

## Meet Mark Schuster

### Duty Mechanic at Spire Energy, St. Louis, MO



Mark Schuster has been a duty mechanic with Spire Energy for the past six years. We spoke with him recently about his experience using Guardair products. "I can put Guardair air guns in my toolbox, and they will last forever," he says.

The passion he has for his work and his company was clear. Here's what Mark had to say:

**Q: Tell us about Spire Energy.**

**A:** Spire Energy is a natural gas company that's been in business for 160 years and is based in St. Louis, Missouri. We serve customers across Missouri, Mississippi and Alabama with over 1.1 million customers in Missouri alone.

I've been working with Spire Energy as a duty mechanic for six years, and I love my job. As a kid, I was infatuated with anything mechanical. My dad was a mechanic, and I knew that's what I wanted to do. I even have a machine shop at home. I pinch myself every day because I get to provide a great service to people.

**Q: What Guardair products do you use?**

**A:** The Ultra Xtra Thrust 12-inch Safety Air Gun with the short trigger. I have two of those. I use it whenever I need to remove valves to take them apart and repair them. There's quite a bit of crevices in those valves and ports, and they need to be blown out and cleared. I've also used the safety air gun to blow foamy oil down on the sight glass on compressors to get accurate readings.

For general maintenance, they're also great. Trying to clear leaves and other debris from tight spots in the compressor room with a broom is near impossible. I also use it to clean equipment, like lawnmowers and bush hogs. It works so well I use it almost every day. The Ultra Xtra Thrust is amazing because it's so lightweight, controllable and safe. If it slips out of your hand, it shuts off. I just ordered the Jet Guard Safety Air Gun 74SK, and I'm really looking forward to using that to get into tighter spaces.

**Q: What is the value of these products to your work?**

**A:** I look for quality in tools and after using the safety air guns from Guardair, I realized these are good tools. I mentioned earlier that I have a machine shop at home. I work out of it and build steam engines and often fix parts. There's actually a farm heritage museum the next town over and they have a scaled-down railroad. Well, they acquired an old 1930s steam locomotive they're rebuilding. You can't just go out and buy parts for a steam locomotive. So, I've made parts for them to help them get that back up and running. Quality tools help me do my work, and I've learned to recognize good tools when I see them. ▲



### **Ultra Xtra Thrust**

The Ultra Thrust Series of safety air guns delivers maximum thrust along with superior performance and comfort. With the highest thrust in the Ultra family, this safety air gun is engineered for the toughest applications and for the heaviest debris. It limits static pressure to less than 30 psi should the tip become blocked. A patented, adjustable hanging hook can be repositioned for convenient storage. An ergonomic, cushioned pistol-grip style handle provided unparalleled comfort. Part Number: U75XT006AA2



### **Jet Guard Safety Air Gun 74SK**

The Jet Guard Safety Air Gun 74SK features a proprietary, protective air cone to shield against dangerous chip flyback. The 74SK is perfect for close-in applications. An ergonomic, Classic+ pistol-grip style handle provides maximum user comfort. Adjust the air flow from a whisper to a blast. Part Number: 74SK

#### **About Guardair**

Founded in 1942, Massachusetts-based Guardair Corporation pioneered safety air-gun technology. The company is now a leading manufacturer of pneumatic tools and vacuums sold under the Guardair and AirSpade brands. Today, Guardair is committed to innovative products that meet the highest standards of effectiveness and safety. To learn more, visit [guardair.com](http://guardair.com)

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