

Russ Safreed, PE

Russ began his career at the young age of thirteen when he wired a house for a family member. This led to high school employment working for an electrical contractor, preparing him to obtain his WV Master Electrician License at age seventeen. After high school graduation, Russ continued his education and earned his BS degree in Electrical Engineering from West Virginia Tech in 1987.

Since beginning his engineering career with Virginia Power in 1983, he has gained a wide range of practical electrical engineering experience through his employment positions with companies such as Union Carbide, Brown Electric, Aker Solutions, and DuPont. He has been responsible for the operation of power distribution systems ranging from 480-volts to 46,000-volts, as well as designing electrical projects for chemical manufacturing and power plants. Russ has been on both sides of industrial electrical construction projects - as the engineer managing the contractor and as the contractor installing the projects. He has a reputation for finding practical and innovative solutions to difficult electrical issues using his solid understanding of engineering principles and regulations.

Today, he co-owns MarTek Limited, a company in Charleston, WV, that designs and manufactures remote switch operators for the electrical industry. Companies throughout the United States and Canada use their products to protect employees from dangerous arc-flash energy in electrical power distributions systems.