

**Missouri Society of Professional Engineers  
April Luncheon  
Thursday, April 18, 2019  
Drones and their practical application**



**Abstract:** Luncheon to discuss Ameren's innovative and system reliability focused approach to deploying drones as a daily operation. There will be a demonstration (weather permitting).

Ameren is deploying and utilizing unmanned aerial technology in multiple business lines with a focus on cost savings, reliability, safety and customer satisfaction. Drones are being used daily throughout Ameren's service territory to inspect power lines, vegetation, gas and generation facilities with a high degree of success. Benefits are even being seen in storm restoration, where drone crews are able to assess damage in difficult to access areas in a fraction of the time a foot patrol would take.

**About the Presenter:**

*James Pierce, GISP, sUAS – Supervisor, Unmanned Aerial Systems Operations, Ameren*

James Pierce is the supervisor of Ameren's Central UAS Department. In his role, James leads 10+ young professionals including drone pilots and information scientists. James brings with him nearly 20 years of experience in engineering, remote sensing/GIS, aerial photography and project management to the drone team, with an undergraduate degree in geography, multiple certificates in computer programming, database design, cartography, drafting, masters courses in mining engineering and a Part 107 drone pilot certificate from the FAA.

James has continuously ushered innovation with drones through his first introduction to the field 7 years ago in leading the UAV integration effort for a major mining corporation. James has led the Ameren UAS team for over 4 years, culminating in the present day commercialized, program driven department that it is today.

Here is a link to a recent article: <https://www.bv.com/news/ameren-successfully-completes-industry-leading-60-mile-drone-flight-over-transmission-lines>

**Time, Date, Location**

11:30am to 1:00pm, April 18, 2019, at the Engineering Center, 4359 Lindell, St. Louis 63018.

Registration starts at 11:30am and lunch is served at noon. The program will begin promptly at 12:15 pm. One (1) PDH is available.

**Cost**

\$20/person, students and members in transition \$10

**Registration**

Please register and pay online using the link below for reservations by Friday before the event. If you've signed up and can't make it, please cancel by Friday before the meeting or we may have to charge you for the meal.

**Contacts**

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