

Tom Blanford

Significant Experience

Mr. Blanford brings more than 42 years of telecommunications experience to the Utility Telecom Team. His exceptional telecommunications career with Public Service of Colorado has involved Mr. Blanford in a wide variety and successively higher level of responsibility in the design and installation of power utility telecommunications systems including system protection/protective relaying, telephone and key systems, power line carrier, microwave, fiber optic, SCADA systems, and grounding systems.

At Utility Telecom, Mr. Blanford has worked with various utility clients throughout the US participating in the planning and design of various communications systems, performing site surveys, developing grounding systems, circuit cut-over and testing, and developing design drawings.

Experience Prior to Utility Telecom

- **Protective Relaying** Public Service of Colorado **1964 – 1996**
Duties included all activities related to installing, testing and placing in service, electric substation transmission and distribution protective relaying systems and related control systems. These systems ranged in voltage from 480 volts through 230 KV. Duties also included the testing and placing in service of protective relaying and control systems related to steam turbine generators up to 360 MW capacity. Also installed and maintained megawatt, mega-VAR and KWH devices responsible for electric system area control functions within the state of Colorado. This work included extensive work with telemetry systems of all types including Power Line Carrier (PLC), leased line telephone, company owned telephone cabling, and analog microwave facilities.
- **Communications Engineering** Public Service of Colorado **1982 - 1996**
Performed engineering duties related to all types of communications systems including private line special services system and circuit design. Experienced and involved in PBX system procurement and related system(s) design, telephone cable installation and related protection design. Responsible for the ordering of all types of leased telephone circuits. The ordering process included issuing circuit specification(s) and related GPR design information to the local common carrier. Circuit hand-off to the local common carrier was by way of a DS-3 rate fiber optic feed. Involved in the design of short-run fiber optic links that included the installation of channel bank systems, fiber loop converters, and related equipment which required the development of circuit transmission plans that specified the analog encode/decode levels to be transmitted on the related digital systems.

Current Position: Senior Consultant

Education

- Combined EE/ME Curriculum (1959 - 1962), University of Colorado, Denver / Boulder, CO (Accumulated a total of 86 semester hours towards a degree)
- Company sponsored education (1963 – 1996), Public Service Co. of Colorado, Denver, CO
- Acquired many technical certificates for educational topics ranging from economics and project management to PBX and communications system certification.

Other

- License & Certificates
Past FCC Radio Telephone License 1st Class and General Radio Telephone License holder.