



WATTS UP

June 01, 2011

Alaska Chapter NECA Newsletter

www.alaskaneca.org

Chapter Calendar

May 31

June 7

June 8

June 19

July 4

Anchorage JATC

Safety Committee

Board of Directors Noon Meeting

Father's Day

Independence Day

Important: NECA Server Upgrade & Your Log-In

NECA's family of websites has moved to an upgraded server, and there is now a new log-in form to use on those occasions when you need to sign in to access certain online features. **When do you need to sign on to <http://www.necanet.org>?** When you:

- Register for a meeting
- Update your company or individual profile
- Make purchases from NECA's online store
- View "member-only" content (marked with a "key")

As a result of the upgrade, userIDs and passwords have defaulted to the original in the NECA database. In default mode, your userID is your **individual** ID number (*from your NECA-member ID card*), and your password is the first three letters of your last name plus your individual ID number. If needed, go to (or simply click on) this URL to have your userID/password reminder emailed to you:

<http://www.necanet.org/PortalTools/RequestReminder.cfm>

Note: if you've changed your userID and/or password to something easier to remember, you may need to instead use the above information the next time you log into the NECA website. For additional information or assistance, email the [NECA Help Desk](#) or call **301-215-4535**.

Meetings & Events

Special Programs for Electrical Contractors at NTI 2011

The **2011 National Training Institute (NTI) July 20-August 5 at the University of Michigan** offers educational options for contractors and management employees, as well as instructor training and technical courses aimed at helping electrical workers increase their productivity. NECA's [Management Education Institute](#) has developed two distinct tracks for this year's NTI. In addition, the "O Group" program is offered specifically for those working in the outside line construction or utility industry. [Preview the 2011 National Training Institute and register ASAP!](#)

Online Registration for NECA 2011 Opens In One Week!

Starting Tuesday, June 14, 2011, you'll be able to register for this year's NECA Convention and other events associated with NECA 2011 San Diego at www.necaconvention.org. You can already find preliminary information about speakers, events, the NECA Show, and more on the same site. More and more information will be added as the details are worked out, so please check back often. You can also stay up-to-date with our exclusive blog, blog.necaconvention.org, or join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). [Get excited! Preview NECA 2011 San Diego on NECA's Convention site](#)

Take Action

NECA Endorses Bill to Fast Track Deployment of Electric Vehicles

NECA is pushing for passage of the recently reintroduced [Electric Vehicle Deployment Act \(HR 1685\)](#). This bipartisan legislation could help create jobs and end America's dependence on foreign oil by extending a tax credit related to electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), providing grants to selected communities to demonstrate widespread EV deployment, and through other provisions to incentivize both deployment and domestic production of the needed components and charging infrastructure. [Get full details on the Electric Vehicle Deployment Act of 2011 \(HR 1685\)](#)

Legislative Update

Largest NECA Legislative Conference Ever!

"When times are tough, it's even more important to speak up on the Hill," said [Greg Stewart](#), CEO of [The Superior Group](#) in Columbus, Ohio, and chairman of NECA's [Government Affairs Committee](#). Nearly 150 NECA-member contractors and chapter executives and staff recently spoke up directly to their elected representatives through an estimated 500 visits to the lawmakers' Capitol Hill offices during the largest **NECA** Legislative Conference ever held.

Repeal of the [3% withholding tax](#) and prevention of employers engaging in payroll fraud or the misclassification of workers were at the top of most meeting agendas for the conference participants, but they also spoke on recent attacks on the Davis-Bacon Act and project labor agreements that emerged during last month's continuous federal budget debates. Contractors also got to talk with the two dozen or so legislators who attended the Wednesday reception. "In all, NECA members renewed relationships with legislators and new ones were formed, especially among the 100 freshman members of Congress," said [Lake Coulson](#), NECA Government Affairs executive director.

NECA's [Political Leadership Council](#) (PLC) held its annual meeting concurrent with the conference. During the conference, several NECA members either became PLC members or renewed their PLC membership. *We appreciate our politically active members!* [Read a recap of the 2011 NECA Legislative Conference and PLC Summit](#)

On The Job

New Study: Increased Productivity Built into Prefab Project Delivery

A new SmartMarket Report from McGraw Hill, [Prefabrication and Modularization: Increasing Productivity in the Construction Industry](#), reveals the results of a [survey in](#)

[which NECA contractors participated](#). The study found that adoption of prefabrication and modularization is providing such business benefits as improved project schedules, decreased project costs, and reduced construction site waste-a key component in the rising adoption of green building. [Investigate the McGraw Hill SmartMarket Report on prefabrication/modular construction](#)

FYI: Using prefabricated and preassembled electrical components can result in substantial cost savings, especially on large projects such as hotels and hospitals that have a large number of identical layouts. Among the most-used prefab components are quick pulls, boxes with devices, precut conduit and precut MC.

Safety

eSafetyLine Toolbox Talks

Each month, the [special safety site available through NECA's website](#) addresses a specific topic and offers downloadable materials to enable you to provide related [weekly toolbox safety talks](#) * to employees. * Click on the red numeral for the week (shown on the [eSafety Line calendar page](#)) to download the current employee training material. Click on the toolbox icon for the archive of previously issued toolbox talks.

FUTURE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.....

October 22-25, 2011	NECA Convention/San Diego, CA
September 30-October 3, 2012	NECA Convention/Las Vegas, NV
October 12-15, 2013	NECA Convention/Washington, DC