

CUSTOMER

Eric Posey

LOCATION

UA Local 440, Indianapolis, IN

AUTODESK PROGRAM

Membership Training Provider Program

SOFTWARE

AutoCAD®
Autodesk® BIM 360
Autodesk® Fabrication CADmep™
Autodesk® Navisworks® Manage
Autodesk® Point Layout
Autodesk® Revit®
Autodesk® Revit® MEP
Autodesk® ReCap™ Pro

“I have definitely bought in 100 percent to our BIM process. We were involved with 2D CAD for several years. Then a few years ago, we landed a large hospital project that required full-blown BIM. It didn't take long for me to realize the value in having tech-savvy, motivated plumber/pipefitters involved with the BIM process. You can really see their willingness and eagerness to produce a high-quality BIM model and installation drawings for their counterparts in the field. Our team of detailers now have a clear understanding of both field conditions and best installation practices, and they go the extra mile to ensure that they are producing drawings that are clear and concise. These guys are outstanding!”

MATT THUER
 PRESIDENT, GREINER BROTHERS, INC.

MEET ERIC: HE SWITCHED COLLEGE FOR A UA LOCAL 440 APPRENTICESHIP

Autodesk Membership Training Provider Program for Trade Skills Unions and Union-Affiliated Training Organizations



Erik Lambrecht (left) viewing the latest Revit model in virtual reality with Eric Posey (right)

Eric Posey spent the summer of 2002 as a trainee in the United Association's (UA) Joint Apprenticeship Training Center at Local 440 in Indianapolis representing Plumbers, Steamfitters, and HVAC Service Technicians before attending Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis on an academic scholarship to pursue a degree in computer engineering. But after a couple of semesters and a great deal of soul searching, Eric realized he wasn't on the right path for his future, and he decided to leave college and return to UA Local 440 as a trainee.

With school on hold, Eric sat down with a detailer at UA Local 440 who showed him some mechanical rooms that had been modeled and spooled using 3D software. These room designs merged hands-on work, engineering skills, and technology—and Eric was hooked. He made a decision to pursue his desire to become a detailer and trainer.

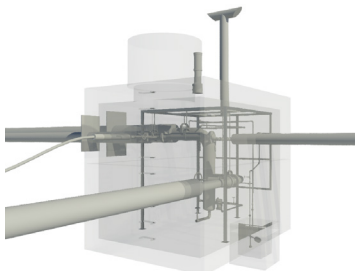
While his friends at Purdue entered more costly higher education programs, Eric was accepted into the UA Local 440 apprenticeship program. He worked for Greiner Brothers Inc. mechanical contractors while attending skilled union trade classes, paid for by his union membership. “My only real expense was books, which cost about \$150 per semester. Meanwhile, my friends were racking up huge college tuition debt.”

The Director of Training for Local 440 - Don Bough, applied to the Autodesk® Membership Training Provider Program (the “Program”). The Program, which aims to support skilled trade organizations in their efforts to train, test, and certify their student members, is a collaboration between Autodesk and the national leadership of major North American trade unions and personnel who manage their membership training programs.

The Program offers numerous benefits to union training centers, including a cost-effective annual subscription to Autodesk® software products, access to Autodesk's Instructor Development tools, the ability for union instructors to become Autodesk Certified Instructors, and much more. It also enhances Building Information Modeling (BIM) and CAD training at current sites, while offering enhanced training initiatives with Autodesk technology at a new location. With the support of Autodesk's regional Distributors, the Program promotes training services and product certification to skilled trade organizations while encouraging the use of Autodesk's learning resources. These resources include: learning materials, services and technologies, as well as certification-prep exam courseware.

When Eric's apprenticeship began in 2004, the UA Local 440 only taught Introduction to AutoCAD Level 1, and that was only accessible to fifth-year apprentices and journeymen. In 2009, after completion of Level 1 at UA Local 440, where he excelled, Eric moved on to coursework in Level 2, and then Level 3 via the UA's online course offerings.

He self-taught while working his day job in plumbing and HVAC. “I stayed close to my contractor's ear about AutoCAD because I wanted a shot at working with it. I could just see the benefits for me, for my job, and my future.” With his CAD dreams on a back burner, Eric continued working on installations in mechanical and boiler rooms. He got a great opportunity to serve as an area foreman on the \$754M Eskenazi Hospital project in Indianapolis.



Greiner Steam Vault Pre-Fab Model