

# New Faces at Wight



**Jay Womack, ASLA**  
*Director, Land & Water Design*

Jay Womack, ASLA, Wight's Director, Land and Water Design, elevates best management practices to the out of doors at Wight. His involvement in a wide variety of projects around the world, and his 17-year career in landscape architecture, mean Wight clients have access to some of the finest thinking in sustainable site design.

Womack's specialty and passion is rain water. "Every project generates rainwater run-off, so every project can benefit from a thoughtful water management approach," said Womack.

Womack incorporates innovative rainwater techniques into every design. These techniques are meant to honor rainwater and re-establish native ecosystems, which in turn helps to reconnect people to the environment. One notable assignment Womack participated on is the City of Chicago City Hall green roof, a pilot project of Mayor Daley's green roof initiative.

A registered architect and recognized leader, Womack served as president of the Illinois Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects and is an expert on native landscapes.

Forget the box – thinking outside the building is how Byron Wyns, Manager, Infrastructure and Development, approaches civil site development for Wight. His 27 years of experience has centered on moving around a site from parks to parking lots, roadways to bike paths, and sidewalks to heliports. He is also a master at transforming issues regarding water - rainwater retention, water mains, sewer lines - from ideas to solutions.

While not the flashiest aspect of construction, site development is one of the most critical. "It's not as cut and dried as people think," he said. "These elements must be figured out to move forward in the process."

Wyns, who has a bachelor's degree in civil construction management from Southern Illinois University, said, "I enjoy applying my broad expertise in site development to quickly identify effective solutions the client may not have yet considered."



**Byron Wyns**  
*Manager, Infrastructure and Development*



**Jason Warden**  
*Project Manager*

Jason Warden's appreciation for the intricacies of project management began during his start in the construction industry – as a laborer while in high school. His high school job led him to Purdue University to study construction management where he put himself through college working as a carpenter/concrete finisher for a general contracting concrete company.

Those real life experiences helped jumpstart Warden's 16-year career, taking projects from design to closeout, ensuring client satisfaction along the way. Scheduling, estimating, cost accounting, contract negotiations and budget control are under his capable hand – details that insure a project's success.

His hands-on knowledge of construction has proven invaluable in his role as project manager. With on-the-job training "you see how the elements of construction fit together," said Warden. "This is especially important when working on design-build projects," he said.

Warden has managed construction projects for universities, naval bases, manufacturing facilities, warehouses, hospitals and public works facilities.





**Craig Polte**

*Construction Superintendent  
Wight Construction*

Customer service and client satisfaction have always been the hallmarks of good business to Craig Polte, superintendent for Wight Construction. He knows the importance from having successfully led two different construction companies for 13 years prior to joining Wight.

Polte keeps construction projects on track by understanding what drives subcontractors. Motivating them to work together is one of his strongest skills. "Efficient project management and communication saves everybody money and gets things done faster," said Polte. His methods have been successful on a variety of construction projects from airport facilities to school gymnasiums.

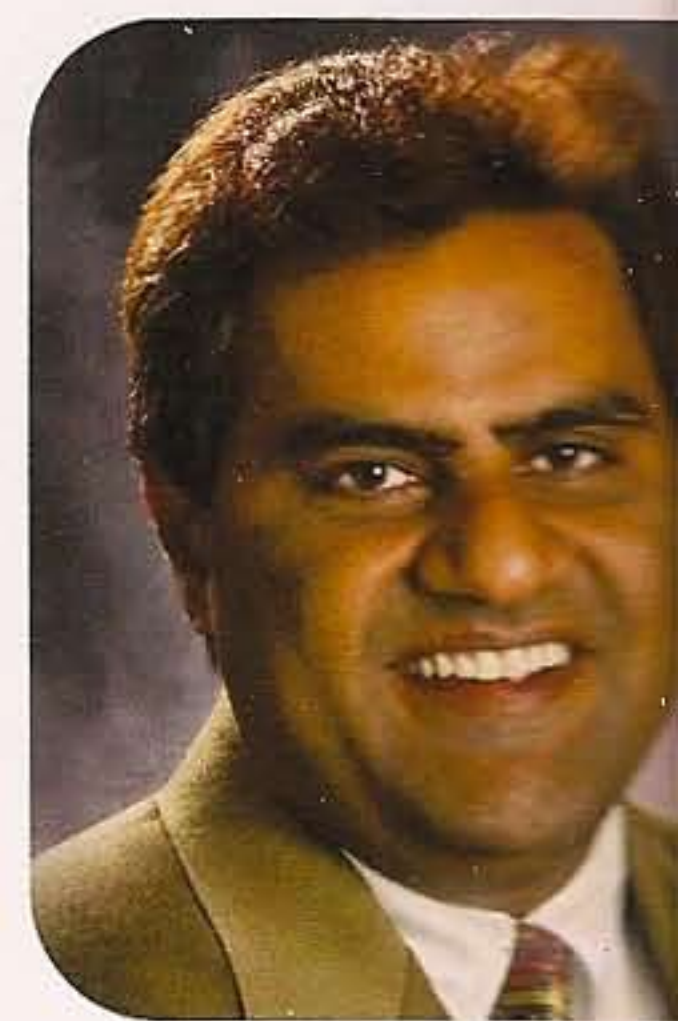
Along with a bachelor of science in architecture from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Polte brings 18 years of professional experience to his position.

As a child, Dipak Gheewala remembers being entranced by construction. "It was always my dream to play outside with dirt and build things. You know the little kid whose eyes light up when he sees the big construction equipment—that was me."

Today, he is a resident engineer overseeing construction projects and ensuring the project conforms to plans and specifications. Gheewala has 15 years of experience in construction management and resident engineering services for highways, bridges and transit systems. His resume of high-profile projects includes Chicago's State Street renovation, a massive \$30 million project with the Chicago Department of Transportation that included historic lighting, rehabilitation of kiosks, sidewalks and landscaping.

Gheewala shares Wight's approach of educating clients about best practice solutions to problems. "Wight really looks out for the client," he said. "If there is a better way we can do something, we do it."

Gheewala holds a bachelor of science in civil engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.



**Dipak Gheewala**

*Resident Engineer  
Wight Engineering*



**Craig Chambers, PE**

*Senior Project Manager  
Wight Engineering*

Planes, trains and automobiles have driven Craig Chambers' 22-year career as a civil engineer. He's played a role in many of the major transportation networks that carry people from place to place around the Chicago area – including runways, tollways, intersections, interchanges, ramps and bridges.

"It's been exciting to make the transportation systems we all rely on work better," he said.

As Senior Project Manager at Wight, Chambers oversees design work on civil engineering transportation projects. He values Wight's team approach, explaining how clients benefit in numerous ways.

"Working together as a team is not only time efficient but also financially efficient," said Chambers. "Our clients see that Wight's communication process provides a high level of comfort."

A licensed professional engineer, Chambers holds an MBA from DePaul University and a bachelor of science in civil engineering from Purdue University.