

# The NECA 1901 2008 Contractor

July 2008 Washington, D.C. Chapter

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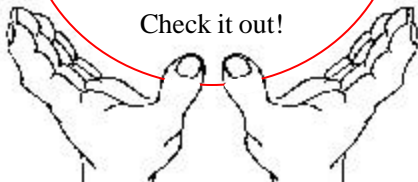
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The Chapter's new website is up and running. While the Chapter continues to refine the site, all the resources and functions of the old site are currently available on the new site. Check it out!



Notice

## Chapter Meeting Notice

The next Monthly Chapter Meeting will be held at **Kenwood Golf and Country Club** in Bethesda, Maryland at 11:30 a.m. on **Wednesday, July 9, 2008**. The Education Committee has reserved a segment of the meeting for a presentation by fire marshals from Loudoun County and/or Fairfax County.



## Membership Awards And Recognitions

At the June Chapter meeting, Mr. Jim Lewis, NECA National's Eastern Region Field Representative, presented the Chapter and several members with awards. The Chapter received an award in recognition of its 75th anniversary (despite Mr. Lewis's acknowledgement that local contractors have banded together well over 100 years ago). Mr. Mike Toman, Chapter President, accepted the award on the behalf of the Chapter. **Walker Seal Electric Company**, a charter member of the Chapter, also received an award in recognition of its 75th membership anniversary. In memory of Mr. Frank Seal, Ms. Julie Roger accepted the award. The following members received NECA District 2 safety awards in recognition their excellence in 2007:

**Birkhead Electric** - Safety Excellence  
(in the category of 150,000+ manhours)

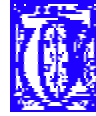
**Merical Electrical** - Zero Injury

**Regional Electric** - Zero Injury

**Primary Service Corp.** - Zero Injury



## 2009 Winter Seminar - Save The Date



The 2009 Winter Seminar has been scheduled for January 30 to February 4, 2009 at the fabulous "new" Reach Resort in Key West, Florida. For more information about the resort, visit [www.reachresort.com](http://www.reachresort.com). Seminar registration information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date of the event. Please save the date and plan to join us.

## Foundation Research Ideas Wanted



The ELECTRI'21 Foundation has initiated its research project selection process with a call to all members for research topic ideas. The ideas will be reviewed at the July ELECTRI Council Meeting. Accepted topics will be turned into Request For Proposals, and sent to universities and private research institutions around the country. If you would like to help the Foundation determine high priority ideas or concepts for research projects for the 2008 research cycle, please send your topic ideas to the Chapter via email at [contactus@wdcneca.org](mailto:contactus@wdcneca.org).

## D.C. 's Largest Electrical Contractors



In the June 20-26, 2008 issue, *The Washington Business Journal* released its list of the largest electrical contractors in the D.C. metro area. The list consists of electrical contractors that responded to the *Washington Business Journal's* request and disclosure of necessary financial information that would enable it to rank contractors by their D.C. metro area revenue. The following members were listed among the top twenty-five:

1. Truland Systems
2. Dynalectric Company
3. Freestate Electric
4. Mona Electric Group
5. J.E. Richards Electric
6. NATELCO
7. Power Solutions
8. Singleton Electric
10. Power Services
11. T.A. Beach
15. Heller Electric
16. Walker Seal Electric Company
18. RTL Electric
19. John E. Kelly & Sons Electrical
20. Pel-Bern Electric
22. Al Gleeson Electric
23. Bryant-Berry
24. Merial Electrical Contractors

## Membership

## Training

### Crisis Management Workshop



One or more of your employees are seriously injured; on a high profile job, a serious OSHA violation occurs; the cause of the electrical fire that destroyed your customer's business suddenly looks suspicious; someone in your organization has been accused of sexual harassment; your company was named in an allegation of collusion/price-fixing; a reporter wants a quote about a rumor that is damaging to your firm; the local TV I-team is knocking on the door; Mike Wallace from 60 Minutes is at the front desk waiting for you; the Washington Post is calling.

It took you a lifetime to build a good reputation, and in a few seconds it could be destroyed. In seconds, you could find yourself in a position where your partners, your staff, your customers, local officials, bankers, and suppliers want answers from you fast. You need to know how to handle the media and/or be a public spokesperson. Would you know what to do and how to respond?

For many of you, the answer is no. Therefore, the Chapter will be sponsoring a full-day Crisis Management Workshop on **September 30th** at the JATC in Lanham, Maryland. The lively and provocative workshop will help prepare you and your company for any crisis and offer a variety of practical techniques that will help prepare you to handle media relations and crisis communications. Please see the enclosed registration form for details.

### 2008 Project Management Training



This year's NECA/MCA Project Management Training Program is scheduled to begin on **September 11th** at the JATC Facility in Lanham, Maryland. The Chapter has opened registration for this training. To register, please use the enclosed registration form. The demand for this training is high and seating is limited - reserve your space now.

# Safety

## NFPA 70E Cost Implications



Electrical Safety should be a concern for everybody. For years, the industry has treated electrical shock as a trade hazard and very seldom considered arc flash as “another” hazard to consider. With the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA’s) formal adoption of the Electrical Code – 2002 edition and NFPA 70E – 2000 edition (including any upgrades to Chapter 1 of the 70E), more wide spread focus is being placed on the electrical industry. This emphasis has real cost implications for a contractor, especially if the job tasks involve working on equipment that is energized.

Energized equipment requires that protection from shock and other hazards (flash) be provided to employees, while working on equipment that is de-energized requires only minimum protection (i.e. safety glasses). The financial decision associated with this process is substantial but required for many job duties more often performed in the service side of the business. With the release of the NFPA 70E-2009 edition, electrical contractors need to look at providing fire resistive clothing for service technicians for everyday use rather than a smock or coveralls.

As a means of recovering these additional costs, contractors may want to branch into a new business venture – performing arc hazard analysis. Some members have been performing this function, for an additional fee, and properly marking their customer’s equipment. The analysis would provide the proper identification necessary for selecting special clothing to perform the service work. The contractor would know the level of protection required based on the identifications, and not buy unnecessary, expensive, high-rated, protective suits. By performing these analyses, the contractor can determine “hot spots” which require additional work to correct - another profit potential.

Crucial to enhancing safety and minimizing costs is the need to have employees well trained to work on energized equipment. Employees may need additional training to understand the importance of the safety programs on “live” electrical work. The Chapter offers these courses on a regular basis. If you would like to discuss NFPA 70E requirements and/or your company safety training needs, please contact the Chapter Safety Director, Vince Miller, by phone at 571-334-0075 or via email to [vmiller@wdcneca.org](mailto:vmiller@wdcneca.org).



## Don't Do This



What’s wrong with this picture? If this was taken by OSHA, it could or would cost you a few serious citations and fines over \$4500. What is pictured below is a common practice that no-one seems to know how it got started. It’s also a violation of the electrical code.



Answer: Use of combustible material exposed to a arcing/heating source; equipment with live electric not having covers to contain any arcing effects as designed by the manufacturer; exposure of employees to live electric.

## Your Calendar of Events

**July 8, 2008**

**Board of Directors Meeting  
Chapter Office, Annandale, VA**

**July 9, 2008 @ 11:30 AM**

**Chapter Meeting  
Kenwood Country Club, Bethesda, MD**

**September 11 - October 30, 2008**

**Project Management Training  
JATC Facility, Lanham, Maryland**

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