

## Students visit *Electrical Training Center*

Apprenticeship is a training system that produces highly skilled workers to meet the demands of employers competing in a global economy. A proven strategy, apprenticeship ensures quality training by combining on-the-job training with theoretical and practical classroom instruction to prepare exceptional workers for American industry.

In the U.S. today, some 37,000 program sponsors, representing over a quarter million employers, industries and companies, offer apprenticeship training to approximately 440,000 apprentices. The electrical construction industry is a \$100 billion dollar a year industry with approximately 656,000 skilled workers. The demand is strong for electrical workers in

the U.S. and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates America will require 734,000 electricians by 2014. That means 78,000 new workers will need to be recruited and trained to replace those that will retire or leave the industry.

The finest electrical workers in the country receive their training through the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (NJATC) of the National Electrical Contractors

Association (NECA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW).



*Cable feeder equipment demonstration*

Locally, the Dayton, Ohio JATC Electrical Training Center offers courses covering such areas as computer technology, fiber optic and photovoltaic systems, copper-

structured cabling and traffic signal operation.

On April 7, the Dayton JATC hosted an Open House for over 85 JVS junior and senior high students. Students attended the half-day presentation from Miami Valley Career Center, Upper Valley Career Center and Greene County Career Center. The students rotated between three classrooms to learn more about the electrical apprenticeship program.

Bill Newlin, Training Director of the JATC, spoke to participants about qualifications for the apprenticeship program; curriculum and hours required of each apprenticeship program (Inside Wireman and

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## New Construction Foreman Club

The Miami Valley Alliance of Construction Professionals (MVACP) was formed in response to changing needs in the construction market in the Dayton area. It provides a vehicle for labor and management to jointly address those changes to increase their mutual market interests. And the alliance allows for more efficient use of financial resources and staffing. By combining administrative and marketing functions of the Electrical Industry, Masonry Industry, Mechanical Industry and Sheet Metal Industry, the

MVACP hopes to establish a lasting mechanism for continuous communication between labor and management on a multi-craft/industry wide basis. The four groups represent over 4000 craft trade persons and approximately 150 employers.

Recently, the MVACP formed a new Construction Foreman Club. Like the Foreman Clubs in the 50's and 60's, the goal of this group is to elevate the level of professional pride among construction foremen from across the organized construction industry and to

improve communications and productivity on their various jobsites. On any project, several different trades may be represented including bricklayers, carpenters, plumbers, pipe fitters, sheet metal workers, ironworkers and electricians. "It's an ideal vehicle for improving communication among the various trades at a given job site," says chairman Matt Lightle of Bricklayers Local 22. Matt continues, "We take pride in our crafts and need to promote professionalism and accountability among our workforce. We are responsible

not only to our customers, but to our fellow workers as well. Communication is key to keeping projects on track and to assist apprentices in learning their trade."

The committee plans to promote the trades at events like the upcoming ICAP Construction Expo on June 10 (*see article on Expo*) and community projects like Habitat for Humanity. Monthly meetings are held at the various union halls with speakers that will further their goals. If you are interested in participating in the Construction Foreman Club, please contact Matt Lightle at 937-875-5231.

# Chapel finds a new home

Chapel Electric and Chapel-Romanoff Technologies have moved to Research Park in Kettering. The move will give both companies room to grow and the ability to recruit new workers.

Since 1946, Chapel Electric has grown to become one of the nation's leading electrical contractors specializing in commercial, industrial, technology, government, and healthcare projects. Services include

engineering, design build, network systems design, renovation, and predictive/preventive maintenance.

CEO Dennis Quebe

acquired both Dayton-based Chapel Electric and Toledo-based Romanoff Electric in 2002 to form Chapel-Romanoff Technologies, LLC, a technology systems firm handling data, voice and video installations and high-tech security work.



*New home of Chapel Electric and CRT Technologies is state-of-the-art construction.*

CRT's clients include leading corporations and institutions in technology-dependent markets including defense, financial services,

data management centers, biotech/healthcare and institutional industries. New contracts include the National Air and Space Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and Middletown Regional Hospital.

Renovation of the new facility will showcase CRT's capabilities to design a state-of-the-art "smart building" using leading edge integrated building automation, voice, data, video and security systems.

The new facility will also allow Chapel and CRT to recruit additional employees as their business expands.

## Did you know?

A 1999 survey of 25,500 standard English-language dictionary words found that 93 percent of them have been registered as .coms.

Dry ice does not melt. It sublimates, which means it goes directly from solid form to gaseous from.

Airport security personnel find about six weapons a day searching passengers.

When a piece of glass cracks, the crack travels faster than 3,000 miles per hour.

Per capita, it is safer to live in New York City than it is to live in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

## Students *cont'd*

Teledata Technician); wage increases with experience; and the type of work performed by apprentices.

Contractor's

Choice, an electrical supply business in Cincinnati, brought in several different types of tools and equipment to show the students. President Mike Huhn



*Buck Ross, Chapel Electric*

and Midwest Salesman Mike Keegan demonstrated how to use a wire puller, cable feeder, threading machine and a

conduit bender.

In the third classroom, Tim Pruitt of Kastle Electric discussed electrical safety practices, specifically the NFPA 70E, the standard for

electrical safety in the workplace. He also discussed the topics covered in the OSHA 30 hour and 10 hour courses.

Speakers included Mark Combs, of the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training for the State of Ohio. He discussed the value of the apprenticeship program and encouraged students to make the most of this opportunity to learn the invaluable skills

offered by the electrical apprenticeship program. Buck Ross, President of Chapel Electric and CRT Technologies, started his career as an apprentice. He discussed the myriad of career paths open to those who complete the program, including construction electrical worker, maintenance electrician, field supervisors, service technicians, CAD operators, estimators, apprenticeship instructors, electrical product sales, electrical engineers, and MSCE, Microsoft Certified Systems

Engineer. For those who are looking for more independence, one of every 10 electricians is self-employed.

"Remember," says Buck, "apprentices earn college credit through the program, which can be applied toward a college degree in the electrical field. You also earn while you learn. All apprentices start earning wages day one and receive wage increases throughout the program."

After lunch and door prizes, the students left the open house well equipped to

make a decision whether to become an electrical apprentice and take advantage of the benefits



*Mike Keegan (from l to r) and Mike Huhn of Contractor's Choice with JATC Director Bill Newlin*

offered through the JATC Electrical Training program. For more information visit: [www.daytonohiojatc.org](http://www.daytonohiojatc.org).

## CONNECTIONS

April, 2006

Your comments, suggestions and questions are welcome! Contact the Western Ohio Chapter - NECA.

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 website: [www.wocneca.org](http://www.wocneca.org)  
 phone: 937-299-0384  
 fax: 937-299-7322

# Construction Expo

If you've ever considered a career in the construction industry, you won't want to miss the first annual Dayton and Miami Valley Construction Career Expo being held at Riverscape in downtown Dayton on June 10.

The mission of the Expo is to provide a unique "hands-on" learning experience about the Miami Valley Construction Trades, featuring live demonstrations, construction equipment displays, and one-on-one career counseling throughout the Expo.

With three large exhibit areas, the Expo will provide an

excellent environment for exhibitors to demonstrate their trade as well as provide a unique opportunity for the public to get up close to the "Big Trucks, Cranes" and other equipment used by the construction industry.

The City of Dayton will also be participating with displays and demonstrations of Fire and Police equipment as well as providing vocational counselors to offer career information about Law



Enforcement and Fire Protection.

The Ironworking Contractors Allied Partnership (ICAP) is pleased to bring this unique event to the Miami Valley featuring the members of: ICAP, The Miami Valley Alliance of Construction

Professionals (MVACP), The Building and Construction Trades Council, Dayton Chamber of Commerce, The Miami Valley Building trades Apprenticeship Group, Association of General Contractors, and The City of Dayton.

The Western Ohio

Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) is a member of the MVACP. They will be participating in the Expo, along with members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82. The trades that will be represented include Ironworkers, Plumbers & Pipe Fitters, Sprinkler Fitters, Sheetmetal Workers, Insulators, Electricians, Carpenters, Millwrights, Cement Masons, Brick Layers, Laborers, painters, Operating Engineers, Affiliated Contractors and representatives from the City of Dayton Fire and Police departments.

## Training the trainer

Continuing education is a must in today's world. In the electrical industry it is critical to become knowledgeable about the latest technology, or get left behind. That is why the Management Education Institute (MEI) was established by the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) as the principal resource for management development of its members and their employees. The Institute provides a professional development curriculum that is both comprehensive in scope and focused on the needs of its training constituency.

Electrical Project Supervision courses (EPS Level I, II and III) are highly recommended to Project Managers, Field Superintendents and Foremen. There is also a series of Train-the-Trainer courses. Roger Howard of Kastle Electric, and Bob Shaffer of Chapel Electric both completed Level I last year and have been training foremen locally since then. In

May, Roger will complete Level II. The focus of the EPS courses is to enrich a foreman's understanding of the business and process of construction and gives them insight into what might be ahead as they move up the administrative ladder. Course topics include defining the supervisor's role, team building, performance management, labor relations, safety, production management, planning and scheduling, tool and material management and understanding costs.

"This allows us to offer expanded foreman training on a local, as needed basis," says Dan Neal, Executive Director of the Western Ohio Chapter NECA. Dan continues, "There is an expense associated with sending employees for training or bringing in a trainer. Being able to educate our workforce locally will provide a cost savings to many contractors and more importantly, will further educate our top performers."

## New President on board

Jeff Collins, President of York Electric, has been elected as the new Western Ohio Chapter National Electrical Contractors Association President for 2006.



Jeff Collins, York Electric

He takes the place of Greg Brush, President of Kastle Electric, who held the position since 2002.

Moving forward, Jeff has several agenda items including implementation of the IBEW Code of Excellence and IBEW-NECA Labor Relations Task Force 17 Points. The Code of Excellence, developed by NECA and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) requires that IBEW and its NECA employees work as a team to address productivity issues, create customer awareness, and establish mutual

accountability. The 17 Points contains items recommended for further action to help make IBEW signatory contractors more productive and competitive. One of the 17 points, the mandatory substance abuse testing policy has already been implemented by IBEW Local 82. "In today's economy, it's imperative that we work together to improve our quality standards and productivity in order to remain competitive. It will take the combined effort of both IBEW and NECA to increase our market share," says Jeff. Other newly elected offices of the Board of Directors include: Governor: Dennis Quebe, CEO Chapel Electric, CRT; Vice-President: John O'Meara, Area Manager Wagner Smith Electrical Contractors; Treasurer: John Franz, President Sydney Electric Company; Secretary: Dan Neal, Executive Director Western Ohio Chapter NECA; Board Member: Greg Brush, President Kastle Electric



# CONNECTIONS

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Permit 644

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## Electrical Construction Market Shift

1. Electrical Construction Market size equals \$80 billion plus.
2. Seasonal construction cycle-picks up in March, hits its peak about August/September, declines by November/December.
3. Industrial work has declined to under 50% of market, commercial work is steady at about 15% and residential work has been increasing to near 40%.
4. Commercial/residential electrical construction work does not require as many specialized electricians as does industrial work.
5. Portability and crew composite ratios play a much bigger role in commercial/residential versus industrial work.
6. Non-union has an easier time expanding by hiring lower skilled labor than do union employers.
7. NECA/IBEW need to jointly define the work to comply with standard measurements done by the government.
8. More management required.
9. Labor agreements have to be achieved to allow us to be a "player" in every work environment.

## The Western Ohio Chapter - National Electrical Contractors Association Directory:

### NECA Members

Aztec Electric, Inc.  
 Chapel Electric Company  
 Chapel-Romanoff Technologies  
 Complete Electrical Service  
 D.R. Electric, Inc.  
 ESI Electrical Contractors  
 Freedom Electrical Contractors  
 High Voltage Maintenance  
 Kastle Electric Company  
 Kastle Technologies  
 Lake Erie Electric, Inc.  
 Maxwell Lightning Protection  
 Mutual Electric Company  
 Reliable Electrical Mechanical  
 Studebaker Electric  
 Wagner Smith Company  
 York Electric, Inc.

### Contributing Contractors

Automated Controls  
 Integrated Control Solutions  
 Justice Electric  
 Luehrs Electric, Inc.  
 M.B.A. Electric, Inc.  
 Nitro Electric Co.  
 North Hills Electric & Eqmmt.  
 Power Services  
 Precision Electrical Contrs.  
 Productive Electric, Inc.  
 Q.O.B. Electric, Inc.  
 Spurling Electric Co., Inc.  
 The W.G. Fairfield Co.  
 Triad Electrical  
 Union Lightning Protection  
 Wheeler Electric  
 Wilson Sign Company

### Affiliate Members NECA

Becker Electrical Supply  
 Copp Systems Integrator  
 FD Lawrence Electric Company  
 Heapy Engineering LLC  
 Riffle & Associates  
 Square D / Schneider Electric

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