



WATTS UP

October 01, 2011

Alaska Chapter NECA Newsletter

www.alaskaneca.org

Chapter Calendar

October 1

Steve's 16 year NECA Anniversary

October 3

Susan's 5 year NECA Anniversary

October 4

Anchorage JATC

October 11

Safety Committee

October 12

Board of Directors/Membership Meeting CANCELLED

October 22-25, 2011

NECA Convention/San Diego, CA

December 3

Annual Meeting/Christmas Party

Settlement on Digger Derricks Certification

The Edison Electric Institute challenged provisions for digger derrick operator certification in OSHA's final rule for cranes and derricks in construction that could potentially jeopardize safety, and NECA supported EEI with a letter to OSHA. We are now pleased to report that, among other things, OSHA has agreed not to enforce the crane standard for digger derricks operations covered by Subpart V, Electric Power Generation Transmission and Distribution and to modify the standard's scope. However, under the settlement, all personnel involved in crane and derrick operations (*competent person, crew member, maintenance person, rigger, and signal person*) must be either "qualified" or trained to perform these tasks. Operators must be certified, qualified, or meet the criteria for operator-in-training by November 10, 2014. [Find out what the OSHA-EEI settlement on digger derricks means for your company >>](#)

About NECA

Two-Minute (Or Less) Membership Outlook Survey Needs YOUR Response

To ensure that we're moving in the right direction and can continue best serving your company's needs, we are asking every member company to respond to a very brief (*four question*) survey. [Please complete the NECA Membership Outlook Survey now >>](#)

Reports of Staff Officers, Committees and Task Forces Online

In preparation for the **2011 NECA Board of Governors Meeting**, a PDF containing **Reports of Staff Officers, Committees and Task Forces** has been added to the meeting website. It summarizes actions since the 2010 BOG meeting, discusses plans, and makes for an interesting read. [See what we're telling the chapter governors on NECA's BOG meeting website >>](#)

On The Job

NECA Well Represented in 2012 NFPA 70E Revision, Too

The 2012 edition of *NFPA 70E, the Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace* was recently published and is available for [purchase through the National Fire Protection Association](#). John Luke (*ESCO Group, Marion, Iowa*) again served as NECA's primary representative on the NFPA 70E Technical Committee (with NECA Safety Director Jerry Rivera serving as his alternate) and is reprising the role (*yet again!*) for the *next* revision cycle. [Learn more about changes in the 2012 NFPA 70E >>](#)

Where Can You Learn More about the NEC and NFPA 70E Updates?

Significant Changes in the 2011 NEC will be addressed by a Pre-Convention Workshop on Friday, October 21, in conjunction with NECA 2011 San Diego. A Pre-Convention Workshop on Saturday, October 22, focuses on Changes in NFPA 70E 2012. [Check out ALL the educational opportunities planned for NECA 2011 San Diego >>](#)

Legislative Update

3% Solution May Be Close At Hand!

NECA and about 120 other organizations participating in the Government Withholding Relief Coalition are working hard for repeal of the rule that otherwise will require governmental bodies — *every branch or agency of the federal government, every state, most counties and cities, even most school districts* — to withhold 3% from their payments to suppliers and contractors for goods and services starting in 2013. And, with a move afoot to tie repeal of the 3% withholding rule to job creation, a groundswell of *bipartisan* support rising for repeal, and House Republicans pledged to act on repeal this Fall, the odds of us finally doing away with this onerous mandate have never looked better! [See how momentum is growing for permanent repeal of the 3% tax withholding rule >>](#)

Safety

New Guidance to Help Prevent Nail Gun Injuries

Nail gun injuries are responsible for approximately 37,000 emergency room visits (*and a few fatalities!*) every year, and construction workers, particularly those in residential construction, are often the victims. [Download new guidance on "Nail Gun Safety" from OSHA and NIOSH through NECA's website >>](#)

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.....

September 30-October 3, 2012

NECA Convention/Las Vegas, NV

October 12-15, 2013

NECA Convention/Washington, DC