

In the Loop

August 2016



DULUTH ENERGY
SYSTEMS

A Note from the General Manager

This newsletter, the first edition of a monthly publication, intends to communicate the latest news from our district energy plant here in Canal Park to you, our customers. I hope you'll take a moment to read the information and then pass this along to others in your business or organization who may be interested.

The preparations for the upgrade of our steam system to a closed-loop hot water system along Superior Street continue to move forward. The design, which will be fully integrated into the overall Superior Street renovation and utility renewal project, is nearing completion. As you may know, the City of Duluth's bonding request for the hot water project was included in the Governor's bonding proposal and in both versions of the legislature's bills before time ran out and the session was adjourned at the end of May without approving a bonding package. A special legislative session and the passage of a bonding bill, which includes funding for the project, is critical to keeping an on-schedule, spring 2017 project start. Whether the project starts this spring or is delayed until 2018, construction is slated to begin in the four western-most blocks of Superior Street between 7th and 3rd Avenues West.

I look forward to sharing more details about the project with you in the future, but for now I want to assure all of our customers that we take our responsibility to provide affordable, reliable thermal energy very seriously. Whether you happen to be connected to the system down in Canal Park or over on the West end of Superior Street or all the way up at 10th Avenue East and 4th Street; whether you use steam or hot water; whether you consume several million or just a thousand pounds of steam a month, we've got you covered. We're committed to helping all of our customers understand, appreciate, and benefit from the investments and improvements being made to the Duluth Energy Systems infrastructure.



"Making steam is pretty easy. Using steam to make chilled water is amazing . . . but fairly easy. Moving steam and hot water through 11 miles of pipe is usually easy. COMMUNICATING is ALWAYS HARD!"

Jim Green, General Manager
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Duluth Chamber of Commerce Hosts Another Successful Golf Classic!



Duluth Energy Systems was proud to sponsor the Duluth Chamber of Commerce 2016 Golf Classic at Ridgeview Country Club. Despite the recent storms, the business community came out in force to connect and enjoy the beautiful day on the course. The Duluth Chamber continues to inject great energy and opportunities for our region and we are thrilled to be their partner. Check out some [pictures of our partners and customers](#) from the big day!

photo (l to r) Nina Axelson, Jenae Batt, & Jim Green

Here to Serve You – Getting to Know Dan Cebelinski, PE

Dan Cebelinski joined the Duluth Energy Systems team just over two years ago, in June 2014. Dan was hired to take on many responsibilities with our energy system, most importantly in providing first-class customer service. Dan is here to help our customers understand their systems, maintenance best practices, and the reliable delivery of energy. He comes in to trouble shoot heating issues or evaluate why usage may be up higher than usual. Dan works side by side with our customers to help them understand how to tackle problems and how to use less energy (i.e. save money). He also works with our plant staff to evaluate system efficiencies that can help save energy across the board.

When asked what he likes best about his job, Dan says, “making a difference.” He further explains, “Every day I come to work knowing that something I do that day will make a positive difference. If it’s cleaning the grease off a motor to finding an issue that will save a customer energy on their utility bill I

know I am making the system better. The reason I became an engineer is to use my knowledge to make a difference in this world.”

Dan joined the Duluth Energy Systems and Ever-Green Energy team because he wanted to be a part of an organization that is leading the industry and thinking outside of the box. He has already had a chance to pursue that interest by managing the system’s most extensive shut-down project in decades (completed in 2015). He will also be heavily involved in the Superior Street project, which is an essential advancement for the system and will help realize significant efficiency gains.

Dan holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota Duluth and holds a professional engineering license. Prior to working for the Duluth Energy Systems team, Dan worked for Gausman and Moore and Harris Mechanical. As an avid outdoorsman in his free time, it is clear that Duluth is a great place for Dan to be contributing his talents. Dan says, “I love the small town feeling even though Duluth is a big city with a true community feel.”

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Dan Cebelinski
Energy Engineer

Annual Day of Caring



photo (l to r): Jason Youngberg, Dan Cebelinski, Ann Rankila, Ed Morff, Tanner Perdue, Taylor McDonald, Matt Harrison, Gavin Takkunen, Luke Johnson, Dan Saari, Tim Warring, & Alex Grajner

Twelve members of our team joined the Head of the Lakes United Way Day of Caring on June 22. According to the Head of the Lakes United Way, their annual Day of Caring matches teams of community-minded volunteers with local non-profit agencies in need of extra hands. Our team was proud to join hundreds of other local volunteers for this great day supporting our community. Read more about the event at the [Duluth News Tribune](#).



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