



NECA E-xclusive

MEMBERS ONLY NEWS FROM YOUR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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Alaska Chapter News

February Board of Directors and Membership Meeting in Juneau

The February Board of Directors and Membership meeting will be held on February 15, 2017 in Juneau at the Baranof Westmark. The Board meeting will start at 5:00 pm and the Membership meeting will start at 5:45 pm with dinner following at 6:30 pm.

If you would like to stay at the Baranof Westmark, the Chapter has a room block. Reservation details are as follows:
Reservations information:

By phone: 1-800-544-0970-Group Name: "NECA National Electrical Contractors Association 2017"

Online: Group code: NECA2017 [Link to Juneau Baranof Westmark](#)

Discount Rate: \$157 for a standard room

Dates: Start Date 2/14/17; End date 2/16/17

Block release date: 1/20/17 (After this date attendees can book rooms the corporate rate, provided there are rooms available in the hotel)



Government Affairs

Top Three

1. The U.S. Senate spent most of the overnight on January 10 and 11 in a series of votes designed to serve as the first step toward repealing the Affordable Care Act (ACA).
2. On Wednesday the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held a nomination hearing for

Events

02/15/17
Board of Directors / Membership Meeting in Juneau
[RSVP](#)

02/20/17
President's Day

03/08/17
Board of Directors / Membership Meeting

04/12/17
Board of Directors / Membership Meeting

05/10/17
Board of Directors / Membership Meeting

05/29/17
Memorial Day

06/14/17
Board of Directors / Membership Meeting

07/04/17
Independence Day

07/12/17
Board of Directors / Membership Meeting

Elaine L. Chao to be the 18th Secretary of Transportation. Chao was introduced to the committee by her husband, Senate Majority Leader McConnell (R-KY), and Senator Rand Paul (R-KY). Secretary Chao has had distinguished career serving as the Deputy Secretary of Transportation under George H.W. Bush and the Secretary of Labor under George W. Bush. While serving as Secretary of Labor, Ms. Chao addressed the NECA Political Leadership Council (PLC) meeting in 2006.

3. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) and Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM) held a press conference to mark the re-introduction of S. 58, a bill which would repeal the Cadillac tax. A House companion bill, the Middle Class Health Benefits Tax Repeal Act of 2017 (H.R. 173), was introduced on January 3 by Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA) and Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT). The House Bill has been referred to the House Ways and Means Committee for consideration.

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Meetings & Events

NECA Now 2017

Far from your typical meeting, NECA Now 2017 is a three-day Executive Leadership Conference focused on your professional and personal growth. Join us in San Antonio, TX March 27-29, 2017.

NECA Now focuses on leadership development with presentations by top business experts. Other sessions cover a variety of current topics including business development, operations, financing, and personal development. And, there will be time to establish new relationships and learn from your peers.

NECA Will Offer Contractor 101 Course in Conjunction with NECA Now 2017

The Electrical Contractor Leadership 101 class is a 16-hour program designed for individuals with leadership responsibilities who currently serve in a leadership role, who may be transitioning into a leadership role, or a part of an identified "future leader" program.

The program will be conducted on Sunday, March 26th and Monday, March 27th, 2017. The class will conclude by 4:00pm on the 27th.

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08/2017 Date TBD
**Board of Directors /
Membership/Veteran
Member/Guest/Spouse
Meeting**

08/2017 Date TBD
**NECA Open at
Anchorage Golf Course**

09/04/17
Labor Day

09/13/17
**Board of Directors /
Membership Meeting**

10/07-10/17
**2017 NECA Convention
& Trade Show
Seattle, WA**

10/2017 Date TBD
**Board of Directors /
Membership Meeting**

11/08/17
**Board of Directors /
Membership Meeting**

11/11/17
Veteran's Day

11/23/17
Thanksgiving Day

12/02/17
**Annual Board of
Directors / Membership
Meeting & Holiday
Party in Anchorage**

12/25/17
Christmas Day



Technology

Electric Roads

Depending on what you read and who you believe, you may not have high hopes for the immediate or even long-range use of electric transportation. On the last page of January 12th's Wall Street Journal, there is a small article that questions Tesla's goal of 500,000 electric cars by 2018. The writer concludes the article, Tesla is great at "talking the talk, but not so good at walking the walk" – citing a developing pattern of failed goals and accomplishments for the electric car manufacturer.

One of the biggest obstacles for electronic transportation has been the ongoing challenge of size and weight of energy storage, or batteries. At least two States are experimenting with "electric charging roads" (Colorado and Nevada). But, it is the tiny Middle Eastern nation of Israel that is making promising breakthroughs to inductively charge electric vehicles.

Israel's roads will soon eliminate the need to ever stop to recharge or refuel again! An Israeli company, ElectRoad (pronounced "electrode") is paving the way toward a "greener world". Their technology retrofits existing roads with buried coils to inductively charge electric vehicles. Successful tests of the new technology are completed and Israel will soon apply the "electric roads" to a public bus route in Tel Aviv. CEO Orin Ezer of ElectRoads says the electricity comes from renewable energy transferred to the road. Ezer says it is really sustainable as a solution, pointing out that an electric bus battery can cost \$300K and weigh 5 tons. The technology is cost saving because it removes the battery, making the bus lighter and requires less energy. Compared to diesel buses, costs to operate are less than half the price. "If you start with public transportation it will save money and then you can open it up to taxis and trams. Payback is very fast," says Ezer.

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Safety

OSHA Issues Final Rule Updating Beryllium Exposure Limits

On January 9, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a final rule lowering occupational exposure limits for beryllium, increase workplace protections to reduce health risks.

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NECA Presents: What NECA Members Need to Know About the New OSHA Recordkeeping Rule Requirements

Can the injury & illness records that you are required to maintain stand up to OSHA's tough scrutiny? Not only is the agency taking a closer look at such documents but the procedures that employers use to compile them are also the focus of increased enforcement attention.

In a free webinar on January 5, NECA Director of Safety, Wes Wheeler reviewed what NECA members need to know about these new rules and how to properly log worksite injuries.

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NECA Safety Awards Program Opens; Change in Name Mirrors New OSHA Initiatives

NECA is now accepting entries for the Recognition of Safety Achievement Program, formerly NECA Safety Awards. NECA's Recognition of Safety Achievement programs in Safety Excellence and Zero Injury recognize NECA member-companies that consistently have OSHA recordable injury and fatality rates at levels lower than the industry standard, and implement internal company safety practices above and beyond basic compliance. Both programs seek to recognize companies that have taken safety above and beyond compliance.

Entries are now being accepted through February 24.

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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.

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