



FEATURED PROJECT: Block Celebrates 25 Years with TransUnion

This year Block Electric celebrated a 25 year long-standing partnership with TransUnion, a global leader in credit information protection and management services that provides credit monitoring and scores, identity protection and financial management solutions to approximately 45,000 businesses and 500 million consumers in 33 countries worldwide.

Block Electric began its relationship with TransUnion in 1989 during the height of

TransUnion's growth. This was shortly after the company achieved full coverage in the United States in 1988, maintaining and updating information on virtually every market-active consumer in the country.

Block Electric prides itself on being part of the original construction of TransUnion's Midwest Headquarters, which is located at 555 W. Adams in downtown Chicago.

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President's Message



Here we are in the fourth quarter looking to wrap up a pretty good year. Time has really flown this year (makes me feel older) and I have to say I am really proud of the team. All of you have really extended yourselves way

beyond the status quo to make this year come together with such a wide variety of work and new challenges. We were one of first contractors to beat the recovery by booking work early in the year while others were still struggling.

There has been a momentum swing in the economy shifting away from public sector work to private work. We took advantage of this swing early by capturing work that was competitive and difficult to acquire. But, we did it and I thank you all for extending the extra efforts to enable us to sell ourselves as a premier contractor.

On another sad and happy note, Leo Keigher is retiring this year. Leo has been with us since January of 1974. I could never say enough about the wonderful experiences Leo has brought to our company in his dedication, knowledge, leadership and the overall "we can do it" attitude he displays every day. Leo was featured in our winter issue of our newsletter in 2013. Some of the highlights of his Block Electric career are his exemplary leadership as a General Foreman at Silver Cross Hospital on small and large projects that included remodeling projects and the construction of the new hospital. He has done everything. Leo is a very diverse person. He loves his outside work activities such as hiking, biking, and jogging. In fact, Leo is a marathon runner with several big name marathons behind him including both Boston and Chicago. He and his loving wife Debbie have three children Kelly, Keith and Carrie and several grandchildren to keep them both young as they start their retirement.

I can only say, "Leo you will be missed and we owe you a debt of gratitude for all you have done for this company". Leo is a very special person and make no mistake about it he will be missed. Thank you, Leo. Thank you for all the hard work and creativity you displayed over the years. I wish you and Deb all the best in your retirement. Thanks for giving us the past forty years of your life. We will never forget you. To all our families, I hope you all will enjoy the Holiday's. My hope and wish is to make 2015 even more successful than 2014. Have a safe and joyous holiday season!

—JACK BLOCK



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At that time TransUnion was built as a state-of-the-art data center, hosting a 600 kva rotary UPS system and three 1,500 kw generators.

After several upgrades to the facility, the TransUnion data center is currently home to eight 500 kva UPS machines and monitoring systems for amperage, voltage and battery levels, and many more “bells and whistles” than you could imagine, according to Jerry Hughes, Block Electric's Project Manager at TransUnion for 18 years.

The 46,000 square foot data center is located on two floors of this 10 story building, which includes a penthouse and basement. Security is extremely tight and the building has every failsafe safety system in place to ensure secure nonstop data processing to thousands of customers a day.

Keeping the day-to-day operations of such a crucial data center is no easy task. The man responsible for the day-to-day functions of this facility is Brian Gavin, who has been the Chief Engineer at Trans Union since 1989.

“He’s the guy that has kept it going,” Hughes said.

Gavin and his crew of engineers work 24 hours a day to keep this extremely sophisticated building operating. Gavin also oversees TransUnion’s secondary sites in Northlake, Pennsylvania, Florida and Canada.

“It has been 25 years since TransUnion has entered into a successful partnership with Block



Generator Room.

“We are happy to be part of this long relationship and look forward to continuing it in the future.”

—Jerry Hughes, Project Manager

Electric. In the early days as TransUnion was growing to become the leader in the credit information industry, it had a partner that understood the critical nature of our business model, Block Electric,” Gavin said. “Two individuals at Block Electric stand out as significant partners during our growth period—Jerry Hughes and Pat Phee. These two individuals have been part of the team that played an integral part in the growth of the

business at TransUnion. We at TransUnion look forward to continuing this long relationship that allows for our long-term growth and success.”

Block Electric's Pat Phee, has been the Foreman at TransUnion for the past 20 years.

“Pat is an expert at installing and maintaining data centers and back of the house systems that keep these complicated buildings working,” Hughes said.

“We at TransUnion look forward to continuing this long



Currently Block Electric is working with General Contractor JC Anderson in a major remodeling and modernization of the TransUnion facility geared toward creating a more modern, pleasant and functional work environment.

The renovation includes the addition of huddle rooms for private meetings, large conference rooms, audio visual labs, video conference centers for multi-site meetings and state-of-the-art training centers, as well as a new café and an updated fitness center.

"We are happy to be part of this long relationship and look forward to continuing it in the future," Hughes said.



Dedicated Battery Room for UPS Systems.

relationship that allows for our long-term growth and success

Spotlight On: Matt McShane

GENERAL FOREMAN

For as long as he can remember, Block Electric General Foreman Matt McShane has been watching the television series *This Old House*. As a boy he often helped his father with projects around the house. Both were telling signs of what McShane's future would hold.

"I always knew that I would end up in construction," McShane said. "My father was a carpenter and I would help him build decks and additions."

After receiving his BA in Economics at the University of Illinois at Chicago, McShane worked on the floor of the Chicago Board of Trade for a year. Shortly after that he entered the electrical apprenticeship program.

A lifelong Chicago resident who attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary North High School in Chicago, McShane lives in the City's Edgebrook neighborhood with his wife Sarah and their three children. His boys—Liam 10; Charlie, 8; and Emmett, 5—all attend Queen of All Saints elementary school in Sauganash.

McShane enjoys outdoor activities with his children, including golfing and hiking. He also has been coaching his children in baseball for the last five years and is a self-proclaimed die-hard White Sox fan.

"The 1983 White Sox are still my favorite sports team of all time," McShane said.

As for his career at Block Electric, McShane said the project he is most proud



of since he began working at Block Electric in November of 2011 is the lighting project at 400 E. Randolph in Chicago.

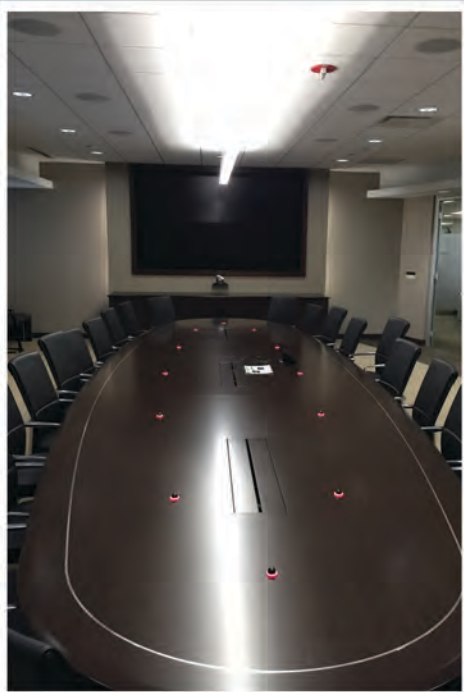
"The original pool received a much needed facelift," McShane said. Block installed new fiber optic lights in and around the pool, as well as new LED lighting on the dome and in the eyelets'. "At the time, the lights and the control system were cutting edge. The project lighting designer received an award; I have to think that Block Electric played a small part."

Some of McShane's other recent projects include the RIC (Rehab Institute of Chicago) build out, The Palmer House floor renovation and the Little Company of Mary power separation. He is currently working on Aspira, a new Charter High School in Chicago.

"What I enjoy most about our trade and working for Block Electric is that you are constantly being challenged, exposed to the latest tools and technologies, and office staff, warehouse and project managers that are second to none," McShane said fondly of his employment at Block Electric. "Right now the industry is changing and being a part of Block Electric ensures that I will continue to grow as an electrician and be a part of the best team in Chicago."



UPS System 6, 7 and 8.



Conference Room with state-of-the-art AV equipment.

ss." —Brian Gavin

Focus on SAFETY

"I thought it would work." Isn't this a pretty common reply when you ask someone what happened? But it is only the tip of the iceberg. The first question should be, "Why didn't it work?" You will be amazed how often the answers are, "I didn't have the right tool", "The tool broke", or very often, "The tool slipped". Here are some tips for hand tool usage that may help avoid injury.

The right tool for the right job. Using the wrong tool is the most common cause for hand tool injuries. One common reason for not using the right tool is not wanting to take the time to get it. Think about how much time you will lose when you go to the doctor. Common misuses include: prying, chipping or scraping with screwdrivers, hammering with wrenches, using pliers as a wrench, using cheater bars instead of penetrating oil and using claw hammers to strike chisels instead of peen hammers.

Maintain tools properly. Knives and saws must be sharp. If they are not, too much force has to be applied and a slip-type injury may result. Hammers and chisels must be dressed properly to avoid mushrooming. Wear eye protection when using striking tools. Screwdriver tips must be properly dressed. Replace loose or cracked hammer handles before the head falls off. Always keep tools clean. Greasy handles slip easily. Lubricate moving parts to prevent wear and help parts move smoothly.

Secure the work. Place your work on a table, work bench, saw horse or in a vise before you start working! Most tools used for cutting, scraping or filing require both hands.

Body positioning. While using wrenches, always pull towards you; never push. This will avoid the wrench slipping and your hands striking something. If you must push on a tool, keep your hands open. When using wrenches or pry bars, always position your feet so that you maintain your balance if you slip.

Tool storage. Store tools properly so you can easily find them and to protect them from damage. When you set a tool down, make sure blades are pointed safely away. Don't set tools on top of things; they might fall on something or someone. When carrying sharp tools make sure they are sheathed.

Block Receives Second Turner Outstanding Subcontractor Award



Pictured (from left) at the 21st Annual Outstanding Subcontractor Performance Awards Breakfast: Doug May, Turner Special Projects Division Business Manager; Kate VanZeyl, Turner Project Manager; Mike Arvesen, Block Electric Project Manager; Tim Boyce, Block Electric Vice President; and Dan Cronin, Turner Vice President & Operations Manager. Not Pictured: Block Electric General Foreman John Leyden, who could not be present due to a scheduling conflict.

For the second time in 20 years, Block Electric received the Turner Construction Outstanding Subcontractor Award for its work on the BMO Harris Bank project during the Turner 21st Annual Outstanding Subcontractor Performance Awards Breakfast. The event was held on November 20 at the University Club in Chicago.

Block Electric employed the use of cutting-edge Building Information Modeling (BIM)

technology to successfully complete the BMO Harris of Naperville job.

Turner began presenting the award in 1989 as part of the Total Quality Management process that evolved from streamlining quality control. Turner has awarded 113 awards since 1989 and Block Electric is one of a select few multiple year (1994 and 2014) winners.

Block welcomes two new Journeymen

Dimitrius Thomas (pictured on the left) became a new journeyman on October 20, 2014. **Joshua Hess** (pictured on the right) became a new journeyman on July 17, 2014.



Block Electric Company
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The
**Block
Connection**

*Customer Delight
Since 1920*



Block Electric Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer

*During the Holiday Season more than ever,
our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible.*

And in this spirit we say, simply but sincerely

Thank You and Best Wishes for the Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

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