



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Mark Childs
Senior Driller



Q. How did you learn about ATL to become employed here? (Recruiting event, ad, friend, etc.)

A. I was at home living with my parents, and had just graduated from Paul Smiths (1995). My neighbor, Paul Davis, was aware of this, and came over and asked me if I wanted to apply to work in the drilling department at ATL. He was Assistant Drilling Manager for ATL at the time. I've been at ATL ever since. (Nice new hire referral!)

Q. What technical skills did you acquire that helped make you an expert in your position?

A. Most of my skills have come from on the job experience. When I first came to ATL, I trained with some very experienced drillers. Over the years as equipment has changed, I learned how to operate the new equipment such as computerized rigs. I've also had to learn some different techniques with water work and vibracore drilling off of a barge.

Q. What type of work do you typically perform?

A. The work I do is pretty well split between land and water jobs. I may be out on a job for months or even a year on one or the other, depending on client needs.

Q. What resources did you use to expand your knowledge in your position?

A. When I first started, the other drillers were great resources to me along with Robbie Pryce (Current Drilling Supervisor). I also trained with Paul McAloon (Current Driller Assistant) in the past.

Q. Did you set goals to help you become more knowledgeable in your position?

A. I was able to move up when an opening became available. I also set a goal to get my CDL license, which has allowed me to move some of the small rigs and trucks around to jobs myself. I also set daily goals to make sure I'm on track for the job I'm working on to be profitable.

Q. What projects that you worked on are the most memorable?

A. I worked on a job in the Copenhagen area when I first started. That is when I first ran an 850 ATV rig. I got to do angle holes on a side of a hill. That job has always stuck in my mind. Another project would be one we did drilling by Lake George with helicopters.

Q. What do you like the most about the path your ATL career has taken?

A. I get to see a lot of places, and am outdoors all of the time, which I like.

Q. What would you say to new employees at ATL to help them get to their next level?

A. Stick with it. There is a lot of opportunity here. The work is great, and if you don't like going into offices a lot, it's a great place to be. You get to work independently a lot.

