plank owner of the Intermountain Region. Starting at Western Electrical Services in 2005, he was instrumental in getting things off the ground when WES opened its Salt Lake City office.

Gus showcased his ability to sell electrical equipment when he first arrived at WES. It wasn’t long before he was selling all services our company has to offer, as well as supporting sales for other Group CBS affiliates, such as CBS ArcSafe.

“I work with great people at WES, and it truly makes this job enjoyable,” Gus says. “They make my job that much easier. I can walk into a customer’s office and they are always happy to see me. My only regret is not finding out about this business earlier! That’s why it’s been great working here all these years.”



Gus Napoles

**ROB COOMES IS** vice president of engineering services at WES. Rob, who cut his teeth as an aviation officer in the U.S. Navy, was hired by WES in October 2007 as a field service engineer working out of the Sumner, WA, office.

It took us very little time to figure out how special Rob is. He took on the responsibility of opening the office in Salt Lake City and relocated there permanently. Rob has developed and honed his skills through hard work in the field while also continuing his education. He is a NETA Level IV technician and has P.E. licenses in Washington, Wyoming, Nevada, California, and Hawaii. Rob has been married to his wife, Marina, for 15 years, and they have three kids: Natalie, Alex, and Ben.

“Working on different job sites, encountering new problems to solve, it all keeps the job interesting,” Rob says. “No matter how much you learn about this business, there’s always something new every week, a unique problem that requires you to bring together different aspects of the job.”



Rob Coomes

**WALLACE “WALLY” SCHWANTES** celebrated his 10th year with WES in October 2017. Wally began his career with WES shortly after honorably serving his country in the U.S. Navy for more than 20 years and retiring as an electrician’s mate chief petty officer.

Wally worked in the circuit breaker and apparatus shop in Sumner for more than three years and then transferred to the field service division, which he has called home ever since. Always one for professional growth and improving knowledge of his craft, Wally worked tirelessly to become a NETA Level III technician in 2016.

Wally’s understanding of a circuit breaker’s operation, maintenance, and testing — as well as other talents developed in his early WES years and his military education and training — gives him a unique and valuable edge working in the field.

“WES has become my second family, and I look forward to another 10 years with my brothers and sisters,” Wally says. “You’ll need to drag me out to get rid of me.”

We don’t see that happening anytime soon, Wally.



Wally Schwantes

**GROUP CBS AFFILIATES****Advanced Electrical & Motor Controls Inc.  
AEAMC.com**

Advanced Electrical & Motor Controls is a certified UL508A industrial control panel builder and specialist in the sales and service of insulated case circuit breakers, molded case circuit breakers, bolted pressure switches, panelboards, switchboards, motor control, bus plugs, bus ducts, and renewal and replacement parts.

Irving, TX — Ph: 800-289-2757

**Berthold Electric Power Services  
BertholdElectricPowerServices.com**

Serving the Midwest from its Chicago and St. Louis service centers, BEPS specializes in maintenance, repair, remanufacturing, and testing of low- and medium-voltage switchgear and circuit breakers. Also provides on-site preventive maintenance and emergency on-call services.

Elgin, IL — Ph: 847-697-8720

Pickneyville, IL — Ph: 618-357-6300

**CBS ArcSafe, Inc.  
CBSArcSafe.com**

Remote racking systems, remote switch actuators, and handheld motorized racking tools for low- and medium-voltage switchgear.

Denton, TX — Ph: 877-4-SAFETY

**CBS Nuclear Services, Inc.  
CBSNuclear.com**

Specializes in shop and on-site field servicing of Class 1E safety-related low- and medium-voltage switchgear and circuit breakers. Also services industrial and non-nuclear-related circuit breakers and related switchgear and substations.

Matthews, NC — Ph: 704-882-1875

**Circuit Breaker Analyzer, Inc.  
CBAnalyzer.com**

Providing new circuit breaker testing methods that utilize vibration analysis combined with internet data transfer and sophisticated condition-based analysis to determine the condition of all types of circuit breakers.

Farmers Branch, TX — Ph: 972-290-0074

**Circuit Breaker Sales Co., Inc.  
CircuitBreaker.com**

World's largest inventory of low- and medium-voltage circuit breakers and parts. Complete service, remanufacture, upgrade, and life-extension services. Also offers CBS MagVac magnetic latching medium-voltage breakers and Tough Duty Power/Vac® roll-in replacement breakers.

Gainesville, TX — Ph: 800-232-5809

**Circuit Breaker Sales Co., Inc.  
CircuitBreaker.com**

One-stop service for circuit breakers, switchgear, transformers, protective relays, loadbreak switches, motor controls, unit substations, renewal parts, and repair, upgrade, life extension, and maintenance services.

Lakeland, FL — Ph: 800-232-5809

Headquartered in Addison, TX, Group CBS includes affiliated electrical equipment, service, and engineering companies throughout the U.S., UK, Middle East, and Pacific Rim, providing premier products and services to the industrial, utility, electrical distribution, and repair markets worldwide.  
972-250-2500 | GroupCBS.com

**Circuit Breaker Sales Co., Inc.  
CircuitBreaker.com**

Provides electrical equipment, repair, remanufacturing, and life-extension services to commercial and industrial customers in the Midwest.

Crown Point, IN — Ph: 800-232-5809

**Circuit Breaker Sales & Repair, Inc.  
CBSalesAndRepair.com**

Servicing the Gulf Coast with shop or field service, repair, upgrade, or replacement of power system apparatus.

La Porte, TX — Ph: 281-479-4555

**Circuit Breaker Sales NE, Inc.  
CircuitBreakerSalesNE.com**

A leader in providing power distribution products and services, specializing in life-extension services and offering an expansive inventory of new, surplus, and reconditioned circuit breakers, switchgear, motor control, transformers, and other power apparatus.

Seymour, CT — Ph: 203-888-7500

**Circuit Breaker Sales Southeast, Inc.  
CBSSoutheast.com**

CBS Southeast provides sales and repair, upgrade, reconditioning, and life extension services of utility-industrial circuit breakers, motor control, switchgear, substations, transformers, and other electrical equipment.

Gonzales, LA — Ph: 225-673-2278

**Circuit Breaker Store, Inc.  
CBStore.com**

Your online source for all Group CBS products; a powerful solutions provider with a specialty vendor network that can supply factory new, surplus new, and reconditioned circuit breakers, electrical distribution, control equipment, parts, and remote racking equipment.

Gainesville, TX — Ph: 855-227-8673

**Solid State Exchange & Repair, Inc.  
SolidStateRepair.com**

Quality, reliable, on-time service and support for all brands and types of solid state power electronics, including circuit breaker trip devices, protective relays, motor overload relays, and rating plugs.

Denton, TX — Ph: 877-TRIP-FIX

**Transformer Sales Co.  
CBSales.com/transformers/index.htm**

Offers a complete line of new, surplus, and reconditioned dry-type, cast-coil, and liquid-filled power transformers from 1000 to 5000 kVA with primary voltages from 2400 V to 34.5 kV.

Gainesville, TX — Ph: 940-665-4484

**Vacuum Interrupters, Inc.  
VacuumInterruptersInc.com**

Provides replacement vacuum interrupters, MAC-TS4 predictive vacuum interrupter and CBT-1201 for circuit breaker test sets, and new replacement encapsulated poles for Power/Vac® circuit breakers.

Farmers Branch, TX — Ph: 214-442-5877

**Western Electrical Services, Inc.  
WesternElectricalServices.com**

Serving the Southwest with superior quality on-site electrical testing, maintenance, and repair services as well as rebuild, upgrade, and life extension services for switchgear, circuit breakers, and motor controls.

Phoenix, AZ — Ph: 888-395-2021

**Western Electrical Services, Inc.  
WesternElectricalServices.com**

Providing electrical equipment sales, testing, repairs, and emergency service to the southern California market.

Chino, CA — Ph: 888-395-2021

**Western Electrical Services, Inc.  
WesternElectricalServices.com**

Field services group providing maintenance and acceptance testing to the Reno/Sparks market.

Reno, NV — Ph: 888-395-2021

**Western Electrical Services, Inc.  
WesternElectricalServices.com**

The only full-service electrical testing and maintenance company in the intermountain region.

Salt Lake City, UT — Ph: 888-395-2021

**Western Electrical Services, Inc.  
WesternElectricalServices.com**

The Northwest leader in electrical testing, maintenance, and power switchgear services, providing on-site electrical testing and maintenance, electrical engineering studies, and sales, repair, upgrade, and life extension services for circuit breakers, switchgear, motor controls, and transformers. Also custom manufacturing of engineered and reverse-engineered parts.

Sumner, WA — Ph: 888-395-2021

**Western Electrical Services, Inc.  
WesternElectricalServices.com**

One-stop shop for all electrical equipment sales, testing, and engineering needs and a utility-class service provider to the Northwest T&D market.

Vancouver, WA — Ph: 888-395-2021

**GROUP CBS TRADE SHOW CALENDAR**

**EPRI 2018 CIRCUIT BREAKERS USERS  
GROUP MEETING**  
SAN ANTONIO, TX  
May 21–24, 2018

**2018 IEEE IAS PULP, PAPER AND  
FOREST INDUSTRIES CONFERENCE (PPFIC)**  
APPLETON, WI  
June 17–22, 2018

**HYDROVISION INTERNATIONAL**  
CHARLOTTE, NC  
June 26–28, 2018