



Action

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FINALLY! A BIM SEMINAR TAILORED TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

On Tuesday May 15, 2012, CECA will be hosting a one day BIM seminar at the high-tech, learning-amenable Osgoode Professional Development facilities, 26th Floor, 1 Dundas Street West, Toronto. This unique, cutting edge educational vehicle will be delivered by two highly respected BIM educators from Cal Poly University, California, Thomas Korman and Lonnie Simonian. The 4 module seminar will follow NECA's MEI format, in that it will be interactive and participatory. Group exercises and discussion will focus on learning BIM applications and advances, as well as business opportunities that it presents to contractors in the Canadian marketplace. To register for this opportunity, please contact Lucy Roberts at 416.675.3226 X312 or lroberts@ecao.org.

NETCO PROMOTES EXCELLENCE IN SOLAR PV TRAINING AND INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS

In partnership with CSA Standards (CSA), the National Electrical Trade Council (NETCO) has a growing impact on the quality of training supporting the renewable solar photovoltaic (PV) energy industry in Canada. CSA's Construction Electrician (NOC 7241) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems Certified personnel certification program, sponsored by NETCO, was launched nationally in September 2011. The spotlight is now on promoting excellence in solar PV training to national standards and best practices in instructor qualifications.



ECAO/IBEW-CCO First in Ontario to Achieve CSA Recognition of Solar PV Training Program

In December 2011, the Canadian Solar Industries Association's (CanSIA) Solar Canada 2011 Exposition in Toronto was the ideal forum to showcase the quality of the solar PV installation and maintenance training program jointly developed by the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers-Construction Council of Ontario (ECAO/IBEW-CCO). To date, over 1,000 journeyman electricians have been trained at 13 facilities across Ontario using a network of 25 expert instructors.

CSA's Director of Learning Services, Robert Rashotte presented a letter of recognition to ECAO Executive Vice President, Eryl Roberts and IBEW-CCO Executive Secretary-Treasurer, John Grimshaw during a special ceremony. CSA does not accredit training providers. CSA offers recognition if the solar PV training curriculum aligns to the personnel certification program's national standards and test blueprint. CSA invites training providers to submit their curriculum for review and posts a list of recognized training providers. (http://www.csa-america.org/personnel_certification/photovoltaic_certification/default.asp?load=training_resources)



CSA Presentation to ECAO/IBEW-CCO in Toronto on Dec. 6, 2011.

L-R: CSA's Director of Learning Services Robert Rashotte; IBEW-CCO's Executive Secretary-Treasurer John Grimshaw; ECAO's Executive Vice President Eryl Roberts; IBEW, First District, Canada's International Vice President Phil Flemming.

In order to challenge the CSA certification exam, candidates must hold a Certificate of Qualification as an electrician and demonstrate participation in a CSA-recognized solar PV training program. "The fact that industry-funded solar PV training of this scope and quality has been going on for several years is impressive," says CSA's Robert Rashotte. "CSA's recognition of the ECAO/IBEW-CCO means that all of the electricians trained to date are eligible to challenge the CSA certification exam." In March 2012, the Joint Electrical Promotion Plan agreed to reimburse IBEW-CCO Local Union members who become CSA-certified in 2012 for the application fee and examination & certification fee (\$345).

As reported in the October 2011 issue of *CECA Action*, two training providers in Western Canada became CSA-recognized in Fall 2011. The Electrical Joint Training Committee (EJTC): IBEW, Local 213 and Electrical Contractors Association of British Columbia was honoured at the *IBEW International Convention Exposition* in Vancouver. The Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) became the first college in Canada to be CSA-recognized. SAIT's decision to align its curriculum to the body of knowledge required for *Construction Electrician (NOC 7241) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems Certified* signals that the CSA personnel certification program is on the radar of colleges with respected electrical trades training programs.

Best Practices in Solar PV Instructor Qualifications

As part of its *National Solar PV Strategy*, NETCO actively promotes best practices with respect to the qualifications of instructors delivering solar PV training. NETCO recommends that solar PV instructors validate their talent and expertise by achieving the CSA personnel certification. To date, CSA has awarded *Construction Electrician (NOC 7241) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems Certified* to a range of instructors from the ECAO/IBEW-CCO in Ontario and EJTC in British Columbia.

NETCO'S 2012 TRAINING CONFERENCE FEATURES PRESENTATION ON ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE TRAINING PROGRAM (EVITP) IN THE USA

NETCO's *2012 Annual Training Conference* (Sunday, August 19th, Halifax) will provide leading-edge information on new developments in renewable energy. The agenda will include a feature presentation on the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) in the USA. The EVITP is endorsed by the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the National Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee (NJATC).

It is a pleasure to announce that the presentation will be facilitated by Ryan Bradt, Assistant Training Director at the Northwest Washington Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee in Mount Vernon, Washington. Ryan is currently the Curriculum Chairman for Phase 1 of the EVITP Certificate and an EVITP Master instructor.

Visit www.ceca.org/netco for more information.

CANADIAN ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION STANDARDS (CEIS) UPDATE



We have gained significant momentum in bringing our "Top 35" CEIS to fruition. After working through copyright snags with cover and content images the standards are now being forwarded for final review and sign off in both official languages rather than separately. This will speed up our process significantly and will get us "to market" in due course.

ELECTRICAL PROJECT SUPERVISION (EPS) COURSE UPDATE

Recently, most of the action surrounding EPS delivery had been focused in B.C. and Saskatchewan. Now we are seeing significant delivery to various regions in Ontario (Northern Ontario and Niagara).

We are hoping this momentum will continue in these areas as well as in Atlantic Canada, where this three-level course can help bolster growth in established and fledgling ECA's. For more information, please contact Susan Boorman at 416.675.3226 X316 or sboorman@ecao.org.



WEBINAR ON “SUITE OF SERVICES”

As mentioned in the last issue, we are poised to come into the boardrooms of CECA members across the country, via delivery of a “suite of services” via webinar presentations. This highly effective medium allows local ECA’s to inform its executives and membership on the latest courses and seminars available that will give electrical contractors the edge in a very competitive environment. It also provides an opportunity for local ECA’s to advise up on where we can add to or improve our deliverables. Please contact Lucy Roberts at 416.675.3226 X312 or lroberts@ecao.org to book us for your upcoming meeting.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

In our last update we have spearheaded great strides in bringing effective “Prompt Payment” Legislation to Canada. CECA, along with other NTCCC members, have worked with industry partners to develop a third draft of proposed PPL in Ontario. In concert with this effort, we have met with key trade contractor associations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C. with overwhelming response and support! We continue forward in this endeavor until we reach our goal of meaningful and useful legislation which will serve the Canadian construction industry well!!



ELECTRI’ COUNCIL NEWS

Doing Business with Panama - Trade Factors and Economic Considerations

Contractors (including CECA President Colin Campbell), industry partners, NECA Chapter leaders and university faculty attending the ELECTRI International Cross Border meeting in Panama City, Panama, received a thorough briefing on the country's economy and its potential. Daniel Crocker, Senior Commercial Officer, US Embassy - Panama, provided some key statistics and considerations.

NECA contractors are well positioned to consider opportunities in Panama, especially in infrastructure development, transmission and distribution modernization and metro rail development. The new Free Trade Agreement with the US (ratified by the US Congress in 2011) gives Panama some excellent advantages as a US partner. The Canal provides the key logistics hub for the Americas.

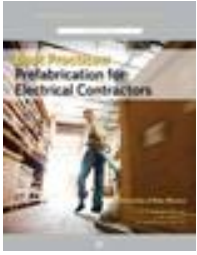
For additional information about ELECTRI International and its annual Cross Border Meeting, contact Russ Alessi, President, at 301-215-4518 or rja@necanet.org

ELECTRI Council Mid-Year Meeting

The next ELECTRI Council meeting will be held July 10-11, 2012 at the InterContinental Hotel, Chicago, Illinois for a new round of interesting discussions and important decisions. Participants will select research study proposals that are relevant for the EC industry and ELECTRI's mission and listen to and comment on research projects in progress and completed, some of which have received rave reviews and will help make a difference.

FEATURED NECA PUBLICATION

Electrical Pre-Construction Planning Process Implementation Manual



This study is based on extensive research that focused on 27 randomly-selected companies from 11 U.S. states. Using jobs conducted by these companies, data was collected from 29 "successful" and 27 "less-than-successful" sample projects. Specifically, the planning processes used in each job were examined, and notable differences between the tactics used in the two sets of projects were studied. Planning activities employed in the successful projects were then used to develop the Model Electrical Pre-Construction Planning Process included in the manual. Electrical contractors can implement this process to improve the effectiveness of their planning. Also available in PDF format. To purchase, visit the Publications page of the CECA website at www.ceca.org.

CECA NATIONAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE AROUND THE CORNER

The Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) National Industry Conference will be held June 13-17, 2012 at the Four Seasons Resort & Spa Whistler, in Whistler, British Columbia. Please note that the last day for registering for rooms is May 14, 2012.



Please note that ECAO's and ECABC's Annual General Meetings will be held on Saturday, June 16, 2012.

Comedian Diana Frances is to join Roman Danylo for our Keynote presentation taking place on June 14, 2012. It's sure to be a laugh!

Optional Events, Partner Programs and Golf registration forms are to be submitted no later than April 30, 2012.

Please be advised that the Shuttle Service Schedule is available on the ECAO website Events page. Please note that all delegates are to make their own arrangements. Please contact Pacific Coach Customer Service for further details at 1-800-661-1725 or visit their website at www.pacificcoach.com.

All registration forms, room reservations, hotel information, sponsorship opportunities and program updates are available on the ECAO website at http://www.ecao.org/events_ecao2012.asp. For more information, contact Megan Roberts at 416.675.3226 X300 or mroberts@ecao.org.

NECA CONVENTION – SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 2 – LAS VEGAS

New technology, trends and economic realities are changing your industry. Preparing for the future has never been more important. Take control of your future at NECA 2012 Las Vegas!

NECA 2012 Las Vegas is the premier US electrical construction event – the only event that brings together leaders from the entire industry. NECA 2012 Las Vegas will help you find the right place for the right opportunities, with insight from construction business experts, manufacturers and innovators. Take control of your future today! Join us for NECA 2012 Las Vegas!



For updates, visit the convention website at www.necaconvention.org.

**CANADIAN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES ENTREPRENEURS-ELECTRICIENS**

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