

AES Services Inc.

Mohammed Saleem, President



With a desire for greater opportunity, Mohammed Saleem came to the United States from his native India in 1994. Arriving in Chicago on St. Patrick's Day, he said, "I was amazed to see so much green in the land of the red, white and blue. I knew from the first moment I arrived that I wanted to make this city my home."

Saleem invested in a small engineering company that became AES Services in 2008. The two-employee firm first worked with the Illinois Tollway as a subcontractor in 2009 and increased its staff to seven employees as a result of a contract with the Tollway to provide inspection services for roadway and bridge rehabilitation on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80).

After the launch of the Illinois Tollway's *Move Illinois* Program in 2012, AES was given the chance to participate

in seven projects starting in 2013, enabling the company to grow by another 20 employees and add additional competencies, including surveying, inspections, structural design and construction management. AES has earned \$7 million working on *Move Illinois* projects

– a 300 percent increase for the company since 2012 and their opportunities continue to grow. Today, AES is working on both the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project and the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Rebuilding and Widening Project.

Saleem's goals for the future include successfully graduating from disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) status with steadily increasing revenues and continuing to augment his firm's range of services not just for *Move Illinois*, but also for infrastructure projects nationwide.

"The Illinois Tollway's excellent reputation was instrumental in helping my company achieve solid financial footing. Working on *Move Illinois* has given my company leverage with the investment community and allowed us to expand rapidly."



Mohammed Saleem (pictured center, front) and his growing staff anticipate another year of record growth with Move Illinois projects.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOLLWAY'S *MOVE ILLINOIS* PROGRAM,
VISIT WWW.ILLINOISTOLLWAY.COM.**