

## Hillary Velasco, P.E.

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**Personal Bio:** I was born and raised in Wamego, the small town just east of Manhattan known for all things Wizard of Oz. I graduated from Wamego High School in 2009 as class valedictorian (oddly enough, my now brother-in-law was salutatorian) and began attending classes at KSU in the fall of that year. My family has many ties to the construction industry, so it was only fitting that I followed trend, pursuing a degree in Architectural Engineering. I married my high school sweetheart during my sophomore year of college, before he deployed to Afghanistan with the USMC. My husband and I now live in Manhattan with our dogs.

**Professional Bio:** While attending Kansas State for ArchE, I searched for local companies that would allow me to stay near my family in Wamego. I interned with a construction company and civil engineering company before being introduced to Orazem & Scalora Engineering by one of my professors. After graduation, I joined Orazem & Scalora full-time designing MEP systems, and I sat for and passed my PE exam last spring.

**Fun fact about me:** My parents (and grandparents before them) used to own and operate a local grocery store called Dick's Thriftway, so I spent much of my childhood stocking shelves and racing my big sister up and down the aisles in shopping carts.

**Favorite Quote:** "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."  
*Winston Churchill*

**My job would be a lot easier if...** Architects, Engineers, and Owners all spoke the same language.