



# MICHAEL ROBERTS

Assistant Airport Construction Engineer

## **Q. How did you become interested in engineering?**

**A.** I fell in love with engineering while serving in the U.S. Navy for 12 years as a Nuclear Trained Submarine Officer. I especially loved the mechanical aspect of the job. I knew once I left active duty, I wanted to have a career as an engineer and project manager.

## **Q. What aspect of engineering are you focused on at IDOT?**

**A.** Most of my work for the Division of Aeronautics revolves around project management. I am responsible for the project once it is ready to enter the construction phase. I'm currently working on a pavement marking project for Benton Municipal Airport. The project entails removing all runway pavement markings and re-marking the runway.

## **Q. Favorite part of the job?**

**A.** I enjoy the day-to-day variety. It's rare that I do the same thing for more than a couple of days in a row. Because there isn't much lag time between finishing a task and seeing how it affects the project, I see the impact of my work almost instantly.

## **Q. What do you do in a typical day?**

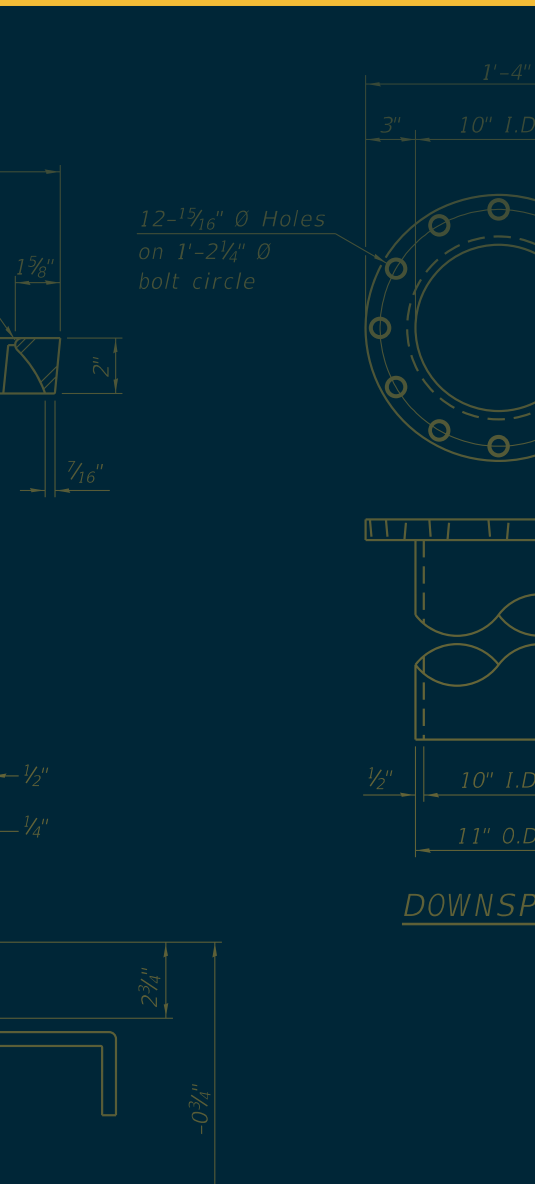
**A.** There really isn't a typical day at Aeronautics. I would say the only typical part of my day is reviewing invoices.

## **Q. How much does teamwork play a role in your day-to-day activities?**

**A.** Teamwork plays a huge role. Without teamwork, you would not be able to accomplish the tasks on time, especially during construction season. When someone is out on location, another member of the team is there to cover what is needed.

## **Q. One thing you'd like the public to know about the work of an IDOT engineer?**

**A.** Everyone at Aeronautics takes pride in their work and works to do what is in the best interests of the people of Illinois.



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