

To be a leader in the Materials Science industry, we strive to have a team of bright and hard-working individuals in order to truly succeed. At PES, we carefully search for the top talent - people who bring a fire and passion to be challenged and create solutions everyday. Mark Stape, who is a Mechanical Testing Supervisor, joins us today. We spoke with Mark about what makes him special, his background, and why he was so excited to join PES.

**“Tell me a little bit about your background and experiences prior to joining PES?”**

*Mark:* Prior to joining the PES team, I was employed at Latrobe Steel as a metallurgical lab supervisor for 17 years. Before that, I worked at WMTR as a lab foreman for 5 years. I have been involved with material testing for almost 23 years now.

**“What made you choose PES?”**

*Mark:* I have known and interacted with a lot of the current staff at PES for many years. I have always felt that based on my interactions with them all over the years, that it would be a great place to work.

**“What do you like to do outside of work?”**

*Mark:* I train and run agility with my Spanish Water Dog. We train twice a week with a trainer and participate in AKC trial about once-a-month, year-round. I also enjoy trail riding on my bicycle, and I brew craft beer at home as a hobby.

**“What would you tell your younger self?”**

*Mark:* Always remember to balance your work and life.

**“Any pointers for those who are entering the workforce?”**

*Mark:* Find a career you are genuinely interested in and enjoy. It may not lead you down a great wealth, but if you are happy in your career, you will have a happier life.