



March 01, 2008 Alaska Chapter NECA Newsletter www.alaskaneca.org

Chapter Calendar

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| March 4 | Anchorage JATC |
| March 11 | Safety Committee |
| March 12 | Board/Membership Meeting |
| March 17 | St Patrick's Day |
| March 23 | Easter |
| March 25-28 | Labor Relations in New Orleans |
| April 1 | Happy 25th Anniversary to 3-Way Electric Inc |

Tool Box Talks

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| March 03, 2008 | Confined Space Pre-Planning |
| March 10, 2008 | Cranes & Hoists/Rigging & Slings |
| March 17, 2008 | DMM (Digital Multimeter) Safety/Test Equipment |
| March 24, 2008 | Emergency Response |
| March 31, 2008 | Excavation |

Michael Johnston Joins NECA as Executive Director, Standards and Safety



BETHESDA, MD – The National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) is pleased to announce that Michael Johnston assumed leadership of NECA's standards and safety program on Feb. 4. Johnston succeeds Brooke Stauffer as Executive Director, Standards and Safety. Stauffer, a well-known electrical codes and standards expert, died in a small plane crash on August 24, 2007, near Mackinaw Island, Mich.

Johnston comes to NECA from the International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI) where he served as Director of Education, Codes and Standards since 1998. A certified master electrical inspector, Johnston completed his electrician's apprenticeship and earned both journeyman and master electrician licenses in Connecticut. He worked as an electrician, foreman, estimator and project manager on several electrical construction projects in Connecticut before moving to Phoenix.

In Phoenix, Johnston became a field electrical inspector for the City of Phoenix, where he rose through the ranks to become the field supervisor for all of the city's electrical inspectors. He holds numerous certifications in electrical inspection with both IAEI and International Code Council. He also became a popular technical instructor, teaching numerous courses on the National Electrical Code (NEC).

Johnston was recruited by IAEI in 1998 and moved to Plano, Tex. At IAEI, he managed the association's seminar and certification programs, oversaw the development of IAEI training materials, and served as a technical editor for numerous publications and the IAEI News Magazine. He continued to teach NEC

courses and other industry-related training programs, and he is an active participant on the National Fire Protection Association's NEC code-making panels, electrical section, and education section.

Johnston's code-enforcing and making experience will benefit NECA's growing *National Electrical Installation Standards (NEIS)* program. *NEIS* are the industry's first performance and workmanship standards for electrical construction. As an enforceable part of the contract documents, *NEIS* significantly reduce confusion among engineers, electrical contractors, owners, and facility managers. NECA began publishing *NEIS* in 1999 and currently has more than 35 standards that range from installing high-voltage switchgear to fiber optic lighting.

"NEIS have become an indispensable construction document for many electrical projects, and I'm excited about the experience that Mike will bring to the program," said Dan Walter, NECA Vice President and COO. "Mike will also uphold NECA's role as a champion of safe practices in the development process for the National Electrical Code."

"I'm looking forward to joining the NECA staff and continuing to be an active contributor to electrical codes and safety," Johnston said. "This opportunity brings together many aspects of my professional training and experience to a level where I believe I can truly make a difference for the best."

Johnston has numerous professional affiliations, including the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, International Code Council, and the UL Electrical Council. He is available to answer media and technical queries regarding electrical installation, safety, codes and standards by contacting NECA's public relations director at 301-215-4526.

New Bill Makes New Regulatory Burden on Businesses

The SAVE Act (H.R. 4088) is an enforcement-only immigration bill that is bad for electrical contractors and would place tremendous, new burdens on employers, such as requiring employers to terminate workers who receive no-match letters from the Social Security Administration and can't resolve discrepancies within 10 business days and requiring employers to re-verify the work authorization status of their entire workforce. Act now to tell Congress these new regulations won't work for electrical contractors!

FUTURE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.....

October 4-7, 2008

NECA Convention/Chicago, IL

September 12-15, 2009

NECA Convention/Seattle, WA