

Brandon Gartee

Business Development Manager
GEM Inc.

Growing up, Brandon spent summers working with a Lake Erie charter fishing company where he excelled as a jack-of-all-trades. He enjoyed meeting new people and helping them have an enjoyable fishing excursion – including everything from working on the boat to cleaning the fish they caught.

The charter's owner, who had a construction background, became a mentor to Brandon over the years. With Brandon's love of working with his hands and outstanding people skills, he was encouraged to consider training for a career in the HVAC trade. As he explained to Brandon, there is always a need for experts to repair and install heating and cooling equipment. The idea of learning a skilled trade and serving customers appealed to Brandon.

When an apprenticeship opportunity came up with Local 50 of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry (UA), Brandon jumped on it. He graduated at the top of his HVAC class and began working for a local mechanical firm. In his first years as a technician, he was continually interested in doing and learning more as well as increasing his responsibilities.

In 2004, an opportunity came up at GEM Energy for a technician specializing in chilled water systems. Brandon took the job, did the training and has never looked back. He was promoted to HVAC foreman, project manager and service manager. Four years after coming to GEM Energy, Brandon was appointed sales manager of the Toledo, Lima and Cleveland offices.

Continuing to seek new opportunities to learn and grow, in 2011, Brandon became business development manager for another RLG company, GEM Inc., and contributed to the creation of the GEM Process Solutions system, GEM's design/build delivery method for complex process-driven projects. Along with a strong work ethic, Brandon has earned an industry-wide reputation as a trusted advisor to his customers, providing solutions – from concept to completion.

Achievements/Accolades

United Association Certified Training Instructor

Completed the UA five-year HVAC service mechanics apprenticeship program

Member of the Facility and Healthcare Engineering Association (FHEA)

Associates Degree, Applied Sciences

