



MONDAY MORNING NEWS

Puget Sound Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



**SEPTEMBER 7, 2020
MEETINGS**

NECA 2020 LIVE – 10/5 – 10/7

“The apocalypse movies never mentioned all the sitting around.”

TRACY PREZEAU - ELECTRICAL BOARD CHAIRPERSON – STEPS DOWN

After many years of excellent service to the Washington State Electrical Board, Tracy Prezeau’s tenure is coming to an end. Governor Gregoire appointed Tracy to the Electrical Board in 2005. In 2011, her fellow board members elected her to serve as Chairperson. Electrical Board members serve on a volunteer basis and during Tracy’s term, she made a lasting contribution to the electrical industry of Washington. We thank her for her years of excellent service and wish her well. We know she will remain active in her support of Washington’s Electrical Program through her position as an International Representative of the IBEW Education Department. Congratulations to Board Member Jason Jenkins, who was elected to serve as the new Chairperson at the July meeting.

UPCOMING “VIRTUAL” NECA SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – SEPTEMBER 11TH

If you haven’t already signed up for the NECA “virtual” Safety Committee Meeting on Friday, September 11th, starting at 10:00 AM, now is your chance! Our guest speaker will be Mr. Jeff Stachowiak, Director of Safety for Sunbelt Rentals. He will be giving an important overview of the new ANSI A92 Standard and the changes that will affect mobile elevated work platforms (MEWPs), formerly known as aerial work platforms (AWPs) worldwide. This meeting is open to anyone in your firm that would like to attend. For those that wish to attend, **Please RSVP to PSC NECA, Director of Safety, Justin Thayer at justin@necaseattle.org.**

CDC: BEWARE OF COUNTERFEIT N95 MASKS



Recent federal government guidance cautions workers looking to protect themselves from hazards such as sand, silica dust or the coronavirus, to carefully consider the source of their respiratory protection. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, which is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, says counterfeit respirators are being sold in the U.S. and that the models — many of them made in China — may not be capable of providing appropriate respiratory protection. NIOSH has posted a list of dozens of suspect brands on its website as well as what to look for in approved face coverings.

Some of the brands listed as counterfeit include:

- Valmy model VRN95
- INSAFE
- DermaCare or Espomega with model numbers HY8710, HY8812 and HY8816
- Intech Safety Pvt. Ltd.
- Safe Life model B130 and model B150
- SAS model 8617A
- Some models claiming to be from Shining Star Electronic Technology

NIOSH-approved respirators have an approval label on or within the packaging of the respirator and/or within the instructions containing one the following designations: N95, N99, N100, R95, R99, R100, P95, P99 or P100. Signs that a respirator may be counterfeit include:

- No markings.
- NIOSH spelled incorrectly.
- The presence of decorative fabric or other decorative add-ons such as sequins.
- Claims approved for children. (NIOSH does not approve any type of respiratory protection for children.)
- Ear loops instead of headbands.

NEW NECA SAFETY WEBINAR – FALLS FROM ELEVATION

Join NECA on Tuesday, September 15th, 11:00 AM for a webinar focused on falls from elevation in the construction industry. Fatalities caused by falls from elevation continue to be a leading cause of death for construction employees, accounting for 320 of the 1,008 construction fatalities recorded in 2018. In honor of OSHA's National Safety Stand-Down to prevent falls in construction, this webinar, presented by NECA and the Electrical Training ALLIANCE with special guest Scott Ketcham, Director of OSHA's Directorate of Construction, strives to raise fall hazard awareness across the country. This program will focus on both outside utility fall protection measures and construction fall protection for inside electrical contractors. For those interested in attending, you can click [here](#) to register.

AGC FINDS PROJECT DELAYS, LABOR SHORTAGES WORSENING FOR CONSTRUCTION



A new survey of contractors provides a bleak snapshot of the construction industry, nearly six months into the coronavirus pandemic, finding that the share of contractors who have had future projects canceled or delayed due to COVID-19 has reached 60% — nearly double the amount from June. In addition, 33% of firms said projects already in progress had been halted due to the pandemic, according to the survey by the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) and software firm Autodesk.

It also noted that the pandemic has exacerbated the industry's persistent labor shortage, with 44% of firms that tried to recall laid-off or furloughed workers saying that some staff have refused to return to work, citing a preference for unemployment benefits, virus concerns or family responsibilities. For more information click [here](#).

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY 1813 – On September 7, 1813, the United States gets its nickname, Uncle Sam. The name is linked to Samuel Wilson, a meat packer from Troy, New York, who supplied barrels of beef to the United States Army during the War of 1812. Wilson (1766-1854) stamped the barrels with “U.S.” for United States, but soldiers began referring to the grub as “Uncle Sam’s.” The local newspaper picked up on the story and Uncle Sam eventually gained widespread acceptance as the nickname for—and personification of—the U.S. federal government.

“The scariest moment is always just before you start.”

-Stephen King

As of Friday, September 4th, there are 270 JW on Book 1 and 160 JW on Book 2. There are currently 6 Commercial Apprentices, 1 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. 13 Commercial bootcamp graduates will be available September 15th. An additional 18 Commercial Apprentices will be available at a date yet to be determined in late September.