



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Manitowoc Public Utilities Honored for Safety Excellence

Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin (MEUW) recognized 37 of its public power members, including Manitowoc Public Utilities (MPU), for their commitment to worker safety.

Wisconsin lineworkers and electric crews risk receiving serious or fatal injuries while providing affordable and reliable power. Public power communities across the state emphasize the importance of safety training and daily safe work practices.

MEUW recognizes and rewards safe operations through its annual Safety Achievement Awards. Utilities are placed into categories based on the total number of hours worked, receiving recognition based on the most incident-free records. The incidence rate used to evaluate utilities is based on the number of work-related recordable injuries or illnesses, compared to the total number of worker-hours during 2021, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). MPU received a Gold designation, which is the highest tier, for its safety performance in 2021.

“Work in the electric utility industry requires a constant focus on safety,” said Tim Heinrich, MEUW President and CEO. “Our association is proud to recognize that on-the-job focus — following safety rules, using safe work practices, and watching out for one another.”

“As importantly, we recognize the commitment of management and the local utility governing board to developing an environment and a culture that supports and values safe operations,” he added. “Providing employees with the equipment they need to do the job safely, as well as training to maintain or improve their skills, is vitally important to achieving a strong safety record. We applaud our member communities for their dedication to safety excellence.”

MPU General Manager, Troy Adams, said “Safety policy is driven by an organization; but safety culture is driven by the employees. Being recognized by MEUW with this safety award speaks to MPU’s safety culture and the dedication of our employees for their own safety. I am proud to work at MPU with employees who care so much for the safety of their fellow employees.”

Steve Bacalzo, Distribution Operations Manager and Safety Coordinator, is a key leader of the MPU safety culture. “We are grateful for this recognition from our trade association partner, the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin, which advocates industry-best safety practices. We

recognize that the very best work cultures, indeed the most caring places to work, have no tolerance for safety shortcuts.”

Wisconsin’s 81 public power utilities are locally owned, locally controlled and locally operated, enabling them to quickly respond to the needs of their communities. They are also among some of the most affordable and reliable power providers in the state.

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