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Clayton Schenck,  
Chair of the  
Board of Directors

## Industry Report

### Summer Updates & Planning for the Future

This summer doesn't feel 'normal' in any way. No MN Great Get-Together? No local festivals or carnivals? No Fourth of July? Will school start back up? What will this all look like? The Board and the Association have had to make some changes as well to accommodate the state and local ordinances as we try to comply with the fast-changing rules and regulations.

1. I am very bummed to talk about the change in plans for the summer event. After not being able to meet in person this past April at the Millennium, Breezy Point was going to be that much more of a celebration. However, with the current orders in place, that wouldn't be possible in the way that we would like it to look. Things could change prior to August but we need to begin planning now. By changing direction sooner rather than later, we can direct our focus elsewhere.
2. Partner and Profit in December. Last year we launched our first annual business event, which presented training for those in various stages of their electrical careers. It was a phenomenal event with great feedback. We have established a task force to begin looking at how to make this happen for December 2020. We are exploring a few different options.

Keeping in mind that the NCEL Expo will be held December 9-10, discussions have included how to time our event to ensure all in the electrical industry can be in both places they want (either in-person or virtually).

3. Last but not least – some great news. If you have been following our self-paced education progress, we received IACET approval in December, which was a huge step in this journey! Last week, we received approval for our first 2-hour self-paced course that was submitted to the MN Department of Labor for approval. We are so excited to begin offering our courses in a new format that will meet the needs of the industry. Being able to sign up and take the course when it works for me or my crew is ideal. This summer, the association will be working quickly to get more and more of our class favorites approved and available in this format for us to maintain our licensure.

As we all navigate this new world of regulations, let the Electrical Association know what you need. Take advantage of the work that they are doing to help us all stay compliant and thrive through this. Until we can all meet again in person, keep your eye out for virtual ways to connect. Our first in-person gathering when we are allowed will be one that no one will want to miss!

## Apprentices—Important Dates!

- July 10** Early-Bird Deadline to Save \$50
- July 31** Early-Bird Deadline to Save \$25
- Sept 15** Registration Deadline to Avoid Late Fee \$150
- Sept 22** First Night of Class!



Read more about the Apprenticeship Training Course on page 11.

## Exam Prep Class!

The MN DLI plans to reopen this month for electrical licensing exams!

August 1-2 (Sat-Sun) in Edina



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## Executive Director



Clara Albert, CAE, Executive Director



If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please call me.

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calbert@electricalassociation.com

### Administration

We are at an interesting place in history. When we look back, we will easily recall 2020. What will the books, the world, our community, our members say about 2020? Our hope is that members will say that we listened, we were an invaluable resource and thrived during a time of uncertainty and unrest.

Many of you are aware that our office building is located in the heart of Uptown in Minneapolis. We have loved this location for so many years as it has offered many employee benefits such as nearby restaurants, shopping, walking and biking trails. It was stressful to be close to the riots and looting but we are extremely grateful that all of our staff and our building were unharmed. I believe we are tucked away enough in a residential neighborhood off the beaten path.

The majority of the staff remain working remotely to stay safe and healthy so we can continue to serve the needs of our members. I am grateful for how much we had been able to invest in technology over the past few years to make this transition and way of working a possibility in an extremely short amount of time. Many organizations needed to invest a lot of dollars quickly to make this work, but we were already prepared. Not

saying we knew what was coming, but, remote work in our types of roles is highly sought after so we had things in motion. Please continue to call the office, email, send in dues, etc. we are continuing to manage the day-to-day operations as normal.

The Electrical Association is in the middle of a robust 3-year strategic plan that was created at the beginning of 2019. While the plan is still relevant, what you need today and tomorrow to ensure viability is most important to us; therefore, we have been adjusting programs and offerings to be nimble and to embrace this time for innovation and creating the next normal. Throughout summer, the next six months and year, our offerings will look different but that is intentional and strategic for you.

Please continue to reach out to us. Let us know what you need during these times. It is not business-as-usual and we are working to provide you with helpful resources to navigate. Our Covid webpage continues to provide the latest info from the governor as well as additional resources from DEED, MN Chamber or other articles and webinars that we find helpful for you.

### Federated Insurance

#### Employee Returning from Trip—Precautions in Light of COVID-19?

**Q** We have crews that ride together in vehicles and perform work outside. We have explained to employees that work is optional during this time and we have encouraged employees to stay home if they feel sick or are concerned about exposure. We have an employee who is returning from a trip to Puerto Rico. She is planning on returning and the crew she is assigned to is afraid of exposure. Can we require that she doesn't come in or turn in a doctor's note before return? How can we protect other employees?

**A** At present the CDC's guidance indicates that only employees who are returning from travel to countries that have a Level 3 Travel Health Notice (where there is widespread, ongoing transmission) need stay home for 14 days from the time they left such area and practice social distancing. Puerto Rico is not among the areas presently at Level 3. As such, it does not appear that the subject employee would be required to self-quarantine as a result of this trip pursuant to the present guidance from the CDC. We recommend that you review the CDC's guidance on this issue directly at "Travelers Returning From High Risk Countries" which contains additional links. If, however, there are other risk factors, then certainly the employer should take additional and appropriate precautionary measures to protect the health and safety of its workplace and those who work or visit it.

As for a doctor's note, the US Department of Labor's current guidance addresses this as follows:

"May an employer require an employee who is out sick with pandemic influenza to provide a doctor's note, submit to a medical exam, or remain symptom-free for a specified amount of time before returning to work?"

Yes. However, employers should consider that during a pandemic, healthcare resources may be overwhelmed and it may be difficult for employees to get appointments with doctors or other health care providers to...

**Read the full article at:**  
[www.electricalassociation.com/news](http://www.electricalassociation.com/news)

This article is for general information and risk prevention recommendations only. It should not be considered legal, coverage, financial, tax or medical advice.

## Protecting Your Business: You Hold the Keys

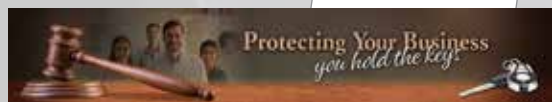
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## Government

### Special Session

The legislature was called into a special session on June 12 when the current emergency declaration expired.

Bill Strusinski,  
Government Affairs  
Representative

Whenever the governor issues a new Emergency Declaration Executive Order, the legislature is required to meet in session to determine if they want to rescind that order or allow it to remain in place. There was a vote to end the Emergency Declaration by the Republican-controlled Senate, but the motion failed in the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives. Thus, the order will remain in place.

The State Senate has announced it will adjourn the Special Session on June 19 which leaves little time to process major bills including the bonding bill. However, there is hope. In time of uncertainty and election madness every issue is part of a bigger deal to be struck by legislative leaders and the governor.

Because of the pandemic and recent civil unrest, several bills have been introduced to address some of these problems and are the bills are working their way through the process.

One COVID-19 small-business relief package provides \$60 M in grants. This bill will pass the House and Senate because there is universal agreement on it. The bill focuses on small businesses in particular with the funding geographically split between metro and greater Minnesota grants. Some of these grant funds specifically target minority-owned, veteran-owned, and women-owned businesses employing fewer than 50 people. Some provisions further target businesses with fewer than ten employees. Emphasis appears to be on hair salons, bars and restaurants, and a variety of non-profits.

Much attention has been given to changing laws that affect the use of deadly force by law enforcement. There is significant disagreement on the proposed solutions to these problems so don't look for major reform to occur during this special session. The Senate wants to take time to fully analyze the proposals.

Other items scheduled to be discussed during the Special Session include bonding, taxes, social and police reform issues and possibly the adoption of the Energy Optimization Act. This bill affecting fuel switching and other conservation measures failed to pass during the regular session but there is renewed interest in adopting needed energy reform (CIP) legislation.

I do expect a \$1.35B bonding bill to pass sometime this summer as all policymakers agree construction is a key element in restarting the economy. They just disagree with the specific provisions to include and other major policy matters.

A lot of uncertainty remains with the future direction of this and any other special sessions that might be called throughout the rest of the year.

As always, stay tuned and get ready for major campaigning to commence soon! If you have any questions, please contact the Electrical Association office.



## Compliance

### Updating Employee Handbooks

Tom is a Shareholder at Peters, Revnew, Kappenman & Anderson, P.A., a firm representing employers in a full range of employment law issues and litigation in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Tom Revnew  
Attorney, PRK&A

The employee handbook is an important tool for any employer to have—it sets out the policies and procedures with which employees are expected to comply, establishes the at-will nature of an employee's employment, and following a thorough, compliant handbook helps establish a powerful defense to employee harassment and discrimination charges and lawsuits.

But employment law can change quickly, and it's equally important that your employee handbook be kept current. We recommend updating your handbook(s) on an annual basis—either the beginning or middle of each year works well.

Notably, if you're a Minnesota employer (or an employer with Minnesota employees) and haven't updated your handbook in the last year, it's especially important to do it now, as effective July 1, 2019, Minnesota introduced new recordkeeping requirements.

Employers must now maintain "a list of the personnel policies provided to the employee, including the date the policies were given to the employee and a brief description of the policies." This means it's more important than ever to ensure that all company policies are combined into a single employee handbook, as the easiest way to comply with this requirement is to include in the handbook a list of all policies and the date that the handbook was given to the employee.

This requirement applies to all employees (not just new employees), and the records must be kept for three years.

Depending on how recently your company's handbook was updated (and how thoroughly),

there are any number of other considerations that may need to be involved in an update, including but not limited to notices regarding wage disclosure, and important wording to be added to the equal opportunity and anti-harassment policies.

More changes are constantly on the way, so if you're not already doing so, consider updating your employee handbook(s) now and revisiting them on about a yearly basis.

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## HR Compliance

### Return to Work Safely after COVID-19

Kate Bischoff, Attorney  
tHRive Law & Consulting

Marc Alifanz, employment lawyer and co-host (with me!) of the *Hostile Work Environment Podcast*, and I shared a bunch of information on returning to work in a recent webinar, including whether temperature checks and Welcome-Back potlucks are good ideas, how cubicles can be spaced, and much, much more.

If you're in the market to "open" back up and bring people back to the office, watch the recording at <https://thrivelawconsulting.com/category/blog/>.

- How do we bring employees back into the workplace?
- How do we bring customers back into our shops?

- Practical and legal considerations
- Changes to how we do onboarding
- Wage & hours issues with people working at home

What Americans are saying about their abrupt transition to remote work:

- 80% say they can better manage interruptions from co-workers
- 66% prefer working in the office
- 65% feel their productivity has increased

Once you decide to bring employees back, you have to start to figure out some of the following:

- How the workspaces will look? Common areas? Workstations? Entry ways?
- How do people do their work? On the phone? Face to face? Conferences?

Even after the governors orders an end, working from home is still the safest option for employees who are able to. Many may want to continue working from home.

In the podcast, we'll run through various scenarios that employers and employees will soon be finding themselves in:

- Employee doesn't want to return to work; he makes more money on unemployment.
- Employee doesn't want to return to work; his son is in a high-risk group.
- Employee has had three heart attacks. You furloughed him several weeks ago and now you're able to bring workers back. What do you do? And more...

If you'd like to hear our ideas, take a listen to the *Hostile Work Environment Podcast* wherever you get your podcasts. AND, contact us if you have questions!



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## You Need to Know

### COMPLIANCE

#### NATIONAL

**US and MN Income Tax Deadline...** Taxpayers have until July 15, 2020, to file their 2019 state and federal individual income tax returns. MN taxpayers can contact the department by calling 651-296-3781 or 800-652-9094.

#### MINNESOTA

**2020 NEC Adoption Delayed...** Adoption of the 2020 NEC has been delayed and it will not be effective in Minnesota on July 1 as anticipated. The Board of Electricity received 25 valid requests for hearing regarding the adoption of the 2020 NEC.

That hearing has been rescheduled to Aug. 19, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2017 NEC will remain in effect until the adoption process is complete.

- All permits, installations and inspections will continue to be issued or performed under the 2017 NEC.
- All electrical license examinations will continue to cover material from the 2017 NEC.
- Continuing education courses will be reviewed and approved under the 2017 NEC or 2020 NEC. (MN DLI)

**COVID-19 Reminders for Employers...** Employers may ask employees if they are experiencing influenza-like symptoms, such as a fever, chills, a cough or a sore throat. Employers must maintain all information about employee illness as a confidential medical record in compliance with state and federal law. During a pandemic, employers

may not ask employees who do not have known or apparent symptoms whether they have a medical condition the CDC says could make them vulnerable to COVID-19 complications. Under no circumstances may an employer make decisions based on stereotypes or bias. If employees voluntarily disclose to their employer that they have a medical condition or a disability that places them at higher risk of COVID-19 complications, the employer must keep this information confidential. (MN CCLD Review)

**MN Dept of Revenue revised Sales & Use Tax Forms....** Form ST11, Sales and Use Tax Refund Request (The multiple period amended return section moved to the new Form ST11-MPA); Form ST11-MPA, Sales and Use Tax Multiple Period Amended Return (This new form combines the multiple period amend section from Form ST11 and Form ST11-AUD); Form ST11-AUD, Request for Tax Paid on Periods Audited for Sales and Use Taxes. (MN Dept of Revenue)

**Minnesota Amendments to the 2018 International Residential Code (IRC)...** An online presentation is available to replace in-person seminars that were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This presentation addresses the code provision amendments to the 2018 IRC that became effective March 31. This course includes two hours of continuing ed for building officials, residential contractors, residential remodelers, and manufactured home installers. A section at the end of the presentation describes tasks to complete to gain an additional 5 hours of continuing ed if desired. Free. Available online, 24-hours a day. Register: <http://tiny.cc/bkozqz> (MN CCLD)

### CONSTRUCTION TRENDS

**US Residential Construction...** Privately-owned housing units authorized by building permits in May were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate 14.4% above the revised April rate, but is 8.8% below the May 2019 rate. Single-family authorizations in May were at a rate 11.9% above the revised April figure. ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov))

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## Funding for Small Businesses

### Small-Business Relief Grant Programs

- Beginning to accept applications on June 23
- More than \$60 million available for those affected by Covid-19

### Employee Retention Credit

- Fully refundable tax credit for employers equal to 50 percent of qualified wages

### Paycheck Protection Program

- Funds still available and extended forgiveness

\* Cannot use both the PPP and the Employee Retention Credit

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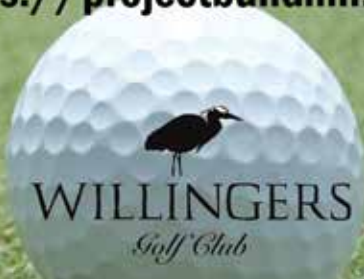
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# Electrical Association

Empowering Contractors

## Our Rebranding Story

Our association has been proudly supporting electrical contractors for over 90 years. As times have changed, so have the products and services that we extend to our members. In an effort to continue evolving, we realized it was time to reconnect to our brand and create a fresh and relevant identity that better reflects our dynamic, energized and connected association.

## Staying Relevant

With the guidance of a professional branding team, our leadership and staff recently engaged in several strategic working sessions in order to take a deep dive into our association. Everything from our name, to what we offer our members, to how and what we communicate with them was examined. All in an effort to ensure that we continue to provide members the resources they need to be successful.

## We Are the Electrical Association

During this discovery process, we decided a slight name change was in order. Because we serve members outside of Minnesota, we wanted a name that is inclusive and inviting to those beyond our borders. To that end, we have dropped the state reference and are now the Electrical Association.

## Our Essential Value

After analyzing our association as a whole, we were able to distill the essential value we bring to our members down to one memorable word - **conduit**.

We serve as a conduit to information, education, connections and protection for our members.

## Our Bold New Look

A key component of a rebrand is the visual representation of the brand, the core of which is a logo. We are thrilled with our new logo and brand identity. It strikes the perfect balance between established and cutting-edge. It builds on our long history of serving members while representing our commitment to evolve as the needs of our members' do.



We are excited to share our new name and tagline, dynamic logo, bold color palette, and energized design style. Our refreshed brand better reflects the connectedness of our membership and our commitment to helping members more easily navigate an ever-changing business landscape.

Empowering Contractors

[electricalassociation.com](http://electricalassociation.com)

## Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn

Social Media is a great tool to communicate with your existing clients and connect with new ones. There are many different platforms. You will be best served by picking the most relevant platforms where your clients are and ignoring the other platforms. As a digital marketing consultant for small businesses in the building trades, I tell my clients to focus on **Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn**. On all three platforms, you can use them from your personal account and you can set up a company page—it's great to share posts from your company page to your personal account but I would NOT recommend sharing things from your personal account to the company page.

Set up a page for your company on all the platforms you want to use. Use your company logo for the profile image and size it so that it displays nicely. Share basic info about your firm and provide contact info with your phone, email, and website. Make it easy for potential customers to reach out. Once the pages are set up and look sharp, decide what you want to post and how often.

I recommend a simple weekly schedule to start so it's easy to repeat and stay consistent without spending too much time. Here is an example of a basic weekly schedule: Monday at 11am post about a recently completed project with a nice cell phone photo of the project; Wednesday at 11am post a spotlight on a specific valued customer (better if it's a commercial client) and share a photo of their home/business and why they are great to work with—for this be respectful of privacy if it is a residential client and don't share any more personal info than you have to; Friday at 2pm post something fun about a member of your staff, maybe about a birthday that week or a life accomplishment, make it light hearted and personal, this will help existing clients and people who know your business feel a stronger connection to you. Whatever you decide to do, keep it simple and professional and stay consistent over time!

Devon Palmer. Realtor and Digital Marketing Consultant, <https://andersonpalmer.com>, always available for a quick and complimentary social media consult 651-707-4494, [devon@andersonpalmer.com](mailto:devon@andersonpalmer.com)

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## Government Affairs

### Why Bonding Matters

Michelle Dreier  
Member Engagemt/  
Gov't Affairs

Typically a bonding bill would have been passed by now. Typically that bill would be just slightly under 1 billion. Typically we would be looking at the projects scattered across the state and seeing if we had interest on bidding on them. But 2020 has been anything but a typical year.

The legislative session started in February with a \$1.5 Billion budget surplus. COVID-19 hit mid-March and suddenly we were forced into remote business, this included legislative work. As remote hearings were explored and lobbyists figured out how to navigate this new online world, we moved into a budget deficit currently projected at \$2.4 billion.

The bonding bill was held hostage by the republicans and offered to the governor in exchange for legislative controls that would allow legislative input into the spending of \$2 billion in federal CARES money. The legislature adjourned without passing a bonding bill.

Shortly after legislative adjournment, riots erupted protesting the death of George Floyd. Once again priorities were shuffled and the anticipated special

session on June 12 saw calendar shifts to address police brutality, criminal justice reform and economic equity. Going into the session, no bonding deals were made and a lack of urgency was cited from construction industry experts. The bonding bill once held hostage due to COVID 19 issues, is additionally held hostage for police policy reform and economic equity.

Senate republicans are willing to consider increasing the size of the bonding package from \$1.1 billion to \$1.35 billion to provide money for rebuilding neighborhoods and businesses damaged during the protests over Floyd's death. Estimates of the damage are \$500 million.

I wanted to take some time to discuss why bonding matters and traditional challenges with the process. These pale in comparison to current events but are consistent long-term challenges the industry and process faces.

#### Timing

Bonding typically happens every other year—on the year opposite of budget talks. This can lead to a year of feast and a year of famine. There is a need to keep funding consistent so there is a steady flow of projects.

#### Types of Funding

Often there is too much focus on shovel-ready projects. There needs to be a good mix of funding for design AND shovel-ready projects, again to ensure the consistent flow of projects to the industry. Bonding is used for pre-design and architectural services, asset preservation, new construction, infrastructure, and transportation.

#### Amount of Funding

Since 1999, the legislature has resisted crossing a billion dollar threshold in bonding. Even though cost of construction has increased, and even though a larger percentage of the bonding is going to fund local transportation projects, that threshold has been an invisible line not to be crossed. Could this be the year we make the leap?

Interest rates are very low, which makes now a good time to invest in strategic bonding projects throughout the state of Minnesota. Bonding drives short-term growth by boosting demand for construction, employment, and long-term growth by increasing potential supply capacity of our economy. Investing in bonding as part of economic recovery efforts will help us build Minnesota's future.

**FEATURED  
ARTICLE**

## Membership

### Our New Look!

We love our new colors so much we want to share them with you! For those of you that may have missed the roll out of our new rebrand, we gave our brand a lot of thought as we determined who we are as an association, who and how we serve our members, and how our logo portrayed our commitment to serve.

#### Colors

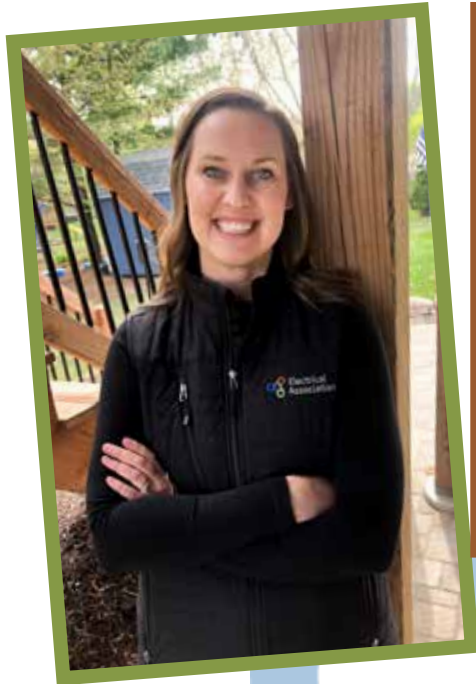
The results of our introspection drove a bold logo of copper, green, and blue. The electric blue is a nod to our past and a continuation of blue from our former logo. Copper signifies the wire that our electricians use daily. Green symbolizes new greener technologies driven by energy efficiency and renewables, implemented and installed by our members.

#### Shape

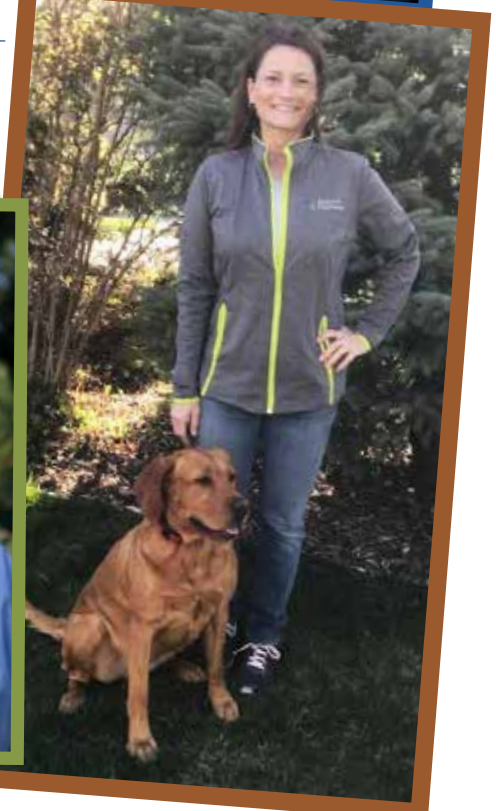
The shape of the logo is inspired by the written symbol of a closed circuit, designed in a forward moving tilt to signify momentum of our industry. We are always moving forward, always pushing to better the industry and the world we live in.



Kathy Matsui, Plum Tree Solutions (a member of the Electrical Association) has arranged for this newly designed logo to be placed on polos, jackets and vests for members to wear with pride. For an additional cost, you can have them display your shop logo as well!



The staff is modeling just some of the styles—find more on the website below!



Thank you so much for your membership. Please join us in celebrating our new look!

**TO ORDER: [www.companycasuals.com/ElectricalAssociation](http://www.companycasuals.com/ElectricalAssociation)**



# Develop Your Career

## Education Calendar

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26						
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30									
							30	31																		

### 16 Continuing Education Credits (Classroom)

Multi-State Approval (check our website for specific approval details)

- Aug 14-15 (8am-5pm) 2020 NEC® Grounding & Bonding; Motor Installation; Overcurrent Protection - **St Cloud\***
- Sept 17-18 (8am-5pm) 2020 NEC® Grounding & Bonding; Motor Installation; Overcurrent Protection - **Plymouth\***

\*These classes could be switched to ONLINE format depending on COVID reqts!

- » Both Days—Non-Members: \$325 / Member: \$299
- » One Day—Non-Members: \$190 / Member: \$160

Thank you to JH Larson, our Plymouth Class Host:



### 2 Continuing Education Credits (Online)

Multi-State Approval (check our website for specific approval details)

- July 14 (6:30pm-8:30pm) 2020 NEC® Grounding & Bonding for Unlicensed
- Aug 11 (6:30pm-8:30pm) 2020 NEC® Motors and Transformers
- Aug 25 (6:30pm-8:30pm) 2020 NEC® Overcurrent Protection for Unlicensed
- Sep 10 (8:00am-10:30am) 2020 NEC® Motors, Controls, GFCI Requirements
- Sep 24 (8:00am-10:30am) 2020 NEC® Overcurrent Protection, Pt 1
- Oct 7 (6:30pm-8:30pm) 2020 NEC® Overcurrent Protection, Pt 2

- » Two hours—Non-Members Price: \$49 / Member: \$44

### Exam Prep Training: Classroom—2017 NEC®

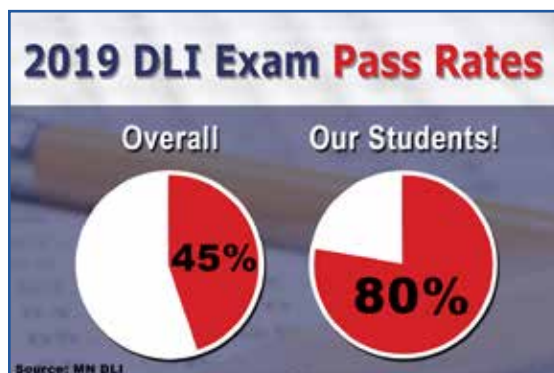
Thank you to our Class Host & Sponsor:

- Aug 1-2 (8am-5pm) Edina, Federated Insurance

- » Non-Members Price: \$570, Member: \$460



**SUCCESS!!** "After holding a Journeyman's license for 20 years, my employer asked me if I would consider getting my Masters License. I decided to go for it with a little help from an exam prep course through the association. After dedicating time to go through the workbook from cover to cover, I was able to pass my examination on my first try. The prep class was a valuable tool in my preparation for my exam."  
—Dave Malecha, Collins Aerospace 4/2019



Electrical Association

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- Early Birds save \$50 before 7/10
- Early Birds save \$25 before 7/31
- Membership discounts!



The International Association for Continuing Education & Training (IACET) developed the original Continuing Education Unit (CEU) and today ensures that providers of continuing education and training can prove they provide high-quality instruction by following the ANSI/IACET Standard for Continuing Education and Training through a rigorous accreditation process.

## CE Requirements

### This is your guide to staying in compliance.

These are the states where our courses are typically approved based on that state's standards. **DOUBLE CHECK** our class website for exact details for the course you are registering for.



#### Minnesota

- Master A, B..... 16 biennially (12 Code/4 Non-Code\*)
  - Journeyman A, B..... 16 biennially (12 Code/4 Non-Code\*)
  - Maintenance ..... 16 biennially (12 Code/4 Non-Code\*)
  - Installer A, B ..... 16 biennially (12 Code/4 Non-Code\*)
  - Power limited tech ..... 16 biennially (4 Code/12 Non-Code\*)
  - Satellite installer ..... 4 biennially (4 Code\*)
  - Unlicensed ..... 2 annually (2 Code\*)
- [www.dli.mn.gov](http://www.dli.mn.gov) \*can take all Code



#### Iowa

- Master A, B..... 18\* every 3-year Code Cycle
  - Residential Master ..... 18\* every 3-year Code Cycle
  - Residential Electrician..... 18\* every 3-year Code Cycle
  - Inactive Master..... 18\* every 3-year Code Cycle
  - Journeyman A, B..... 18\* every 3-year Code Cycle
- <https://iowaelectrical.gov/> \*6 on the most recent Code



#### Montana

- Residential Electrician ..... 16\* per 2-year cycle
  - Journeyman Electrician ..... 16\* per 2-year cycle
  - Master Electrician..... 16\* per 2-year cycle
- <http://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/ele> \*8 Code Update



#### Nebraska

- Electrical Contractor..... 12 each even-numbered yr
  - Journeyman Electrician..... 12 each even-numbered yr
  - Resid. Journeyman Wireman ..... 12 each even-numbered yr
  - Fire Alarm Installer ..... 12 each even-numbered yr
- [www.electrical.nebraska.gov](http://www.electrical.nebraska.gov) \*6 Code; or all Code



#### North Dakota

- Master Electrician..... 8\* annually
  - Journeyman Electrician..... 8\* annually
  - Class B Electrician ..... 8\* annually
- [www.ndseb.com](http://www.ndseb.com) \*4 must be Code



#### South Dakota

- Electrical Inspector ..... 16\* even-numbered years
  - Electrical Contractor ..... 16\* even-numbered years
  - Journeyman Electrician..... 16\* even-numbered years
  - Class B Electrician..... 16\* even-numbered years
  - Apprentice Electrician..... 16\* even-numbered years
- <http://dlr.sd.gov/> \*8 must be Code



#### Wisconsin

- Master Electrician ..... 24 every 4 years
  - Residential Master Electrician..... 18 every 4 years
  - Journeyman Electrician ..... 24 every 4 years
  - Industrial Journeyman Elect..... 18 every 4 years
  - Residential Journeyman Elect ..... 18 every 4 years
  - Registered Electrician..... 24 annually
- <https://dsps.wi.gov>



#### Wyoming

- Journeyman ..... 16 every 3 yrs
  - Master ..... 16 every 3 yrs
- <http://wsfm.wyo.gov> \*8 must be Code

Note: We are making a good-faith effort to publish the correct requirements for each state. For your protection, please check your state's website listed above.



Quiz on the Code

**Lightning—**  
The Summer Phenomenon!



- An electrician installed lightning rods on a building. What is the rule for connecting them to a grounding electrode?
  - The grounding electrode can be the same one used for the building service.
  - The grounding electrode cannot be the same one used for the building service.
  - The grounding electrode for the lightning rods can be bonded to the service gr electrode.
  - (b) and (c)
- NFPA has \_\_\_\_\_.
  - recently released a new standard for installation of lightning protection systems.
  - no specific direction for lightning protection systems.
  - a publication, NFPA 91A-2017 *Standard for Installation of Lightning Protection Systems*.
  - a publication, NFPA 780-2020 *Standard for Installation of Lightning Protection Systems*.
- Where practicable, a separation of at least \_\_\_\_\_ shall be maintained between lightning conductors and all communication wires.
  - 10 ft.
  - 6 ft.
  - 1 ft.
  - 12 in.
- The lightning protection system ground terminals must be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - bonded to the building or structure grounding electrode system.
  - listed and hard plated for the purpose
  - elevated to a height of 12' with exception
  - enclosed as per manufacturer's labeling
- Steam pipes, hot water pipes or lightning protection system conductors \_\_\_\_\_ employed as grounding electrodes for communication equipment protectors and grounded metallic members.
  - may be under certain conditions
  - shall not be
  - are required to be
  - with associated fittings may be
- When bonding the electrodes of different systems together as required, is the electrode from a lightning protection system required to be bonded to these electrodes also?
  - Yes
  - No
  - Depends on the position and use of the electrode
  - Need more information.

Answers: 1. (d) 250.160 & 250.60; 2. (d) nfp.org; 3. (b) 800.53; 4. (a) 250.106; 5. (b) 800.100(B)(3); 6. (a) 250.60

Toolbox Talks

**Viruses—**  
Proactive Measures for Addressing COVID 19



**Pre-screening Questionnaire**

Employers should ask the following questions to all employees, visitors and vendors prior to allowing access to the workplace and/or jobsite.

**NOTE:** If an employee, visitor or vendor answer YES to any of the questions below, ask them to leave the workplace or jobsite immediately and seek medical evaluation. In addition, you should strongly consider following the prevention tips below.

- Have you traveled to an area with known local or international spread of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
- Have you, or anyone in your family, come into close contact (within 6 ft) with someone who has a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the past 14 days either at home or on a jobsite?
- Have you had a fever (greater than 100.4°F or 38°C) OR symptoms of lower respiratory illness such as cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing in the past 14 days?
- Are you currently experiencing a fever (greater than 100.4°F or 38°C) OR symptoms of lower respiratory illness such as cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing?

**Prevention**

If you have not had a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 in your workplace or on your jobsite, you are encouraged to take the following steps:

- Implement a policy for early reporting of signs or symptoms of COVID-19. Doing so can assist with preventing the spread of the disease if the employee is a confirmed case. If an employee displays signs or symptoms of COVID-19, immediately remove them from the workplace or jobsite.
- Educate your employees on how to protect themselves as outlined by CDC. [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html)
- Educate your employees on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)
- Practice social distancing (maintaining a safe distance of at least 6 feet from others) as much as practical.
- Require sick employees to stay at home.

\*The complete topic can be found at [www.electricalassociation.com](http://www.electricalassociation.com) under Membership > Member Benefits

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[www.electricalassociation.com](http://www.electricalassociation.com) >  
**Resources**





## New 2017 NEC® Rules Effective Jan. 1, 2020

Source: Construction Codes and Licensing Division, MN DLI (Summer 2020 CCLD Review)

The adoption of the 2020 NEC® in Minnesota has been delayed. Until the 2020 NEC becomes adopted, the 2017 NEC remains the adopted electrical code in Minnesota.

However, there are three provisions in the 2017 NEC that became effective on Jan. 1, 2020.

The three-year deferral from 2017 to 2020 gave the electrical industry and manufacturers time to design, test, implement and manufacture the necessary equipment related to the new provisions.

### 1 2017 NEC 240.67— Arc Energy Reduction

Where fuses 1,200-amperes or higher are installed, the NEC contains special rules for documentation, methods to reduce clearing time, and performance testing. The requirement for arc energy reduction for fuses is similar to the requirement for circuit breakers in NEC 240.87.

### 2 2017 404.2(C)— Switches Controlling Lighting Loads

Grounded conductors must be extended to any switch location as needed for switching devices that require line-to-neutral voltage for the operation of electronic standby circuits in the switch. Some exceptions may be applicable.

### 3 2017 404.22—Electronic Lighting Control Switches

Electronic control switches must be listed and they must not induce current on the equipment grounding conductor during normal operation. Some exceptions may be applicable.



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<http://tiny.cc/17izqz>

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10-604 (2015-04)



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### High Performance 2.5" Aperture (HPX)

No matter how small or how large of a project, you can count on us to ship 99% of orders in 10-working days. Designed with contractors in mind, all of our products are optimized to ensure the easiest installation experience to save time and money. Explore the newest addition to our portfolio, the High Performance 2.5" Aperture (HPX) featuring a square micro profile, integral driver design, 10-day shipping, and a 10-yr performance based warranty. ([www.finelite.com](http://www.finelite.com))



### New Member—New Rebates!

Attention Contractors: Want extra money? Get your instant Xcel Energy rebates!

How does it work? As an electrical contractor working with Xcel Energy commercial, electric customers, you can take advantage of our instant rebates simply by purchasing qualifying screw-in or pin-based LED lamps from one of our 60+ participating distributors and pass the savings on to your customers. Contact [Beth.Neiss@clearesult.com](mailto:Beth.Neiss@clearesult.com) for information (ClearRESULT)



### Robroy Industries: NEW Plasti-Bond PVC-Coated SpeedCouple

Plasti-Bond is pleased to introduce our newest PVC coated product that simplifies and improves installation in the most demanding environmental conditions – the PVC coated SpeedCouple. The PVC coated SpeedCouple improves job site efficiency and productivity by allowing the connection of conduit and elbows without having to turn the conduit. (Rouzer • 952-737-6320)



### Harger – NEW Pole Bottom Grounding Plate

Harger's pole bottom grounding plates are installed on the bottom of wood utility poles and bonded to the pole ground wire. The integral copper terminal lug will accept #14 solid through #4 stranded ground wires. Pole bottom grounding plates provide an efficient, secure and low resistance ground connection. (Rouzer • 952-737-6320)



### Radians – NEW Retractable Tether Vest System

The combination of Radians new tether vests and retractable tethers give you everything you need to conveniently access and secure tools and accessories. This helps avoid tool drops, which can also be dangerous to others if you're on scaffolding or ladders. Available for a variety of items you need on the jobsite. Work Hard, Stay Safe (Rouzer • 952-737-6320)







Alex Hyatt  
National Sales Manager

## Member Benefits

### Online Apprenticeship Training—The Electrician's Training Course

For contractors juggling multiple projects and working deadline-to-deadline, there has never been a greater need to have an efficient and productive team of skilled workers. If you are fortunate to have apprentices working for you, there is little time left within the working day to effectively train them. We have a solution for you—The Electrician's Training Course.

Your apprentices will dedicate 6 hours a week outside of work to related technical training, with 3 hours of online instruction and 3 hours of homework and quizzes. Upon completion of the 4 years of training and 8,000 hours on-the-job experience, your apprentices will be ready to pass the journeyworker exam. Online Apprenticeship Training is preferred by Electrical Association members for the following reasons:

• **Flexibility** – Classes can be taken from anywhere in the country with a laptop computer and internet access, eliminating the need for travel and maximizing your training schedule. This is ideal for apprentices that travel, and any missed classes can easily be made up by viewing the recorded sessions on our apprentice website.

• **Interactive** – Our courses are live with an actual instructor, eliminating the passive nature of other online training providers and increasing class interaction and participation. Our instructors are available to help answer any questions outside of class via email or phone. We keep you informed of the apprentice's progress, and you have access to all grades and test results to track performance.

• **Maintain a Full Work Schedule** – Classes are held after working hours, so you avoid taking your apprentices off the job and increase their availability to work full time.

• **Productivity** – The technical knowledge gained from our program reduces the amount of time you spend training your apprentices and increases their productivity. By investing in your apprentices, you avoid costly rework and mistakes and increase their ability to plan ahead.

Investing in training for your employees means investing in the future of your business. Trained employees are more productive, make fewer mistakes and have increased job satisfaction. Members of the Electrical Association receive a significant discount on tuition and books.

Registrations need to be in by September 15 in order to avoid a late fee and to guarantee attendance of the first class on September 22.

Registrations need to be in by September 15 in order to avoid a late fee and to guarantee attendance of the first class on September 22.

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• Membership discounts!

The Electrician's Training Course starts in September!  
(612) 827-6117 or (800) 829-6117  
www.electricalassociation.com/apprentice

**While other educators are struggling to figure out how to convert their courses to online, we're doing business as usual! We've been successfully training apprentices online for over a decade!**

## Member Spotlight:

### Dale Jackson—Jackson Electric, Winthrop MN

We are pleased to introduce this month's member spotlight. Dale Jackson has been a member and a leader of the Electrical Association for over 3 decades. He served as the President of the Association from 2002-2003 and has recently accepted a position on the Board of Directors again. We are so grateful to have his expertise and leadership back on the board.

**What would you tell a younger electrical contractor about how your business succeeded?**  
*Honesty, Hard work and Hustle—and a lot of LUCK!*

**What is your greatest business success?**  
*Building a business with a team that can operate it without me being there. Having a team that you can put your trust in for operations is huge. We have a great group of people here in our company.*



**How did you become involved with the Electrical Association?**  
*The gentleman that I purchased my business from was a member and highly recommended that I join. I started in business in June of 1987 and joined in 1988. Tom Seanger was the president.*

**How has the Electrical Association played a role in your business success?**  
*Developing a great group of peers that you can discuss the electrical industry with. The educational offerings have been a huge benefit. Building friendships with other contractors has been the greatest reward for me.*

**What do you see as a challenge for the newer contractors just going into business?**  
*The availability of skilled electricians will be a challenge. The other thing is that new business owners need to build a BUSINESS. Not just create a JOB for themselves.*

**What drew you to the industry and made you want to become an electrician?**  
*In high school I found I had an aptitude for understanding electrical circuitry. I wasn't sure what I wanted to pursue after high school, but I didn't think a four-year college was in the picture for me. In my senior year of high school I decided to pursue the "Construction Electrician" program at what was the vocational school in Jackson, MN.*

**What part of the job do you find most rewarding?**  
*For the many years that I worked "with the tools," I found satisfaction in seeing things that I wired operate correctly. Today, I find satisfaction in watching our team make things work. I am blessed to have my family involved in the business.*

**What projects are you working on?**  
*Our predictive maintenance division, JTI Services, is growing. We are also developing a medium-voltage division.*

**What keeps you busy outside of work?**  
*My wife and I have two grandchildren with two more on the way. We have a cabin near Longville. We have travelled a lot here and abroad. The only continent we have left is Antarctica.*

**What experiences have made you a better person?**  
*First of all is maturing in my faith and developing a greater perspective of my place in this world. I constantly read and try to educate myself on many subjects. NEVER stop learning.*

**Has your business been impacted by Covid 19?**  
*Well, it was a real kick in the shorts, that's for sure. But opportunities are presenting themselves. Flexibility is the key. If I may offer this to the younger business people... You never know when something like this will happen. Be smart, save your money, get out from under debt.*







Tim Pass, Accountant,  
Smith Schafer CPAs

## Compliance

# 9 Tax-Planning Tips for the Construction Industry

Planning throughout the year is essential to reduce the tax owed on your construction company's 2020 return. In light of the ongoing impact from COVID-19 and recent legislation, taking a step back to plan is more important than ever since you could potentially

identify new strategies that will save you money. This article will discuss nine tax planning strategies, credits, and deductions for construction company owners to potentially take advantage of in 2020.

### Credits & Deductions

#### 1. Qualified Business Income (QBI) Deduction

Introduced as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Qualified Business Income from pass-through entities (sole proprietorships, partnership, or S-corporations) are generally eligible for a 20% deduction. The deduction is limited for specified services or trade business. *Tax Planning Tip:* Determine if there are enough wages paid out, so the QBI deduction is maximized. Or, determine if additional money should be invested in equipment or machinery...

#### 2. Empowerment Zone Employment Credit

This credit provides an incentive to hire individuals who live and work in a federally designated empowerment zone. This is a wage credit of up to \$3,000 for each employee....

#### 3. Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)

The WOTC is a federal tax credit available to employers for hiring individuals receiving government assistance and reintroducing them into the workforce. The Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 (the PATH Act) retroactively allows eligible employers to claim the WOTC for all targeted group employee categories that were in effect before the enactment of the

PATH Act, if the individual began or begins work for the employer after 12/31/14 and before 1/1/21. Depending on the target group an individual belongs to, the credit per new hire can range from \$2,400 to \$9,600. Target groups include: Qualified IV-A Recipient, Qualified Veteran, Ex-Felon, Summer Youth Employee, and more....

#### 4. Section 179D Energy-Efficient Commercial Property Deduction

This deduction allows construction company owners to claim an amount based on the square footage of a new building construction remodel. The incentive provides a \$1.80 per square foot deduction of energy-efficient space....

#### 5. Energy-Efficient Homes Credit

The Energy-Efficient Homes Credit has been retroactively extended for 2018, 2019, and 2020. This credit is a tax incentive allowing builders to claim a credit of \$2,000 per qualified dwelling unit. A qualified dwelling needs to be modeled by an independent individual and....

#### 6. Payroll Tax Credits & Deferral

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides a refundable payroll tax credit for 50% of wages paid to employees during the COVID-19 crisis. The credit applies to wages paid after 3/12/20 and before 1/1/21. The maximum amount of wages eligible for the credit is \$10,000, with the...

### Other Tax Planning Strategies to Consider

#### 7. Succession Planning

The succession planning process is often overlooked until it is too late. When negotiating the terms of a transaction, it is crucial to keep taxes in mind....

#### 8. Cost Segregation Study

A cost segregation study identifies costs related to real property that can be reallocated to a short-life depreciation schedule. These studies are among the most valu-

able tax-saving strategies for commercial real estate owners, leaseholders, and others....

#### 9. Revenue Recognition

The main goal of Accounting Standard Codification (ASC) 606 is to create a similar revenue recognition policy and calculation across all industries. The construction industry, which has historically had its own guidance and industry practices, is no exception. ASC 606 replaces virtually all accounting standards related to revenue recognition....

#### How can we help?

With several credits extended to the end of 2020, the construction industry has the opportunity to take advantage of tax incentives and reduce their next tax bill. Contact us today to work with a qualified advisor to help you leverage opportunities and make the best decisions for your construction company. Our Construction Group, comprised of numerous professionals, is committed to serving over 800 Minnesota construction and real estate entities. Smith Schafer has the experience and understanding of the construction industry to make a lasting positive difference in your future success.



Follow us on Facebook!  
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\*Article has been significantly shortened for space. Read the entire article and find more information at [www.smithschafer.com/blog/](http://www.smithschafer.com/blog/)

**QUESTIONS?** Smith Schafer is a recognized leader in providing accounting, auditing and consulting services to the construction industry. From large construction companies to specialty contractors, we have the experience to bring you innovative solutions. Call us to schedule a free 30-minute consultation. Mpls 952-952-1455; Rochester 507-288-3277

You Need to Know - Cont from page 4

## ECONOMY

**US Consumer Price Index...** The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers declined 0.1% in May on a seasonally adjusted basis after falling 0.8% in April. Over the last 12 months, the all items index increased 0.1% before seasonal adjustment. ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov))

**US Interest Rates...** 3.41% APR 30-yr fixed; 2.86% APR 15-yr fixed ([bankrate.com](http://bankrate.com))

**US Banking...** 0.94% APY 1-yr CD; 1.07% APY 3-yr CD ([bankrate.com](http://bankrate.com))

## ENERGY

**Minnesota Power energizes hydropower line...** From BUSINESS NORTH: "This is such an incredible achievement for Minnesota Power," which is a division of Duluth-based ALLETE, said ALLETE President and CEO Bethany Owen. "The GNTL will help Minnesota Power to provide our customers with 50% renewable energy less than a year from now. As part of our EnergyForward strategy, it also strengthens the grid across the Midwest and in Canada, enhancing reliability for all of our customers." (MN Chamber of Commerce. June 2020)

**Report highlights future uncertainty for MN power plant communities...** To better understand the perspectives and realities of communities and workers facing eventual power plant retirements, CEE led a study to assess the social and economic impacts of five power plants across six communities that host them. Watch the recording and read more at [www.mncee.org](http://www.mncee.org) (MN CEE)

**Xcel Energy to tackle \$3B worth of projects earlier than planned; Minnesota Power will spend \$40M on new solar arrays...** Xcel Energy would accelerate nearly \$3 billion in spending, particularly on large renewable-energy projects, in response to calls from state utility regulators to jolt Minnesota's economy from its coronavirus-induced lethargy. The new Minnesota Power solar plants, which together could produce up to 20 megawatts of electricity, are planned at the Laskin Energy Center in Hoyt Lakes, the Sylvan Hydro Station near Brainerd and at an unidentified site in Duluth. (Star Tribune. June 2020)

## LABOR & MANAGEMENT

**US Unemployment Rate...** U.S. unemployment decreased to 13.3% on a seasonally adjusted basis in May. The U.S. gained 2.5 million payroll jobs in May, up 1.9% with the private sector gaining 3.1 million, up 2.8% on a seasonally adjusted basis. (US BLS)

**MN Unemployment Rate...** Minnesota's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 9.9% in May. Minnesota added 9,800 payroll jobs in May on a seasonally adjusted basis, up 0.4%, with the private sector adding 27,500 jobs, up 1.3%, during the month. Government lost 17,700 jobs from April to May. (BLS)

## SAFETY

**Training Electricians on Heat-Related Illnesses...** Electrical Construction and Maintenance. Summertime's soaring temperatures and scorching sun can lead to possible dehydration, lost productivity, and hospitalization for an electrical contractor's field workforce. Heat-related illnesses, however, are preventable if the necessary steps are taken to safeguard workers, according to OSHA. (ECMweb.com)

**OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation FREE...** Remember DLI offers a free consultation service called MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation to help employers find out about potential hazards at their worksites, improve safety management systems and apply for grants to abate safety hazards. The program targets small, high-hazard businesses. It is separate from the OSHA Compliance inspection activities and no citations are issued as part of a consultation visit. Learn more and request a consultation • On the web: <http://workplace.doli.state.mn.us/consultation/> • Email: [osha.consultation@state.mn.us](mailto:osha.consultation@state.mn.us) • Call: 651-284-5060

## RECALL NOTICES

**Lochinvar Recalls Condensing Residential Boilers Due to Risk of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning...** Name of product: Lochinvar condensing residential boilers; Hazard: The boiler's flue grommet can deteriorate and dislodge during use and allow the boiler to emit carbon monoxide, posing a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. Remedy: Repair; Recall date: June 18, 2020; Units: About 34,300 ([www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov))



**Ushio America Recalls Indiglow LED T8 Lamps Due to Injury Hazard...** Name of product: Indiglow LED T8 Lamps; Hazard: The recalled lamps can overheat causing the glass tube to fall and strike those standing nearby, posing an injury hazard; Remedy: Refund/Replace; Recall date: June 10, 2020; Units: About 3,000 ([www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov))



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Hansen Power & Lighting Inc** ..... Princeton  
**Advantage Electric Inc** ..... Minneapolis  
**Tommy's Electric** ..... Minnetonka

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Ellie Matsui...** Congratulations to Ellie on her high school graduation! Ellie is the daughter of Kathy Matsui, Plum Tree Solutions, a long-time and trusted member of the Electrical Association. Ellie will be attending the University of St Thomas in the fall.



**Denny Demontigny Joins DSG...** Denny Demontigny joins Dakota Supply Group as Branch Manager of its business in Plymouth. Demontigny will be responsible for the growth and development of DSG's Plymouth business and ensuring a world class customer experience is provided throughout its served markets.



## THANK YOU!

**Federated Insurance...** Thank you for being a 2020 All-Education & Events Sponsor and for hosting our Exam Prep classes in Edina!

**Viking Electric...** Thank you for being a 2020 All-Education & Events Sponsor!

**Werner Electric...** Thank you for trying to host our Code class in LaCrosse. Due to COVID-19 issues, the class was switched to an online format, but thank you for trying!

## MOVES & NEW LOCATIONS

**Brook Electrical Supply & Viking Electric...** Viking Electric announced that Brook Electrical Supply (Brook) is now operating as Viking Electric. Earlier in the year, it was announced that two Sonapar USA operating companies, Viking Electric and Brook, would be joining forces as one organization.

## INDUSTRY EVENTS

**NCEL Expo...** has been rescheduled! Save the date of Dec 9-10 to join us at the Minneapolis Convention Center. [www.ncel.org](http://www.ncel.org)

**2020 Annual Partner & Profit Event...** Save the date for the Electrical Association's winter event! We will meet Dec 9-10. Details to follow.

**MN Board of Electricity...** Visit [www.dli.mn.gov/about-department-boards-and-councils](http://www.dli.mn.gov/about-department-boards-and-councils) to view meeting minutes, agendas, rulemaking documents and schedules for these meetings:

- July 14, 2020
- October 13, 2020

# the Classifieds

## Carlson...

- 48 – Carlson UA7AN (4" 45° no bell)
  - 72 – Carlson UA9DL (3" 90°)
  - 1200 – Carlson UA9DG (1¼" 90°)
  - 32 – Carlson UA7FNB (4" 45° one bell)
- Make an offer. Pick up at office in Rushford. Call Glen Kopperud, Norman's Electrical Service. (507) 864-2891

## Dunwoody Seeking an Instructor...

Dunwoody is looking for someone who can teach basic electricity or motors & PLCs. Position to start in July! <http://tiny.cc/4gh9pz>

## Seeking a Contractor Electrical Inspector...

Must be good with the NEC and with people. Will cover the East Metro (Maplewood north to Hugo). Request an application at [petetokle@gmail.com](mailto:petetokle@gmail.com).

## Brady BBP31 Label Printing System & Supplies

- 1 refurbished BBP31 label printer
  - 2 unopened boxes of labels
  - 1 unopened ribbon cartridge
  - 6 various sizes labels; some unused
  - **PRICE DROP \$1000 OBO**
- For details, call Jackson Electric (507) 647-5742.



## Boom Truck

- 2000 Freightliner FL70, TEREX TELELECT
- Bucket Boom Service Truck Diesel Auto
- HIGHT RANGER HRM SERIES, 55' high
- \$11,980

For details, call Javad at (612) 221-9612.



## Case 460 w/Trencher, Backhoe, Backfill Blade

- 746 hours • Asking \$15,500
- Contact [bwobschall@retrofitcompanies.com](mailto:bwobschall@retrofitcompanies.com) or (507) 414-5155.



## Bobcat Backhoe Attachment...

- Asking \$3500.
- Call Gerry Maine at (320) 290-2329.



## Water Discharge Pumps...

- 5.5 HP
  - 2" intake/discharge ports
  - Asking \$200 each
- Call Gerry Maine at (320) 290-2329.



## Wood Poles...

- 40-45' wood poles
  - Asking \$200 each
- Call Gerry Maine at (320) 290-2329.



## Bucket Truck for Sale...

- 2001 Chevy C7500 Bucket Truck. 179,000 miles Excellent condition. Always maintained. Clear title.
- Air conditioning, cruise control
  - Caterpillar 3126 6cyl Turbo Diesel engine 210 h.p. w/Allison automatic transmission
  - Full air brakes, trailer air supply
  - Electric brake controller
  - Altec AO442-MH Aerial device 47'w.h. -11'4" travel height
  - 1,500 lb material handling jib
  - Boom & truck are same age
  - Fully insulated boom w/insulated bucket liner & bucket cover
  - Nice service body w/curbside entrance
  - Hydraulic tool outlets to run a pole or chain saw
  - Pistol grip upper controls for smooth operation
  - Upper & lower controls
  - 4 Hydraulic outriggers for stability
  - Rear end differential lock; Receiver hitch
  - 22.5" tires in good condition
- \$13,495 obo. Call (507) 285-9658

## Seeking to Acquire...

Are you a business owner seeking an exit strategy that is best for you, your team and clients? We are a local electrical contractor seeking to acquire commercial/light industrial electrical contracting businesses. Email inquires to [Rennell: rbrunclik@electricalassociation.com](mailto:rbunclik@electricalassociation.com)

Postings are a free benefit of membership! Members should email your listing to [Rennell at \(rbunclik@electricalassociation.com\)](mailto:rbunclik@electricalassociation.com).

Find the posts online at [www.electricalassociation.com/classifieds](http://www.electricalassociation.com/classifieds).





Dave Ferkul, CIH, CSP  
Supervisor, Workplace  
Safety Consultation

## Safety Compliance

### Worker's Comp Claims in the Electrical Contractor Industry

Part 1— A review of worker's compensation claims during years 2015 through 2018, and part of 2019



Most of the claims were due to **FALLS** and **OVER EXERTIONS**. The resultant injuries were often strains and sprains.

**FRACTURES** were the next most common injury type. Upper extremity injuries were the most frequent body part affected, followed by lower extremity, and back.

Based on the average proportion of medical benefits, the estimated average total amount of medical and indemnity benefits for claims closed during this time period was \$61,100.

#### Number of Indemnity Claims Per Year of Injury

Injury Year	Frequency
2015	139
2016	122
2017	137
2018	116
2019 (Jan-June)	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>557</b>

#### Indemnity Benefits Paid by Year of Claim Closure

Closure Year	Mean Indemnity Paid	# of Claims Closed in Year
2015	\$24,600	140
2016	\$22,300	137
2017	\$30,400	157
2018	\$25,700	133
2019 (Jan-Sept)	\$38,500	121
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$28,100</b>	<b>688</b>

The benefits paid DO NOT include medical benefit amounts. Medical benefits account for 54% of total benefits, on average.

*We'll continue this topic in the next issue and will provide added details on claim characteristics.*

Dave has held multiple positions in various consultant and supervisory roles, within Workplace Safety Consultation (WSC). He is a certified industrial hygienist and safety professional, who has had opportunities to work with a wide range of public and private sector employers, in general industry and construction, providing technical assistance in industrial hygiene, safety, and ergonomics, while gaining insights and guiding employers on more effective management of workplace safety & health. He provides overall program support for WSC, overseeing the Safety Grants and Alliance programs, and current focus on temporary worker safety.



Mike Miller  
Director of Education

## Word on the Street

### License Exams / Adoption of the 2020 NEC®

#### Licensing Exam

Many Minnesota electrical contractors are curious about when their employees who are qualified to test for various licenses will be able to do so.

Their goal is to resume testing as soon as possible within the safety plans of COVID-19 issued by the governor.

#### Adoption of the 2020 NEC®

As is the right of every individual to express an opinion, the time for adoption of the 2020 National Electrical Code (NEC) has been delayed and it will not be effective in Minnesota on July 1, 2020, as anticipated.

I think the first thing to consider is the safety and well-being of all Minnesotans when it comes to answering that question. Even as frustrating as it would be to have to wait to test and advance to a better plateau of earning, the Department of Labor clearly is following the lead of Governor Walz to ensure that no one is exposed to a potentially deadly situation.

According to the Dept of Labor and Industry's web site as of the second week of June, they anticipate being able to **resume license testing exams by the end of June or the beginning of July**. Hopefully by the time you read this publication we are reporting on history.

The Board of Electricity received 25 valid requests for hearing regarding the adoption of the 2020 NEC. That hearing has been rescheduled to Aug. 19, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After that date, it is unknown at this time what the outcome of that hearing will be. The state will continue testing on rules of the 2017 NEC until such a time that the 2020 NEC is adopted.

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Email your tips to  
[rbrunclik@electricalassociation.com](mailto:rbrunclik@electricalassociation.com)  
We'll print them in the next issue.



2020 Rebates!

Minnesota rebate programs have been busy rolling out major updates in 2020 including bonus rebates, extended deadlines, and additional qualifying products.

Rebates can be time consuming! Work with the companies below—they are members of the Electrical Association and they can make it easy for you to maximize the benefits of a rebate program.

Limited Time Rebate Increase for Your Lighting Projects

The One-Stop Efficiency Shop® (One-Stop) helps small businesses save on energy costs and earn significant rebates from Xcel Energy by upgrading lighting equipment.

One-Stop is currently offering bonus rebates for linear LED tubes and LED fixtures that are the highest they have been in years.

To qualify for rebate bonuses, equipment must be purchased by August 31 and installed, with invoices submitted to Center for Energy & Environment, by Nov 30.

One-Stop makes it easy for contractors to participate by offering:

- A free assessment with cost savings and payback details to help you sell jobs
- Significant rebates to help offset customers' project costs
- Convenient financing options
- Completion of all program and rebate paperwork

For more information about One-Stop visit: [mncee.org/onestop](http://mncee.org/onestop)

Contact: Cindy Kelly at 612.244.2427 or [ckelly@mncee.org](mailto:ckelly@mncee.org)

Rebates are also available for customers looking to improve the efficiency of their RTUs.

Eligible participants must have an active commercial account within Xcel Energy's Minnesota service territory and a peak electric demand of 400kW or less. Center for Energy and Environment, a local nonprofit and MEA member, implements the One-Stop Efficiency Shop on behalf of Xcel Energy.



Attention Contractors: Want Extra Money?

Get your instant Xcel Energy rebates!

How does it work? As an electrical contractor working with Xcel Energy commercial, electric customers, you can take advantage of our instant rebates simply by purchasing qualifying screw-in or pin-based LED lamps from one of our 60+ participating distributors and pass the savings on to your customers. For more information, contact [Beth.Neiss@clearex.com](mailto:Beth.Neiss@clearex.com).



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MISSION STATEMENT

The Association provides leadership in partnering between contractors, government employees and consumers to promote quality construction built safely, on time, on budget and at a fair price and profit.

We provide a strong commitment to quality in education, communication, government relations and ethics.

Important Notice: The information in this newsletter is intended to alert you to changes in laws, regulations, or trends that can affect your business. The information in this newsletter is NOT tax, accounting, or legal advice. Since each company has different needs, it is important that you get the appropriate professional advice if you think your company will be affected. Please be sure to call us if you have any questions.

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## \$7 Million Available in Lighting Rebates for 2020

Get substantial rebates for your customers through the Center for Energy and Environment's One-Stop Efficiency Shop® lighting program. Sponsored by Xcel Energy, the program offers business owners:

- Rebates up to 60% of installed cost.
- Below market-rate financing.
- Completion and submittal of all rebate & financing paperwork.

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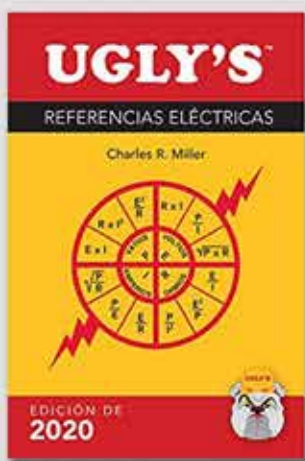
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## 2020 UGLY's—Now Available in SPANISH

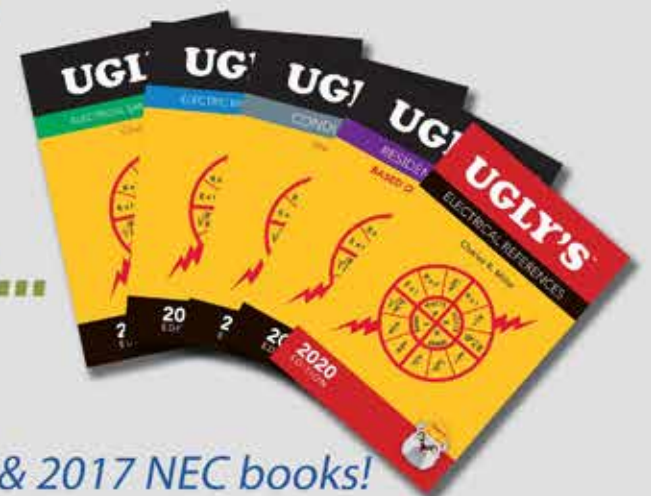


The Ugly's haven't been printed in SPANISH since 2008!

**Las Referencias Eléctricas Ugly's, edición de 2020 son la herramienta esencial de referencia en el lugar de trabajo para profesionales de la industria eléctrica.**

\$16 Nonmembers • \$15 Members

**We stock these Ugly's too...**



Visit our online store to order all of your 2020 NEC & 2017 NEC books!

[www.electricalassociation.com](http://www.electricalassociation.com)