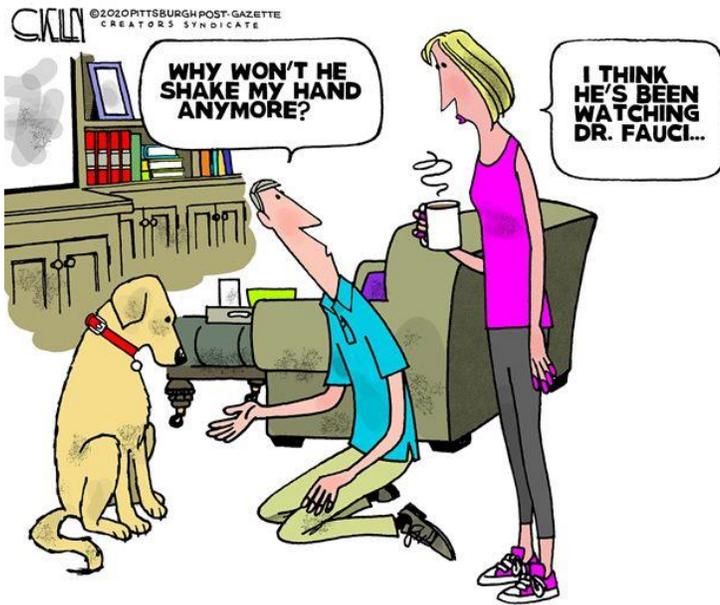




MONDAY MORNING NEWS

Puget Sound Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



APRIL 27, 2020
MEETINGS

5/21/20 – TECHNOLOGY WEBINAR

PUGET SOUND CHAPTER, NECA & CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Good morning from the NECA Office in Shoreline. This week should bring some new energy to the Construction Industry, as we all figure out what it means to implement Phase 1 of the Governor’s “restart” of existing construction projects - those that can maintain all of the restrictions necessary to qualify. NECA will be providing contractors with additional guidance later today on steps your firm can take to ensure compliance. We will be working on the final touches to these guidelines throughout the morning.

With the next round of the Payment Protection Program (PPP) approved for funding beginning this morning, firms that missed out on the first round need to make sure you are already in line, or complete the application with your financial institution sooner than later. Everyone assumes this new money will last one – two weeks at most. As a reminder, GBC Bank (in the NECA Building in Shoreline) has agreed to process PPP applications for Puget Sound Chapter, NECA Contractors, without having to establish a “relationship” with GBC. Feel free to call NECA if you have more questions on this program or the NECA/GBC Bank arrangement.

Contractors have had numerous questions about Standby, Unemployment Comp rules in general, and how this all plays into workers that are needed to return to work – to “man” existing projects and those workers needed when Phase 1 projects get up and running. There are numerous aspects of this “availability” dynamic, and each situation may be slightly different. As this issue unfolds over the next weeks and

months, we need contractors to closely coordinate with Employers Unity (EU) (the firm NECA utilizes for all unemployment comp issues) and NECA to ensure that there are no missteps along the way. Some employees may be eligible to continue to receive unemployment comp benefits, depending on their personal situation. Again, please coordinate closely with NECA and EU for any questions on unemployment comp, and the various programs in place that can impact eligibility for your employees.

Some firms have asked about Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the Governor's Plan for Construction. The Construction Coalition will continue to work with the Governor's office on these upcoming phases, but NECA cannot stress strongly enough that any implementation of Phase 2 and 3 will be contingent on a flawless rollout of Phase 1! If contractors comply with all of the restrictions in Phase 1, that is the main benchmark that will establish the green light for additional construction activity in the future.

As always, please keep NECA informed of any activities happening "on the ground", so that we can stay abreast of all issues and assist where possible. "Let's be safe out there!"

WHY IT'S TIME TO EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY IN CONSTRUCTION - WEBINAR

The Chapter is excited to announce that on May 21st, at 3:00 PM, NECA's Executive Director of Industry and Innovation, Josh Bone will give an exclusive webinar for Puget Sound Chapter, NECA Members. The topic for the one-hour webinar will be titled, "Why It's Time to Embrace Technology in Construction." Josh's remarks will focus on how new technology can be perceived as a threat to some construction professionals, while the same technology is viewed as a new opportunity to others in our industry. He will also cover how new technologies are changing the way projects are designed and constructed, presenting new challenges and opportunities throughout the entire building life cycle. The Chapter will send information on how to register in a future newsletter, so for now, please save the date.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify new opportunities that are arising from new technologies in the construction industry.
2. Discuss the difference in how individuals perceive change.
3. Explore new methods of challenging ourselves to embrace change.
4. Understand how all the rapid change that is occurring in construction is impacting us in our own roles.

Speaker Bio: Josh Bone

Title: NECA Executive Director of Industry Innovation and Interim Executive Director ELECTRI

- Construction Technologist
- Industry Advisor
- Podcaster

For more than two decades Josh Bone has been implementing, training and presenting construction technology solutions to AEC&O (Architecture, Engineering, Construction, Owners) professionals. Having worked with some of the top technology leaders in the industry, Josh specializes in identifying best practices and methodologies for integrating construction technology into everyday workflows. Josh has had the opportunity to share his knowledge with audiences and publications across North America as a frequent professional speaker and guest editorial contributor. Josh is also a frequent host on The ConTech Crew podcast.

CLOTH FACE COVERINGS – NEW REQUIREMENT IN PHASE 1 RE-START REQUIREMENTS.

On Friday, April 24th, Governor Jay Inslee announced that “low risk” construction could resume provided that safety requirements detailed in the Phase 1 Re-Start Letter are met. One of those requirements is that Cloth Face Coverings (CFCs) are to be provided and worn by employees on construction projects, at all times. If any NECA Members are looking for suggestions on vendors that provide CFCs, please reach out to our Director of Safety, Justin Thayer. His email is justin@necaseattle.org

GOOGLE, BLACKBAUD CANCEL SEATTLE CONFERENCES IN OCTOBER, DELIVERING \$10M HIT TO CITY

Seattle's battered hotel, tourism and convention sector took yet another hit Thursday as Google and cloud computing company Blackbaud canceled October conferences. The decisions will cost an estimated \$10 million to the region's economy. The bleak developments were shared by Visit Seattle CEO Tom Norwalk in a private note to major players in the city's tourism economy. “With 29 hotels closed in downtown Seattle and occupancy hovering around 8% last week in the downtown core, we are truly hitting bottom in week eight,” Norwalk said in an email. The South Carolina-based Blackbaud, Inc. canceled its convention slated for Oct. 6th – 8th with 3,500 attendees, causing a loss of 9,635 hotel night guest room sales. The estimated economic impact was \$7.8 million, Norwalk said. Google also axed its convention scheduled Oct. 12th – 14th with 1,850 attendees and 4,370 hotel guest room nights booked. The second event's economic impact was to be estimated at \$2.9 million, Norwalk added.

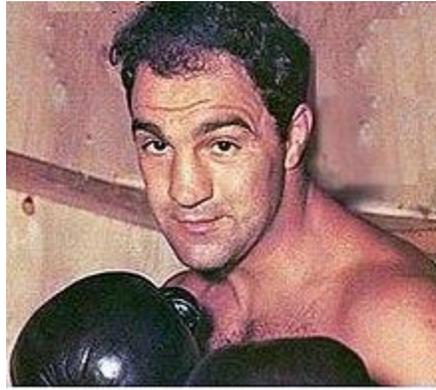
The two new cancellations join a bunch of others, that have triggered massive layoffs in the hotel and restaurant sectors, according to Visit Seattle, which is the private nonprofit that serves as Seattle and King County's official destination-marketing organization. Last weekend, for example, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' annual clinical and scientific meeting was supposed to be taking place. It was canceled with 5,500 attendees who would have used 11,481 room nights at eight different hotels between April 24th – 27th. That big event alone had a projected economic impact of \$11.3 million for the city, Norwalk said.

The two latest October cancellations, plus this week's axed events and earlier cancellations for May through September, has delivered a total \$111.8 million blow to the city's convention, tourism and hotel economy through October.

Norwalk said the U.S. Travel Association and research firm Tourism Economics has estimated the Covid-19 outbreak's impact on the U.S. travel industry as a whole will generate revenue losses that will be nine times worse for the travel industry than the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001.

Travel industry losses will result in \$1.2 trillion loss in gross domestic product growth in 2020 and will result in a loss of \$80 billion in local, state and federal taxes this year.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY 1956– World heavyweight champ Rocky Marciano retires from boxing at age 31, saying he wants to spend more time with his family. Marciano ended his career as the only heavyweight champion with a perfect record – 49 wins in 49 professional bouts, with 43 knockouts.



“Optimism is the one quality more associated with success and happiness than any other.”

- Brian Tracy

As of Friday, April 24th, there are 220 JW on Book 1 and 123 JW on Book 2. There are currently 41 Commercial Apprentices, 0 S&C Apprentices, and 0 Residential Apprentices available for dispatch. There are 0 unfilled Commercial, 0 unfilled S&C and 0 unfilled Residential Apprentice requests.