



Chapter Calendar

- | | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| June 3 | Anchorage JATC |
| June 3 | Anchorage JATC Graduation |
| June 10 | Safety Committee |
| June 11 | Board/Membership Meeting |
| June 15 | Father's Day |
| July 13 | NECA OPEN Golf Tournament |

Tool Box Talks

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| June 02, 2008 | Health Hazard Recognition |
| June 09, 2008 | Horseplay/Unsafe Acts |
| June 16, 2008 | Housekeeping |
| June 23, 2008 | Injury Prevention, Back/Injury Prevention, Ears |
| June 30, 2008 | Injury Prevention, Eyes/Injury Prevention, Feet |

Did you know...

NECA will be offering a free webinar on Building Information Modeling (BIM), Wed., June 11 at 11 a.m. (EDT). Dr. Tom Glavinich of the University of Kansas will offer his insights on BIM in a 30-minute presentation and give participants the opportunity to have their BIM questions answered. Glavinich will walk participants through the ways electrical contractors can use BIM to revolutionize the estimating process and to determine how they can install systems most efficiently. The one-hour online educational workshop will be based on Glavinich's publication on BIM for NECA's Electrical Design Library.

Registration is required to participate in this free webinar, and online registration will be available on www.necanet.org/edl later this month. Until then, you can download previous EDLs free of charge at www.electricaldesignlibrary.com.

While NECA has numerous programs, initiatives and services that benefit our chapters and members, we have **one** central resource for accessing information about all of them -- the NECA website at www.necanet.org. Since the site's launch nearly 10 years ago, market trends have shifted, user needs have changed, and we've added a slew of new content to the site. This year, we've taken some significant steps to make that valuable information easier to find and use on NECA's website.

You'll see many of these changes in action starting in June when the revamped website is launched. New features will include a site search that pulls content from all of NECA's websites, including ECmag.com and Electri.org, and new ways to manage exactly how you get your information from NECA through RSS feeds. NECA's national staff will also be on-call to guide members and users through the new site. For now, any questions you have about accessing NECA's online content can be directed to Adrienne Schmidt, aes@necanet.org.

Wanted: Electrical Contractors for New NTI EC Group

NJATC's National Training Institute (NTI), Aug. 2-8, at the Univ. of Tenn. in Knoxville, is the leading annual electrical training event for training directors, JATC members, instructors, industry leaders and apprentices. But this year, NTI is expanding its focus and introducing a new venue that will address the specific needs of electrical contractors.

The NTI Electrical Contractor (EC) Group will focus on new business opportunities in the electrical field. Sessions will be held simultaneously with the traditional NTI courses. For more information on the new EC Group, a session agenda, or to register for NTI, go to

<http://www.necanet.org/PortalTools/Meetings/Index.cfm>

"Managing Downturns: A Glass Half Full"

Smart Business Ideas (04/08) Vol. 4 , No. 4 , P. 11 ; Coyne, Kevin

In a troubled economy, there are still ways companies can cut down on costs while keeping employees happy. Companies can save money by changing when or how employees work by allowing employees who want to work part time to do so by having two people share one job, giving everyone Fridays off to save one-fifth of everyone's salaries, and permitting those whose jobs do not need to be done at the office to work from home some or all of the time. Before laying anyone off, companies might see if they can lower costs by turning off lights and unplugging equipment on weekends and recycling more to cut down on paper waste. When business is hurting, it is also important to show staff members that the work they do is appreciated, remain open to positive ideas they may have, and keep everyone focused on the future.

"United States: Changing Ethics Compliance Rules and Their Potential Impact on Government Contractors and Investors"

Monday Business Briefing (04/14/2008) Anikeeff, Anthony ; Parekh, Anissa

The U.S. government is adopting a more aggressive stance toward contractor fraud, issuing new, stricter requirements for contractors regarding business ethics and conduct, awareness programs, and internal control systems. U.S. contracts valued at over \$5 million that last more than four months are affected by the new rules, as well as most subcontractors, though the government may also extend the rules to smaller contracts at a later date. Under the new rules contractors must promote ethics and compliance, adopt an ethics compliance code and appoint a compliance officer, supply ethics materials to employees, conduct training and review of materials yearly, and create an awareness program and internal control system for ethics and business conduct. The system must identify improper conduct promptly, and corrective measures and discipline must be enacted quickly. Separately, the government has also proposed aggressive new requirements that follow the Sarbanes-Oxley model and which are facing strong industry opposition. The proposed rules would make ethics programs mandatory and failure to comply would result in a contractor becoming ineligible to obtain government contracts. They would also require that improper conduct as well as failure to prevent other employees' improper conduct be disciplined, similar to requirements issued by the U.S. Sentencing Commission. In addition, contractors would have to disclose criminal violations to win a government contract, and failure to disclose would result in disqualification.

"Utilities, Plug-In Cars: Near Collision?"

Wall Street Journal (05/02/08) P. B1 ; Smith, Rebecca

As more automakers prepare to expand their fleet of electric vehicles, many are starting to realize how much their success will depend on electric utilities. At a time when oil and gas prices are posting record highs, the automotive industry is rushing to bring plug-in vehicles to market. Plug-ins can operate 10 to 40 miles on electric batteries before tapping the gasoline tank and have a driving range of up to 600 miles before recharging the battery in a standard electric wall outlet. For this system to work, plug-in vehicles will need access to an abundance of affordable electricity. General Motors says electric utilities hold the key to the future of the market by deciding now whether they will give consumers of this up-and-coming market a fair rate for electricity. GM's Robert Peterson says the way the market is shaping up, the new vehicles "will make utilities more important than the oil companies." Some utilities have already made the connection and have begun investing in "smart" utility meters that permit power companies and customers to monitor power use by time of day and purpose. The meters will also facilitate utilities'

conversion to variable rates for electricity, which will allow them to raise rates during peak demand in the daytime, and lower them in the late evening. But other utilities worry that producing more electricity to power plug-ins will cause their CO2 to rise, which under forthcoming greenhouse-gas legislation that taxes CO2 emissions could cost them more money.

FUTURE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.....

October 4-7, 2008	NECA Convention/Chicago, IL
September 12-15, 2009	NECA Convention/Seattle, WA