

## AKF Group Expands Its Reach With New Offices In Minnesota



Robert K. Gelle, PE



James Sebesta, PE

**A**KF Group has opened two offices in Minnesota – one in Rochester and the other in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. **James Sebesta, PE**, will head the newly formed Minnesota region.

“Sebesta’s extensive experience in Minnesota, his leadership and special expertise offered us the opportunity to add a talented and well respected individual to our management team and, at the same time, allowed us to broaden our geographic reach into the Mid-Western states,” explained Managing Partner Paul Bello.

Sebesta, 55, is a Rochester native. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1976 and attended Metropolitan State University in the 1980’s completing a majority of his MBA course work concentrating in marketing and business finance. Sebesta has been in the consulting engineering business since first interning with a small St. Paul consulting engineer to pay for college and, since then, has served in various roles in Rochester and Duluth before relocating to the Twin Cities in 1983.

Also joining the firm’s Rochester, Minnesota office is **Robert Gelle, PE** who will serve as Director of Engineering Services. He brings 19 years of experience in the design and construction industry for healthcare, higher education, laboratory, data center, commercial, cleanroom, industrial, institutional, power and manufacturing clients. He has acted as a lead mechanical engineer, designing HVAC, piping, plumbing, cryogenics, controls, and fire suppression systems for building construction and renovation projects and infrastructure/utility upgrades. Mr. Gelle received a BS in Mechanical Engineering degree from South Dakota State University and he is a Registered Mechanical Engineer in Minnesota, Colorado, Wisconsin and Iowa.

“Our focus will be to offer mechanical and electrical engineering, consulting and commissioning services for architects, contractors, building owners and managers”, Sebesta explains. “The depth of AKF’s experience and capabilities on a national and international basis provides us the strength and ability to bring a high level of client focus and technical expertise to unique situations in the Midwestern area.”

“With large healthcare, educational, corporate, financial and technology companies located in Minneapolis and the surrounding region”, Bello adds, “we see opportunities similar to the eastern regional offices. Many of these same clients have facilities and operations elsewhere in the country where we can provide seamless client services throughout a larger region.”

Jim can be reached at 763.350.9324 or email at [jsebesta@akfgroup.com](mailto:jsebesta@akfgroup.com) and Robb can be reached at 507.208.4488 (office), 507.269.3322 (cell) or email at [rgelle@akfgroup.com](mailto:rgelle@akfgroup.com).

AKF looks forward to serving the Midwest region from our new offices in Minnesota.

ENGINEERING • COMMISSIONING • TESTING • TECHNOLOGY • SUSTAINABILITY • LIGHTING

ARLINGTON, VA • BLOOMINGTON, MN • BOSTON, MA • COLUMBUS, OH • NEW YORK, NY • PHILADELPHIA, PA • PRINCETON, NJ • ROCHESTER, MN • STAMFORD, CT • MEXICO CITY, MX