

MICHIGAN CHAPTER SMACNA VENTS

Michigan Chapter SMACNA Teams With Local Union #7 for the Fire Life Safety Initiative

DATES TO REMEMBER

2015 Golf Outing

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Buck's Run Golf Resort

National Convention

September 27 - 30, 2015

The Broadmoor Hotel

Colorado Springs, CO

EARLY REGISTRATION

BEGINS APRIL 1st

Business Management

University

May 18-20, 2015

Financial Boot Camp

May 17-20, 2015

Tempe, AZ

Michigan Chapter SMACNA and SMART Local Union # 7 are entering into a new and exciting project called the Fire Life Safety Initiative. This program was developed by Mike Coleman at SMART Local #33 in Cleveland, Ohio more than 3 years ago and since then have achieved much success.

The initiative is designed to create awareness to inspect smoke and fire dampers in city and county owned buildings across the state of Michigan. Bobby Ina, Managing Director of Metropolis Consulting LLC, who helped create this program with Mike was hired by Local #7 to take what has been successful in Ohio and duplicate it in Michigan.

Michigan Chapter is excited to be a part of this important initiative because our colleagues in the Cleveland area have told us that it has created thousands of man-hours for inspection work of smoke and fire dampers, man-hours that would not have existed if it wasn't for this program

The program is in its infancy stages and we are looking forward to getting this up and running during the summer. Business Manager Jake Denman and all of the Business Agents are excited about this new opportunity and are invested in making this program a success in Michigan.

We are proud to be a part of this safety initiative and proud to be partner with Local #7. Please stay tuned for more updates as we will be sending out further communications about becoming ICB (International Certification Board) and ANSI (American National Standards Institute) certified for this program.

Learn more about Bobby Ina at www.metropolisconsulting.com

2015 SMACNA NATIONAL CONVENTION

SMACNA's Annual Convention offers you the newest business ideas, exciting keynote speakers, and dynamic industry experts—capped with the legendary rock band REO Speedwagon—at the five-star Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs.

Early Bird registration began April 1st and ends July 15. Contact Jan at the Chapter Office for registration details.

SMACNA WEBINAR “Kick-Off Meetings with Impact”

Kick-off Meetings with Impact is designed to help SMACNA Contractors and their production teams take charge of new projects and determine the most profitable way to proceed.

Some of the topics covered include:

- The importance of preplanning and being prepared
- 47 items you and your production team need before the job commences
- Who should be in the kick-off meeting and why
- How to ensure that everyone in the meeting is prepared
- Using your kick-off meetings to hold the field, and estimating team, accountable and to get production rate buy-in.

Who Should Attend?

SMACNA Managers, project managers, office managers, safety managers and directors, supervisors, jobsite foremen and SMACNA Contractors.

For more information on reviewing this past SMACNA Webinar or any other of SMACNA's educational programs, contact Jan, at greensmacna@comcast.net

2015 Michigan Chapter SMACNA Golf Outing

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

FMI Emerging Managers Institute May 12-14, 2015 | Raleigh, NC

What are you doing to prepare your emerging managers to become your successors to manage and lead your company and the future? Just been a technically skilled builder is not good enough in today's additive construction market. Industry research shows that the construction industry has done a good job of developing the knowledge base and technical skills of employees, but a poor job of developing management skills. Although people need to have a solid foundation of technical knowledge, the most successful leaders of the future will have also developed strong management, leadership and business skills in order to grow their company's profitability.

Some of the many benefits to attending the EMI include:

- Identify your own communications style and learn practical skills for dealing with different types of individuals.
- Learn the difference between leadership and management and gain insight into what it takes to be an effective leader every day.
- Understand how to create a culture of accountability, gain respect and develop people to achieve superior performance.
- Build productive long-term client relationships with a strong commitment to customer satisfaction that will help turn your clients into "raving fans."
- Learn new behaviors to improve your time mastery skills and improve your personal productivity.
- Develop your individual action plan that can be tracked and monitored over time to ensure lasting benefits from attending this program.

How Your Company Will Benefit

Industry demographic trends show an inevitable shortage of competent managers to take over the next generation of construction company manager positions. The FMI Emerging Managers Institute has been one of our most successful, interactive programs for more than 25 years. This workshop is designed to provide practical business management skills to build effective leaders for the future.

Meet Other Emerging Managers

Participants will have many opportunities to exchange ideas and interact with their peers, who are experiencing the same challenges as they take on new responsibilities. The course design encourages collaboration and includes a networking reception for participants at the end of the first day.

CONTACT DICK OR JAN AT THE CHAPTER OFFICE FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION.

SMACNA TECHNICAL RESOURCES

SMACNA HVAC DUCT CONSTRUCTION APP

The app will provide SMACNA compliant options for rectangular duct with dimensions from 1 inch to 120 inches for applications from negative to positive ten inch water gage.

The scenarios for the app are limited to joint lengths of 4, 5, and 6 feet. The transverse connections are limited to T1 (flat drive), T5 (flat slip), T10, 11, and 12 (standing slips) and T25 a or b (TDC/TDF). Where appropriate the app will also provide options for intermediate reinforcement. The full range of reinforcement spacing options is 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 1/2, and 2 feet.

In most cases the app will provide options for internal reinforcements and external reinforcements. Internal options are limited to EMT conduit tie rods and external reinforcements are limited to angles. Enough information is provided so users can choose other options from SMACNA's Standard.

The output of the app is a written description of the duct as well as a graphic representation. Users can view the report on-screen or email it.

The app does not provide every possible solution found in SMACNA's standard and it will not provide every detail. For example, the app does not provide requirements for the proper attachment of the reinforcements. The app is intended to be used in conjunction with SMACNA's HVAC Duct Construction Standard.

Workplace Safety

Falls are the number one cause of injury and death in construction

The regulations state that anyone working at heights over 6 feet must be protected from falls.

According to OSHA falls can be prevented and lives saved through three simple steps:

plan, provide, and train

Plan ahead to get the job done safely. Projects that include working from ladders, scaffolds, roofs and above floor openings or shafts should have plans in place to protect from falls. Just as you plan your materials, job tasks, schedules, and tools needs, fall protection needs to be part of your planning process. Plan to have all the necessary equipment for fall protection, suitable to the hazards that will be encountered. If someone falls while in a harness, do you have a rescue plan?

Provide the right equipment. As part of your planning, is there a budget for the safety equipment that you determined you needed? Does that provide for the right ladders, scaffolds/lifts, and PPE? If the rails are the right file perfection, are they provided by the site? What are your responsibilities to your workers around rails? If workers need personal fall arrest systems (PFAS) are they inspected before they are sent to the job? After they are on site are they inspected regularly, like before each use?

Teach everyone to use fall protection properly. Workers need to know the safe set up and safe use of the specific fall protection equipment they will be using. Inform your employees of the procedure to report PE that is not up to a standard or is damaged. Most importantly, instruct employees to recognize the hazards before they start work and inspect fall Protection equipment before it is used

More information on fall protection safety, call Michigan Chapter SMACNA at 517-339-1123.

**SAFETY DOESN'T HAPPEN BY
ACCIDENT**

PROTECT YOURSELF IF GC GOES BROKE

There was a time when subcontractors didn't have to worry about the possibility of their General Contractor, or Mechanical Contractor, or end-user Customer going broke during a project. Everyone now enters into contracts aware of the "great recession." Problems need to be addressed before and not after someone goes broke.

A subcontractor is typically hired by a general contractor and thus has no claims against an owner for non-payment. In order to protect itself, a subcontractor has several options to consider: 1.) Pre-contract due diligence; 2.) Obtaining personal guaranties; 3.) Contracting directly with the owner; 4.) Filing a mechanic's lien; 5.) Statutory trusts; 6.) Joint checks; or 7.) Bonds.

Before proceeding with a project, a subcontractor should make inquiries concerning the reputation and solvency of the general contractor. Checking references, searching for court judgments, researching for complaints on the internet and completing a credit search are good ways to do this.

Personal guaranties can be a useful way to ensure a subcontractor is paid and can present significant leverage on a general contractor. This is especially true if the general contractor has merely ceased doing business but its owners remain solvent. However, as a practical matter, general contractors rarely give personal guaranties, and if the entire business is going under, the owners are often insolvent and the guaranties themselves are worthless.

A subcontractor can avoid the problem of a general contractor's insolvency by contracting directly with the owner. Standard form contracts often have provisions which permit owners to step into a general contractor's shoes in the event of a general contractor's insolvency. It is unusual for a subcontractor to have a signed agreement with both the owner and the general contractor.

Often, the most practical and useful protection for a subcontractor is to fully enforce its mechanic's lien rights. Even in the face of a general contractor's bankruptcy, a mechanic's lien right will normally protect a sub-contractor's right to payment. While perfecting a mechanic's lien right varies greatly from state to state, the bankruptcy's "automatic stay" will not act as an impediment to a subcontractor enforcing its lien rights.

Subcontractors can also protect themselves through the use of checks made jointly payable to the general contractor and subcontractor. In these situations, the subcontractor is protected from the general contractor improperly using subcontractor funds for the general contractor's own benefit. Projects involving or requiring bonding can also provide substantial protection for sub-contractors against insolvent general contractors.

One of the best protections a subcontractor can have, after signing the contract, is making sure that it is cognizant of tardy payments by the general contractor.

Thank you SMACNA for the content in this article.

Recruiting the Future Workforce - You Can Make A Difference

The Michigan Construction Career Day (MiCCD) is an excellent opportunity for your company to meet with middle and high school students to engage them in hands-on activities. Here's your chance to discuss how students can make a difference by the career they choose. Construction makes the world a better place to live in, and there are many career paths available in our industry.

Contractor exhibitors are needed for this year's annual event that will take place at the Operating Engineers Training Center in Howell on May 7-8, 2015. To date, nearly 900 students are signed up to participate with numbers expected to reach 1500. Again this year, a half-day session is available for veterans to explore construction careers through a partnership with Helmets to Hardhats. More than 50 pieces of machinery and equipment will be available for students to operate under the supervision of professional craftworkers.

Visit the MiCCD website for exhibitor and program information.

BIM Process, Adoption, and Integration Full Day Course - June 5, 2015

Lansing, Michigan - Presented by AGC of Michigan

About the BIM Education Program:

Building Information Modeling (BIM) is changing the way projects are constructed. Whether you are a prime contractor using BIM across an entire project or a subcontractor impacted by a specific BIM implementation, this emerging practice requires new mindsets and technological know-how in order to achieve significant improvements in efficiency and cost control.

About BIM Process, Adoption and Integration:

BIM Process, Adoption, and Integration is a full-day course that provides a foundation for participants to establish and execute the BIM process, facilitate its adoption, and achieve integration on a single project and at a company level to execute multiple BIM projects simultaneously. These tools will help establish participants as BIM champions within their organizations.

Following this course, participants will be able to:

- Define process, adoption, and integration as related to BIM implementation
- Describe why BIM is a disruptive practice today

- Evaluate and select process options for a specific BIM project
- Describe the roles and responsibilities of participants in the BIM process
- Identify consistent factors influencing BIM Return on Investment (ROI) at the project & the company levels
- Communicate the BIM process to management, colleagues, and project stakeholders
- Outline a process for BIM adoption and implementation at the project and the company levels
- Identify reactive and proactive BIM outcomes

The course provides eight hours of instruction in a 40 hour program developed to help you obtain a AGC's Certificate of Management - Building Information Modeling (CM-BIM). Program is the construction industries first and only certificate program that teaches the practical application of building information modeling process for commercial construction firms. The course is a great introduction to BIM for all individuals, those seeking certification, and those seeking general information.

If you are interested in attending or sending your construction manager or design professional, contact Dick or Jan at the Chapter Office for details

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
ONLINE PDF or
or *Hard Copy mailed?*
In an effort to satisfy some of our Association
Members we will now be offering a
ONLINE PDF VERSION
of our Chapter Newsletter.
If this is something you would prefer, simply
send an email to smacna@comcast.net
requesting same.

