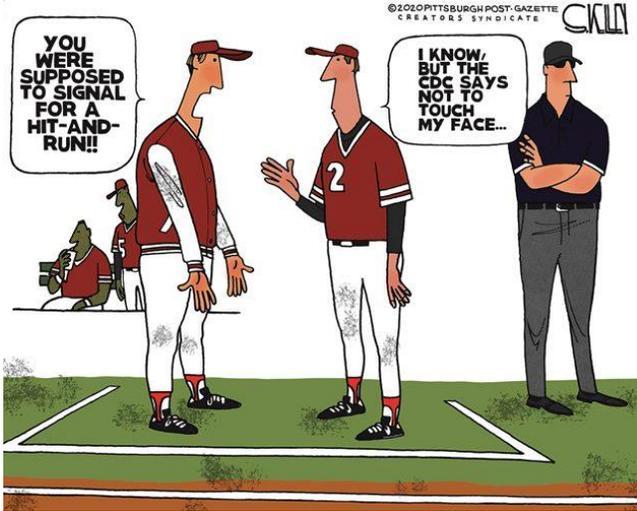




MONDAY MORNING NEWS

Puget Sound Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



**MARCH 9, 2020
MEETINGS**

**3/13/2020 – NECA SAFETY CMTE MTG
5/21/2020 – NECA MEMBERSHIP MTG**

STATEMENT ON CORONAVIRUS FROM NECA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DAVID LONG

NECA is staying abreast of the news concerning coronavirus internationally and the impact it will have here in the U.S. For those of us in the electrical contracting industry, there are additional issues that we need to consider and to be prepared for. NECA is committed to sharing vital information and updates with our association community through a variety of channels. Here is how you and your team can access these resources. I also encourage you to sign up for our weekly newsletter NECA This Week and visit our new Coronavirus Resource Center. While we are working to keep the information in these areas as up to date as possible, please check the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and World Health Organization websites for more detailed information. NECA has no plans to cancel or postpone any conference or meetings that will be held domestically. We have postponed the ELECTRI Innovation Summit in Paris to a later date. We all hope healthcare professionals will find a way to end this epidemic, so we can embrace a much more positive outlook for the longer term. In the meantime, we encourage all attendees at our meetings and our staff to continue to practice good health habits. If you have any questions or would like to share what your own company or chapter is doing to manage the situation, please contact me at David.Long@necanet.org.

David Long
NECA CEO

DRAKE ELECTRIC – NEW PUGET SOUND CHAPTER, NECA CONTRACTOR

The Chapter welcomes a new Contractor Member, Drake Electric, to the Puget Sound Chapter! Shawn Drake is the owner and NECA Accredited Representative. Shawn has worked in the Electrical Industry since 1998 and formed Drake Electric in 2018. Shawn was also an L.U. 46 wireman and is a graduate of the NECA/IBEW Foreman Training Class and the NECA/U of W Superintendent Course. Drake Electric is located in Fall City. Phone Number: 206-454-9487. Welcome to the NECA family Shawn!!

NEW LAWS MAY IMPACT YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN

A new law passed on January 1st impacts nearly everyone with a retirement account. The new SECURE Act not only changes the age at which you must start taking your required minimum distributions (now 72), but the manner in which the plans will distribute at death have changed rather dramatically. In the past, most beneficiaries could take distributions based upon the beneficiary's life expectancy. In most cases, the SECURE Act eliminates this provision, and requires that the account be distributed in full within 10 years after a plan participant's death. For the most part, only spouse inheritance is allowed to be distributed over the life expectancy of the surviving spouse. When the surviving spouse dies and leaves the retirement amount to the kids, they will likely have to take distribution within 10 years. This will likely result in a much higher tax burden to the children, as they will be taking the distributions during their highest-earning years. There are a few exceptions to the new rules, but most retirees will fall under the new rules. Be prepared!!

K&L Gates

UPCOMING NECA SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – MARCH 13TH

The next NECA Safety Meeting is set for Friday, March 13th and will feature Karen Forner (Managing Partner) with Employer Solutions Law as a guest speaker. The topic will focus on the Department of Labor and Industries' revised Preferred Worker Program. Karen's remarks will highlight the potential cost benefits of the program, strategies for implementation, and "best practices." Lunch will be provided. As a side note, the NECA Safety Committee Meetings are open to all employees from our Chapter Members. This topic, especially, could be informative for hiring managers, operations, and human resources staff. Please RSVP to PSC NECA Director of Safety, Justin Thayer at justin@necaseattle.org.

BUILT ROBOTICS RELEASES FIRST FULLY AUTONOMOUS CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY IN U.S.

Construction tech developer Built Robotics' fully autonomous construction equipment is now available to contractors and heavy machine operators. A software upgrade to excavating equipment will allow the machinery to operate autonomously or be piloted remotely, making it the first of its kind to be offered commercially in the U.S.

With Built's software, equipment is able to perform common tasks fully autonomously, such as digging trenches, excavating foundations, and grading building pads. The autonomous fleet can be managed via a web-based platform, which allows remote equipment operators to supervise the robots.

Heavy equipment that is outfitted with Built's software uses GPS and LIDAR systems to dig trenches between pre-determined GPS points on a construction site. Onboard cameras and the LIDAR systems will also notify the autonomous machinery of nearby workers or other vehicles, Ahmed said. In addition, machine operators will be able to establish a "geo-fence" that the robot is unable to operate outside of.

ROSIE THE RIVETER: ROSILAND P. WALTER – DEAD AT 95

Rosalind P. Walter grew up in a wealthy and genteel Long Island home. Yet when the United States entered World War II, she chose to join millions of other women in the home-front crusade to arm the troops with munitions, warships and aircraft. She worked the night shift driving rivets into the metal bodies of Corsair fighter planes at a plant in Connecticut – a job that had almost always been reserved for men. A newspaper column about her inspired a morale-boosting 1942 song that turned her into the legendary Rosie the Riveter, the archetype of the hard-working women in overalls and bandana-wrapped hair who kept the military factories humming. Other women went on to become models for Rosie posters and magazine covers as well. But Rosiland Walter was the first. She remained something of a public presence as a major philanthropist and one of PBS's principal benefactors. There were at least 4 other women who became models for the character "Rosie the Riveter", as the War Production Board sought to recruit more women for the military factories. So Rosiland Walter cannot alone claim the crown of being the real Rosie the Riveter. But she was there first!

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY 1954 – President Eisenhower writes a letter to his friend, Paul Helms, in which he privately criticizes Senator Joseph McCarthy's approach to rooting out communists in the federal government. Two days earlier, former presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson had declared that the president's silence on McCarthy's actions was tantamount to approval. Eisenhower, who viewed political mud-slinging as beneath the office of the president, declined to comment publicly on Stevenson's remark or McCarthy's tactics.

“When I let go of what I am, I become what I might be.”

– Lao Tzu

As of Friday, March 6th, there are 150 JW on Book 1 and 116 JW on Book 2. There are currently 0 Commercial Apprentices, 2 S&C Apprentices, and 0 Residential Apprentices available for dispatch. There are 5 unfilled Commercial, 0 unfilled S&C and 2 unfilled Residential requests.