

WINTER 2018

OFF THE WALL WC&C

An Industry Publication by the Wall Ceiling & Carpentry Industries of New York, Inc.

Design And Technology Advances Poised To Help Improve Construction Safety

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PITFALLS OF ESTIMATING

page 7

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WC&C Holiday Party Photos
on pages 14 - 17

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Through June 2018

DATE	MEETING	TIME	LOCATION
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MARCH 8-12	WC&C CONVENTION		4 SEASONS
APRIL 7	DINNER DANCE		TERRACE ON THE PARK
MAY 15	MEMBERSHIP MTG	6PM	TBA
JUNE 18	GOLF OUTING		NO HEMP CC & SANDS PT GC

Cover: Rendering of proposed 80 Flatbush in Brooklyn via Alloy Development

WC&C OFF THE WALL

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*From the
Executive Director
John DeLollis*

Spring On Into Spring

We're fast running out of Winter 2018 and getting ready for a busy spring season in New York City.

There is a lot of work out there and more to be had. Hudson Yards continues moving through its phenomenal growth. Essex Crossing's development in the heart of the Lower East Side is expected to continue through 2024. With over 1.9 million square feet, Essex Crossing represents one of the most significant urban renewal developments in the history of New York City.

Brooklyn and Bronx are joining Manhattan in leading the commercial and housing markets. According to the New York Building Congress, construction starts in the Bronx were expected to surpass \$2 Billion in 2017, the third consecutive year that totals have passed that mark. And, according to the American Institute of Architects' semi-annual Consensus Construction Forecast, while commercial construction was expected to generate much of the gains this year, by 2019 industrial and institutional sectors will dominate projected growth.

With all this activity, worker safety has to be the most prominent component of the building process. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics there were 5,190 workplace fatalities in 2016. While that is a national figure, it is startling. Many deaths could have been avoided with proper training and diligence on the part of the organizations involved.

Here at our offices, a new member of our team assisting me with the activities of our association is a young man with great talent and knowledge of communications. As our new Director of Special Programs & Events, Danny Rivera has already been working on a variety of projects including our recent workshop *Turning Your Project Managers Into Business Managers* which was held at Terrace In The Park in Flushing. Our guest speaker at that affair, Jim Schug from FMI consulting, gave a valuable presentation that those attending enjoyed and learned from. More of these educational workshops are being planned. Along the line, while working on our programs, Danny may be in contact with you. I hope you'll welcome him. He's oiling the machinery of our association.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in Costa Rica at our annual Convention March 8th thru 12th and at our annual Dinner Dance on April 7th.

— John

Bronx Construction Starts Set to Top \$2 Billion for Third Consecutive Year

Residential Sector Accounts for More than Half the Value of All Bronx Construction Projects Initiated Through the First Nine Months

The value of construction starts in the Bronx is on pace to surpass \$2 billion in 2017. If realized, it would represent the third consecutive year that totals have passed that mark, according to a New York Building Congress report.

The report, Construction Outlook Update: Bronx Construction Starts, notes that for the first nine months of this year, the Bronx represented five percent of the total value for New York City. This is slight decrease from the seven percent experienced in 2016. In 2015, the Bronx accounted for five percent and in 2014 it represented four percent.

“The Bronx is experiencing positive momentum and benefitting from continued strong investment from both the public and private sectors,” said Building Congress President and CEO Carlo A. Scissura. “With the value of annual construction starts more than doubling since the beginning of this decade, it’s obvious that the development community now views the Bronx in a whole new light. And I would be surprised if that percentage doesn’t continue to rise in the coming years.”

Top Project Starts

The top two Bronx project starts by value in the first nine months of 2017 involved public works. The list was headed by a \$232 million New York State Department of Transportation-funded project to replace Unionport Bridge, which carries the Bruckner Expressway across Westchester Creek. The second project is a new 12-story, 305-unit, mixed-use project valued at \$133 million, which is being developed by the City’s Housing Preservation & Development in partnership with the Women’s Housing and Economic Development Corp. and BFC Partners.

Over the past three years, nine of the top projects in the Bronx have come from the public sector, including the Bruckner Expressway project and a \$213 million reconstruction project of the toll plaza on the Bronx side of the RFK Bridge in 2015.

Renovations and alterations to PS 46, PS 14 and PS 19 were the largest of the institutional projects, each topping \$50 million.

Strength in New Housing Starts

The residential sector led the way in the Bronx, representing 52 percent of the value of all construction projects initiated in the borough between 2015 and the first three quarters of 2017. Major projects include a \$104 million, 256-unit, mixed-use project in East Tremont and a \$100 million, 314-unit, mixed-use project in Belmont.

Over the same period, the institutional sector accounted for 19 percent, followed by public works with 17 percent and commercial buildings with nine percent. The remaining three percent was made up of various utilities and manufacturing projects.

The residential sector continued to drive the Bronx construction market through the first three quarters of 2017, accounting for 53 percent of the value of all construction projects in the Bronx, followed by public works (20 percent), institutions (15 percent) and commercial properties (11 percent).

Through the first nine months of 2017, 3,190 residential units were initiated in the Bronx. This puts the borough on pace to narrowly surpass 2015’s total of 4,240 units, which is the current high point of this decade.

The Bronx’s nine-month total represents about 17 percent of the housing units started throughout the city in 2017, which is in keeping with 2016, when 3,918 of the 23,694 housing units emanated from the Bronx. These 2016 and 2017 Bronx totals are an improvement from the period between 2011 and 2015, when the percentage of units initiated in the Bronx ranged from eight to 11 percent.

In the first three quarters of 2017, the Bronx saw the construction of 1,515 units of affordable housing initiated, while 1,150 units were rehabbed during the same nine-month period.

“The Bronx possesses the most opportunities for new residential development, and the ability to produce new housing for residents at all income levels,” said Mr. Scissura. “As the de Blasio administration further ramps up its affordable housing program and as private developers increasingly look to the north, the future looks bright for the Bronx.”

The construction data for this report is provided by Dodge Data & Analytics and encompass all project starts, including new ground-up construction, alterations and renovations to existing structures, and public infrastructure. The data reflect the total estimated value of each initiated project throughout the entire period of construction. •



From the President Michael Weber

Time Will Tell

Congress has passed the largest piece of tax reform legislation in more than three decades. As always, the devil is in the details. As the federal and state tax codes are amended to conform to the new legislation, time will tell to measure if there will be a positive impact to individual, corporations and the overall economy as experienced in the roaring 80's. Only one could hope!

Locally, we have hammered out the details in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the 1974 Drywall Tapers Union. Once executed, visit our website www.wcc-ny.com for more details.

Our contract negotiations with the New York City District Council of Carpenters is ongoing and we will update the membership as we make progress toward a new Collective Bargaining Agreement.

I would also like to congratulate Executive Secretary Treasurer Joseph Geiger of Local 1556, President Stephen McInnis of Local 157, Vice President Michael Cavanaugh of Local 740 and the rest of the Solidarity Slate team on their recent success in the December 2017 elections.

I am pleased to inform our membership that the 2018-19 scholarship applications for the Wall Ceiling and Carpentry Association Scholarship Program are now available. To be eligible for this award, you must:

- be a high school senior or a freshman, sophomore or junior in college and must have at least one parent who is a member in good standing of: the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (New York City District Council of Carpenters or Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters); District Council No. 9 IUPAT; Drywall Tapers Local Union 1974; Local 46 Metallic Lather & Reinforcing Ironworkers or Local 66 Laborers LI.

-AND-

- have worked for a WC&C Contractor Member for a minimum of four weeks in the 2017 calendar year.

Visit www.wcc-ny.com for more information or to apply.

— Mike

TAKE A DETOUR AROUND THE PITFALLS OF ESTIMATING

By Allen Crowley

No matter your size, many contractors struggle when it comes to estimating and focusing on the best, most profitable work. Estimating is rife with obstacles—from rushing to bid work to not being selective enough in the bidding process. But avoiding the pitfalls of estimating isn't about working harder, it's really about working smarter.

When you're more deliberate in your estimating strategy, you can begin to see immediate results. It's critical to take an honest look at your process, pinpoint risks, and plan how to manage them better. Let's review a few high-level strategies to apply to your construction estimating process.

Bid What You Do Best

How do you strike a happy balance between bidding and winning enough work and the right work? First, stop bidding every job in your local plan room. Step back and focus on the most profitable projects in the right market, business segment, or geographic area.

When you're not selective, you could put your firm's reputation at risk. Will customers trust you if you fail to deliver as promised? Some contractors build new homes while others

specialize in remodeling. In down economic times, the remodeling specialty might serve you better. By slowing down and being patient, you can highlight your strengths to beat the competition.

Some experts say that companies that offer specialized services win almost twice as many bids compared to firms offering general construction services. Here are a few specialization categories to consider:

- Government jobs
- Hospitals and medical facilities
- Schools and universities
- Renovation and adaptive reuse
- Sustainable building

Catch Problems Early

Nobody wants to expose their company to unnecessary risk by failing to prepare an accurate estimate. This can easily happen if you don't assess the full scope and requirements of a project or take the proper time to prepare the bid in a professional, polished package with detailed calculations.

It's also important to remember that no project is ever perfect. Material shipments may run late, subcontractors may fall behind, and schedules will need adjusting. The field and the office need to be on the same page to catch problems early. You don't want the last 5% of the job to drain 50% of your profits.

One way to avoid this is by using the right digital tools for takeoff, estimating, and production tracking. With construction software, your estimator can kick the project off in the right direction. Production tracking tools are used to digitally track cost-overruns and payroll. Tracking productivity throughout the job can show if you're over-budget. With the actual hours and cost in hand, an estimator will apply this historical knowledge to the next bid.

Bid More. Win More. Repeat.

With today's hot construction market, it's the perfect time for contractors to make course corrections to keep from being hemmed in by construction estimating barriers. By staying focused and using the right tools, you can grow your business, sustain profitability, and streamline your estimating process.

Want to learn more? On Center Software can show you how to bid what you do best and lessen your risk. Get our whitepaper, *Overcoming the Pitfalls of Estimating*, for more winning strategies.

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Allen Crowley, is director of business development for On Center Software. •



It's The Law

By Mark A. Rosen

Mark A. Rosen is legal counsel to the Association of Wall-Ceiling & Carpentry Industries of New York, Inc. He is a partner in the firm of McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP. Mark practices in the areas of construction and contract law, public contract law, arbitration, surety, and general commercial litigation. He can be reached at mrosen@mdmc-law.com.

CONSTRUCTION FIRM SETTLES FEDERAL EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION RACE BIAS LAWSUIT

Laquila Group, Inc. has settled a class race bias lawsuit brought by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (“EEOC”) by paying \$625,000 and agreeing to take measures to eliminate race bias and retaliation against black construction laborers.

The allegations were that the company had engaged in systemic discrimination against black employees as a class by subjecting them to racial harassment, including referring to them by racial epithets. It was alleged that the company also fired an employee when he complained about the harassment.

As part of the settlement, the company agreed to pay \$625,000 into a class settlement fund, to set up a hotline for employees to report illegal discrimination, to provide antidiscrimination training to its managers and to report all worker harassment and retaliation complaints to the EEOC for the 42-month duration of the settlement agreement. The company was further required to adopt revised antidiscrimination policies and employee complaint procedures stating the company’s commitment to equal employment opportunity, including assuring employees who report race bias will not face unlawful retaliation and that all complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible and not be unnecessarily publicized.

PRE-SHIFT WAITING TIME NOT COMPENSABLE

A federal appeals court has ruled that time spent waiting at a worksite for shifts to start is not compensable. In this case, the employer required workers to be taken by bus to a refinery where they would take down

scaffolding. The workday started at 7:00 a.m. but the workers had to board the buses no later than 6:15 a.m. for the trip to the refinery. The employees claimed that the waiting time was compensable under the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Portal-to-Portal Act.

The Appellate Court ruled that the time was compensable only if it involved activities that were necessarily related to the principal activities being performed. As an example, the court stated that time it took to put on safety gear was compensable but waiting to do so was not.

COURT DETERMINES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IS NOT LIABLE FOR WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY

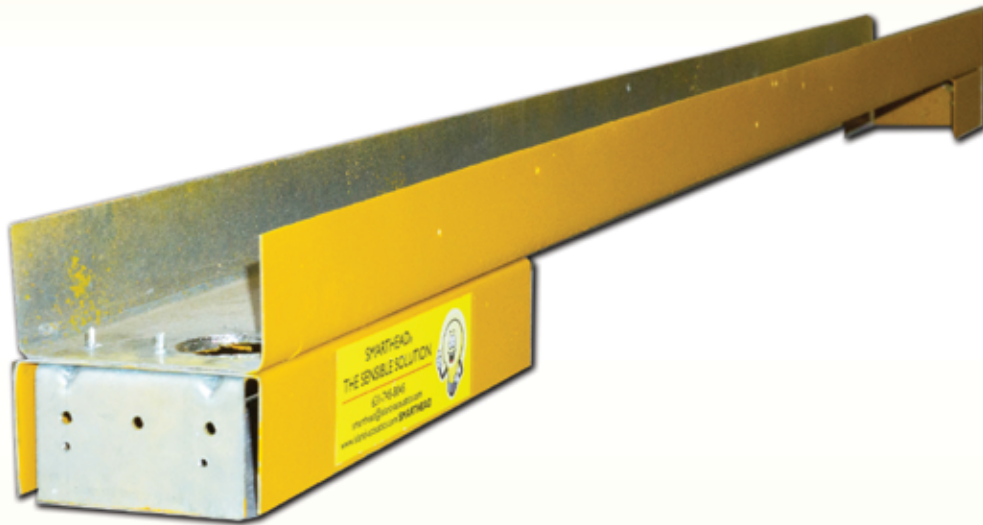
A federal appeals court determined that a construction company did not owe an ironworker’s pension plan withdrawal liability because the work identified by the union did not fall within its jurisdiction.

In this case, the construction company withdrew from the pension plan but then resumed performing certain work. The union claimed that the work was within the jurisdiction of its previous collective bargaining agreement (“CBA”).

The court determined that the work in question was not within the jurisdiction of the prior CBA because that agreement allowed employers to assign the work in question to another union. The court relied on authority from other jurisdictions to conclude that withdrawal liability is defined by the jurisdictional provisions of the applicable CBA. •

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Essex Crossing's 180 Broome Street Moves Forward On \$200M Loan

DELANCEY STREET ASSOCIATES (DSA) has closed on financing for the construction of 180 Broome Street, Site 4 of the Essex Crossing Project, a 26-story mixed use building. Essex Crossing is being developed by DSA, which comprises BFC Partners, L+M Development Partners, Taconic Investment Partners and Goldman Sachs. Site 4 will be the sixth of nine sites in the Essex Crossing

Investment Group. Construction is expected to begin this month and the building is scheduled to open in 2020. The building's total development cost is expected to be \$300 million. 180 Broome, also known as Essex Crossing Site 4, was designed by Handel Architects.

"We are thrilled to see this next phase of Essex Crossing continue

Goldman Sachs Urban Investment Group. "To date we have committed almost \$500 million to Essex Crossing, a project that was designed in collaboration with the community and is only made possible through unprecedented levels of collaboration between the public and private sector. We are excited to join our partners in celebrating this project which will serve as a model for community development."



project to close and begin construction.

Construction will be funded through a \$200 million loan from Wells Fargo and M&T Bank, as well as through equity from DSA and Goldman Sachs Urban

into construction. 180 Broome has an ambitious mix of uses that will provide quality jobs, affordable housing and first class amenities to the Lower East Side community," said Margaret Anadu, managing director and head of the

Essex Crossing comprises 1.9 million square feet of residential, commercial, and community space. The nine sites on six acres had sat mostly vacant since 1967 and represent one of the most significant urban renewal developments in the history of New York City. The project will include 1,079 units of housing (51 percent of which will be affordable), a 15,000-square foot public park, Splitsville Luxury Lanes, Trader Joe's, Target, NYU Langone's Joan H. and Preston Robert Tisch Center at Essex Crossing, and a senior/community center run by Grand Street Settlement – all of which will open in 2018 – and the new home of the International Center of Photography, which will open in 2019. •



The Carpenter Contractor Trust - An Introduction

**By Kevin P. McCabe
President, Carpenter
Contractor Trust**

It's all marketing. Well, it isn't, exactly. But the reason we hear that cliché so frequently is that it carries with it a ring of truth that resonates within all of us.

The Carpenter Contractor Trust (www.cctnynj.org), or simply “The CCT,” is a labor management trust formed in 2001. Its inception was the result of collective, creative minds who recognized a simple fact of the construction business: Cooperation between union carpenters and contractors would produce stronger, more predictable and ultimately successful results than an antagonistic approach to industry issues. Cooperation, both in spirit and actual practice, would offer both parties more opportunities to influence decision makers who control construction projects that serve to increase job possibilities for carpenters. It would also smooth out any possible rough edges between union carpenters and contractors.

Harkening back to the cliché about marketing, the CCT's job was to create, explain and promote the message of exactly what union carpenters and contractors do and why hiring them makes good business sense. As one recent study noted, “The Carpenter Contractor Trust works to continue the rebranding effort aimed at dispelling preconceived notions of unions and union labor.” It delivers this message through a plethora of vehicles: a CCT app for carpenters and contractors, videos, press releases, email blasts, outreach programs, marketing and collateral material, media placements, advertising campaigns and public relations efforts.

This translates into exposure, whether you find us on a YouTube channel, watch a

Vimeo video, read about us in a magazine article or watch us in a television interview. We have girded these efforts with a robust, user-friendly, content-rich website (www.cctnynj.org). Our staff consists of a vice president of operations, a marketing manager and a marketing assistant, a social media specialist and an executive assistant. We also have immediate access to several experts in videography, graphic design and public relations.

Regardless of the marketing product or its delivery mechanism, the message has always been the same. It is to create positive awareness of union carpenters and contractors to the business and public and to challenge any negative images or misconceptions.

The need for a serious marketing effort became necessary for several reasons. The CCT, by its very nature — the inclusion of contractor members — demonstrated a real-world attempt to grasp some of the most basic issues in the construction business including skill levels, cost and safety issues. That foresight was significant because the founders realized that hardened attitudes or fixed ideas about unions could change, but that it would probably occur slowly, over time. It also needed contractors to complete the circle. With a history of hard bargaining and an admirable dose of zealotry at the negotiating table, it wasn't easy to set aside a sense of anticipated conflict and explore other approaches. But carpenters and contractors made it work.

A public relations expert once said to me that changing an attitude encrusted with solid, unflinching opinion and feeling is far more difficult than introducing a new idea to someone who has no opinion. He was right. A key to changing an opinion or at least nudging it in a more favorable direction has been precisely the focus of the CCT.

The CCT is aware of the ever-increasing changes in the construction industry and the economy at large. It is our mission to play a pivotal role in explaining to businesses and the public that union carpenters and contractors have a huge influence, not only on the economic impact at the macro level in New York (and our other regions), but also in the trickle-down effect of the communities where they live.

The success of our efforts, especially those vis-à-vis contractors, rests heavily on your interest and willingness to share and inform us about your company's activities. When we understand what you do, the nature of your projects and the people involved, we are here ready to assist with our experienced and enthusiastic team. There is no fee for our services because it is one of the benefits of your membership. Our only requirement is that you enlighten us regarding projects, promotions and new developments with your company and leave it to us to promote activities across many of our platforms. Consider that you not only have marketing experts available with a simple phone call or email, but you also have specialists who understand the construction industry.

As we face new times and new challenges, I'm optimistic because I would also like to believe that we have new opportunities. We have poised the CCT to meet whatever challenges arise as we continue to serve as the message bearer for union carpenters and contractors in New York.

We can help you with your marketing efforts. All you have to do is ask. If you wish to learn more about how the CCT's team can help your marketing efforts, please reach out and contact: Melissa Clark on 732-215-5341

Kevin P. McCabe is the President of the Carpenter Contractor Trust. •

U.S. Census Data Shows Over A Quarter Of A Million Construction Industry Workers In New York City

Percentage of White Non-Hispanic Workers Growing While Percent of Women Has Stayed the Same, According to New York Building Congress Analysis

Strong construction industry labor market provides opportunities for New Yorkers from diverse backgrounds, and helps to build strong middle class-- while need continues for recruitment & mentorship opportunities for women and minorities

THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY EMPLOYS OVER A QUARTER OF A MILLION WORKERS IN NEW YORK CITY. The industry and its workers continue to reflect the diverse population of New York City, but more can be done to recruit diverse candidates, according to a New York Building Congress analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

A total of 250,270 men and women were employed in a construction industry occupation throughout the five boroughs in 2016, a decrease of 1 percent from 2015.

"While we have made real strides towards a more inclusive and diverse workforce, we still have work to do recruiting and mentoring women and minorities for successful careers in design and construction," said New York Building Congress President and CEO Carlo A. Scissura. "The building industry supports programs providing greater access to jobs and ensuing workers are getting the wages, benefits, and training they deserve, especially those who may be working on the fringes of the industry."

Race, Gender, and Age

The survey showed the number of White Non-Hispanic workers outpaced Hispanic workers in 2016.

This is a reversal of trends from 2015, but adhering to the larger trends since 2005. The percentage of women in the industry remained the same from previous years.

Between 2005 and 2015, when the Census Bureau started tracking this figure, workers who self-identify as White have represented a majority of the workforce. In 2016, workers who self-identify as White increased from 95,841 to 100,326 (40 percent of the workforce), compared to a decrease from 95,874 to 88,788 (36 percent of the workforce) who self-identified as Hispanic.

Non-White workers comprised 60 percent of the workforce in 2016, a decrease of 2.3 percent from the previous year. The number of workers who self-identify as Black increased from 35,354 to 35,941 (14 percent of the workforce), the number of workers who self-identify as Asian decreased from 25,075 to 23,188 (nine percent of the workforce) and the number of workers who self-identify as two or more races increased from 1,840 to 2,027 (under 1 percent of the workforce).

The share of women in the construction industry remained the same at 7.6 percent, accounting for a total of 19,119 workers.

The workforce got slightly older in 2016. Workers under 35 years of age decreased from 31 percent of

the workforce in 2015 to 29 percent in 2016, while workers aged 35 to 54 increased from 51 percent of the workforce in 2015 to 54 percent in 2016.

Wages and Benefits

Construction continues to be one of the backbones of the middle class in New York and the surrounding environment, while more can be done to support undocumented and blue-collar workers:

Over half (56 percent) of all NYC construction workers reported earning less than \$50,000 per year. Another 30 percent earned between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per year, while 14 percent earned more than \$100,000 in 2016.

Household incomes are higher than reported individual earnings, suggesting multiple earners or additional sources of income. Results show 25 percent of construction workers had an annual household income below \$50,000, while 31 percent range between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per year. 45 percent had annual household incomes above \$100,000 in 2016. The number of workers who reported having health insurance increased slightly from 53 percent in 2015 to 55 percent in 2016. In total, 113,399 construction industry workers are without health

insurance.

Almost all workers without health insurance are blue collar workers – of the 201,000 total blue-collar workers, 100,100 are without health insurance.

“This Building Congress survey reaffirms our own data showing that a strong construction industry labor market is providing opportunities for New Yorkers from diverse backgrounds,” said Gary LaBarbera, president of the 100,000 member Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York. “The nationally recognized Edward J. Malloy Initiative for Construction Skills has welcomed close to 2,000 New York City residents into apprenticeship programs, helping strengthen and diversify the city’s middle class.”

Residence and Place of Employment

Construction continues to be a good job opportunity for those living within the five boroughs:

Of the 250,270 men and women who reported working in the New York City construction industry in 2016, 76 percent hailed from one of the five boroughs, a similar figure as the previous year. Residents of Long Island and New Jersey each made up nine percent of the City’s construction workforce. Residents in the Mid-Hudson region accounted for six percent, and Connecticut residents for one percent.

Among New York City residents working in the industry, 39 percent lived in Queens, followed by Brooklyn at 32 percent, the Bronx at 14 percent, Staten Island at nine percent, and Manhattan at six percent.

The Building Congress also found that 43 percent of the New York City

residents employed by the building industry worked in the very same borough in which they lived in 2016, an increase of five percent from 2015.

“The good news is that New York City’s construction industry remains a significant source of good-paying jobs and benefits for local residents and recent immigrants of all educational backgrounds,” noted Scissura. “But we must do a better job of attracting, training, and retaining a diverse workforce. The first step is to increase our support for organizations that promote careers in design and construction through a range of educational and mentoring programs for men and women of all ages, ethnicities, and educational backgrounds.”

Additional Findings

Physical construction and other blue-collar operations accounted for 81 percent of the industry workforce, with the remainder being employed in construction-related sales and service occupations (four percent) as well as white-collar jobs, such as architects, engineers, and management (15 percent).

Fifty-seven percent of all respondents said they speak a language other than English as the primary language in their homes. After English speakers, the most prevalent languages are Spanish (35 percent), Polish (four percent), and Chinese (three percent).

Approximately 83 percent of workers have a high school diploma, a four percent increase from the previous year. Sixty percent of the building industry workforce never attended college, and 46 percent of all workers ended their education after earning a high school diploma. College degrees were earned by 13 percent of all workers, with four

percent of the workforce going on to obtain a postgraduate degree. Sixty-three percent of those who identified their citizen status indicated they were not citizens, an increase of three percent from the previous year. Forty-one percent did not identify their citizenship status. Blue collar workers comprise 82 percent of all NYC workers in construction that are not citizens or do not identify their citizenship status.

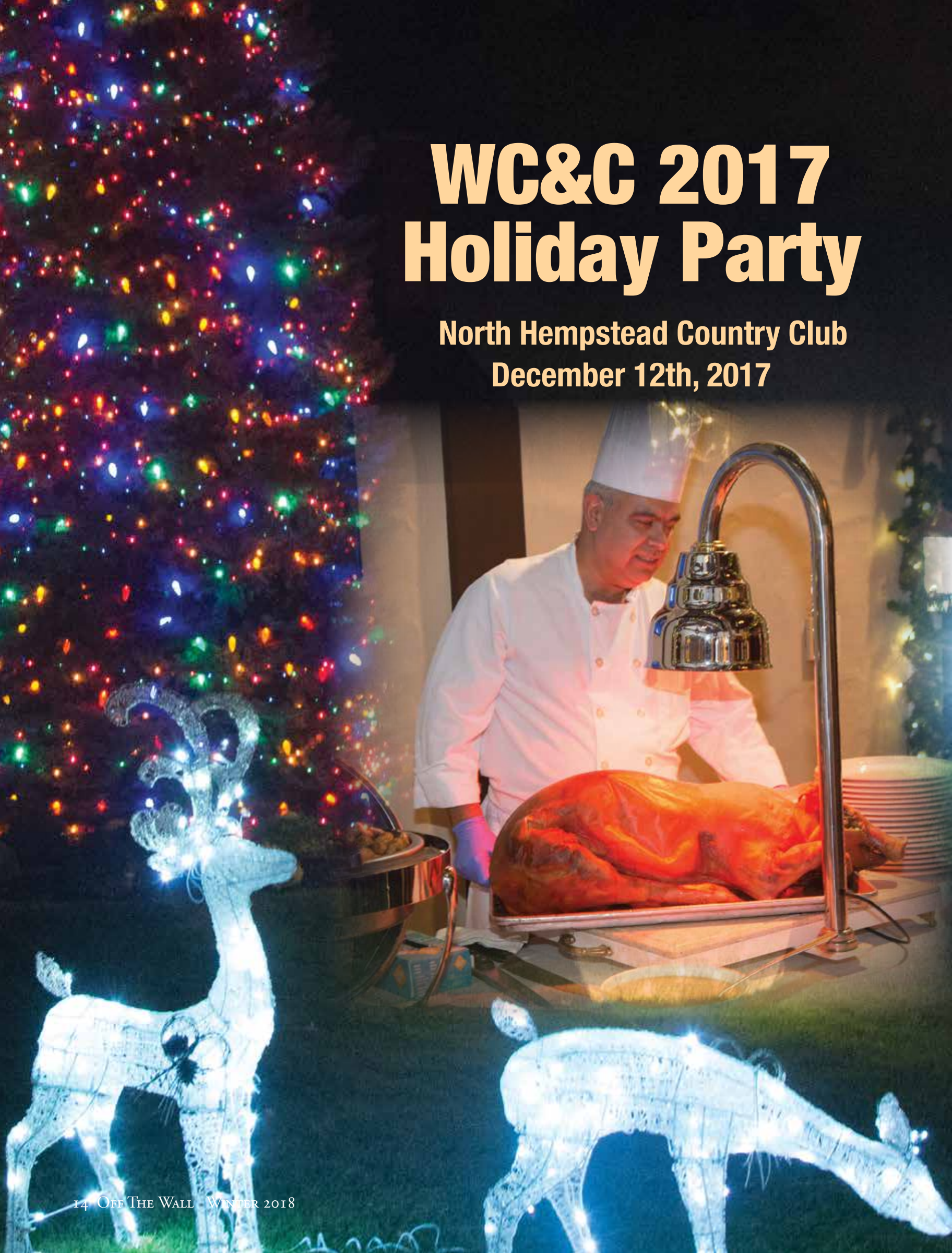
The ACS Survey is based on personal responses and incorporates both union and non-union labor as well as participation by “off the books” workers. In addition to physical construction labor and other construction-related blue-collar operations, the survey also counts construction-related sales and service occupations as well as white-collar jobs, such as architects, engineers, and management, as part of the overall construction workforce. Data from for this report is based off figures from 2016, the latest year in which census data is available.

About New York Building Congress Research Program

Drawing from a broad array of data sources and the expertise of leading economists, budgetary analysts, industry executives, and public policy professionals, the Building Congress consistently produces reliable, relevant reports that have made the organization a go-to resource for information on current and future market conditions as well as insights into emerging trends and challenges related to capital budgets and private development throughout the five boroughs. •

WC&C 2017 Holiday Party

North Hempstead Country Club
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Emerging Practice Of Prevention Through Design And Technology Advances Poised To Help Improve Construction Safety

Latest Dodge study reveals a new arsenal of tools to help increase construction safety onsite.

A new study from Dodge Data & Analytics reveals the engagement with and impact of two critical trends for improving construction safety—technologies used on jobsites, and the practice of Prevention through Design (PtD). The study, conducted in partnership with the Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) and United Rentals and published in the Safety Management in the Construction Industry 2017 SmartMarket Report, is the third in a series of studies that demonstrate the financial and project benefits that contractors reap from their safety investments. It also shows the impact that new technologies being deployed onsite, from building information modeling (BIM) to drones to wearable devices, have on improving safety. Finally, it suggests that active consideration of safety during building design, known formally as Prevention through Design (PtD) is still an emerging practice, but one well-positioned for wider acceptance in the design and construction industry. The full report is available for free download.

The findings from the study on the benefits of safety investments, along with previous studies conducted in 2012 and 2015, show that investment in safety has a positive impact on project budgets, schedules, quality, and on business factors such as a contractor's standing in the industry or ability to contract new work. And these impacts can be substantial: contractors reporting positive impacts on average see a nearly 5 percent

reduction in project schedule and a 4 percent reduction in project costs.

"Consistently, contractors have reported that they receive project and business benefits from safety, even across dramatically different construction markets, such as the ones in 2012 and 2017," says Steve Jones, senior director, industry insights research at Dodge Data & Analytics. "Safety investments clearly pay off in measurable ways and in ways that are harder to quantify, but that still have a major impact on a contractor's business."

The study followed up on the 2012 and 2015 findings on leading indicators of a positive safety culture and climate on jobsites. For instance, safety & health training for supervisors and workers, one of the eight indicators, is up from 2015, while recognizing the importance of good communication, another of the indicators, is down. "This survey helps us track what is happening in the industry relative to each leading indicator. These findings are extremely useful in identifying needs and opportunities for improvement," says Chris Cain, executive director, CPWR.

The study examined the degree to which contractors are deploying technologies that can help improve jobsite safety, a concept that was also examined in 2012. Different technologies were explored, including



BIM, mobile tools and emerging technologies like drones and wearable devices. The findings reveal the ways in which technology is already helping to improve safety and how it is likely to do so in the future.

- Over two thirds of contractors who use BIM (69 percent) state that it has a positive impact on project safety, a 27-point increase over those who reported that in 2012.
- Over half of those reporting that positive impact attribute it to using BIM to identify potential site hazards before construction begins, to conduct clash detection, to support prefabrication and to create 3D images.
- Smartphone use is nearly ubiquitous onsite, and tablet use is widespread and growing. This allows for use of mobile tools like cameras to be used by 85 percent of all contractors onsite. The documentation of site condition and work progress is fundamental to many safety efforts.
- Nearly half of contractors (42 percent) also employ safety inspection checklist apps, but use of mobile tools for safety training (35 percent) and to access safety and health websites (28 percent) is less common.
- Almost one quarter of contractors (21 percent) use drones to promote safety onsite for functions such as reality capture that allow for digital analysis of existing conditions, and almost three quarters of them (70 percent) believe that these have a positive impact on safety.
- While wearable devices like badges with coded electronic information and smart helmets are only being used by 13 percent of contractors

currently, 82 percent of those who use them report a positive impact on safety. This suggests that as these technologies become more widely known and more affordable, their potential for improving jobsite safety increases.

“Technology is drastically improving jobsite safety, providing tangible results in protecting workers and firms alike,” says Jim Dorris, United Rentals’ vice president of environmental, health and safety. “Evolving data platforms, tools, and service capabilities will deliver innovative new safety solutions, and United Rentals is excited about the emerging roadmap to safer projects of all types.”

Another emerging trend explored in the study is PtD: the effort to help improve construction safety by actively considering safety issues during design, from the schematic stage forward. The study included an architect survey on this issue, which found that while few architects were aware of the formal name for this process before taking the survey, the use of key PtD practices occurred at least to some degree.

- Most architects (83 percent) report that they have worked with GCs and key trades before the completion of schematic design to identify opportunities for prefabrication.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Safety Prevention Through Design And Technology

CONTINUED FROM PRECEDING PAGE

- Roughly two thirds are either reviewing the design during schematic for safety during building operations/maintenance (68 percent) or use a lifecycle safety approach to improve safety during building operations (66 percent).
- However, only about half of architects (51 percent) do similar reviews to optimize construction safety.

The biggest barrier to wider use of PtD among architects is concern about taking on construction liability, reported by 79 percent, followed by lack of client interest at 63 percent. Correspondingly, most architects (81 percent) would be influenced by requests from their clients to take this approach, and over two thirds (68 percent) would be influenced by insurance incentives. With global studies linking between 22 percent and 63 percent of workplace fatalities to design-related factors, getting owners on board with demanding this approach, providing liability coverage for architects seeking to practice it and getting insurance companies to reward them appear to be powerful ways to enhance the safety records of buildings.

“The survey findings confirm two things we have been hearing for years,” says Cain. “Owners drive construction safety and health, and architects are reluctant to implement PtD solutions without

client pressure. By ensuring the entire team, starting with the owner/client, focuses on preventing jobsite hazards, we will continue to see improvements in worker injuries, illnesses, and fatality rates.”

About CPWR: The Center for Construction Research and Training [CPWR] is a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing injuries, illnesses, and fatalities in the construction industry through research, training, and service programs, and currently serves as the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health’s (NIOSH) National Construction Center and the research and training arm of NABTU. In this capacity, CPWR works to reduce or eliminate occupational safety and health hazards faced by construction workers through safety and health research and the development of a broad array of training programs. For more information please go to www.cpwr.com.

About United Rentals: United Rentals, Inc. is the largest equipment rental company in the world. The company has an integrated network of 1,019 rental locations in 49 states and every Canadian province. The company’s approximately 15,000 employees serve construction and industrial customers, utilities, municipalities, homeowners and others. The company offers approximately 3,300 classes of equipment for rent with a total original cost of \$11.6 billion. United Rentals is a member of the Standard & Poor’s 500 Index, the Barron’s 400 Index and the Russell 3000 Index® and is headquartered in Stamford, Conn. Additional information about United Rentals is available at www.unitedrentals.com. •

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Dodge Data & Analytics Launches Dodge Construction Central™ with New Analytics, Collaboration, and Workflow Integration Capabilities

Construction Central enhances current construction intelligence offering to deliver deeper market insights, make working across project teams easier

Dodge Data & Analytics announced the launch of Dodge Construction Central™, continuing the evolution of Dodge's vision for a single unified hub where all construction industry and project stakeholders can discover, share and access new and unique insights from across the entire construction ecosystem and along the full project lifecycle to make timely, data-driven decisions.

Dodge Construction Central delivers deep intelligence to project stakeholders from the most-comprehensive industry data cloud. It empowers them to collaborate with project teams and integrate insights directly into their business processes by leveraging artificial intelligence, advanced analytics, collaboration and workflow automation technologies.

"Increasingly, improving productivity and attaining growth in our industry requires knowledge-sharing and collaboration among many companies, stakeholders and workflows," said Mike Petruccio, Chief Executive Officer, Dodge Data & Analytics. "Dodge Construction Central is the first market intelligence hub where all players across the industry can gain critical insights and collaborate to overcome challenges and drive successful projects."

Focusing on productivity enhancing software and data for contractors, specialty trades, construction services, and other industry professionals Dodge Construction Central recently introduced several new capabilities that are designed to help firms increase productivity, facilitate collaboration, mitigate risk and improve their visibility of project and market details that have been inaccessible until now.

Product Quantities – Ranks and prioritizes projects based on actual counts of products required for specific projects.

Basis of Design – Targets business development efforts by filtering projects by manufacturer and product specified as Basis of Design.

PreQual – Streamlines a thorough subcontractor prequalification process.

Invitation to Bid – Shares projects with network contacts to accelerate the bid request process.

Service Area – Geo-locates prospective project partners based on proximity to jobsite.

Dodge Data Services & Sweets Leads Delivery – Provides access to Dodge and Sweets data within a firm's existing workflows. •

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Pace Of Construction Activity Projected To Accelerate Through 2019—AIA Forecast

Strength in industrial and institutional sectors offsetting projected easing in commercial construction activity

Despite labor shortages and rising material costs that continue to impact the construction sector, construction spending for nonresidential buildings is projected to increase 4% this year and continue at that pace of growth through 2019. The American Institute of Architects (AIA) semi-annual Consensus Construction Forecast indicates the commercial construction sectors will generate much of the expected gains this year, and by 2019 the industrial and institutional sectors will dominate the projected construction growth.

“Rebuilding after the record-breaking losses from natural disasters last year, the recently enacted tax reform bill, and the prospects of an infrastructure package are expected to provide opportunities for even more robust levels of activity within the industry,” said AIA Chief Economist, Kermit Baker, PhD, Hon. AIA. “The Architecture Billings Index (ABI) and other major leading indicators for the industry also point to an upturn in construction activity over the coming year.” •



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2018 NDS Standard For Wood Approved By ANSI

The American Wood Council (AWC) 2018 *National Design Specification® (NDS®) for Wood Construction* has been approved as an American National Standard by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The NDS is referenced for wood design in the International Code Council's 2018 *International Building Code (IBC)*.

Primary changes in the 2018 NDS include:

- New design provisions for ring shank nails to address increased roof uplift loads in ASCE 7-16;
- Added design provisions for stainless steel nail withdrawal;
- Added design provisions for fastener head pull-through in lumber and wood structural panels;
- Revised provisions for incised lumber; and,
- Adjustments to fire design provisions for exposed wood members and connections to aid in new applications where fire resistance ratings are required.

"To make this code-referenced standard the most user-friendly it can be, we will now be developing supporting publications such as an *NDS Commentary*, revising technical reports and design aids, and conducting further research to ensure continued widespread acceptance of wood in construction," said AWC Vice President of Engineering Bradford Douglas. "AWC particularly thanks the volunteers on our Wood Design Standards Committee for their work on this important publication."

The 2018 *NDS* is available in read-only electronic format on the AWC website. A print version of the standard was expected to be available for purchase in early 2018.



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Product News

Lighter Weight Trimaco E-Z Up® Dust Containment Poles Are Here

You've seen dependable Heavy Duty Trimaco E-Z Up Poles on the job, but what if you're looking for a lighter weight solution for dust containment?



The Trimaco E-Z Up® Dust Containment Poles will get the job done. Trimaco's E-Z Up® Dust Containment Pole works with plastic sheeting to create a dust barrier on the jobsite. The durable steel construction adjusts to a maximum height of 12 feet. Simply clip plastic onto the quick clip and adjust the pole to ceiling height with twist lock technology. The unique bottom spring ensures a snug fit.

Trimaco

www.trimaco.com

Sto Launches Impact Resistance Program

Sto announced the formal launch of its Impact Resistance Program designed to provide information about its leading impact- and hurricane-resistant, continuous insulation wall systems.

StoTherm ci has a proven history of delivering impact resistance for code-approved buildings in storm-prone, coastal areas, such as Florida's Miami-Dade County, as part of its Hurricane Impact System Program (see our website and brochure for more information). A variety of prominent projects across the country designed to stand up to both extreme weather and

everyday abuse provide even more examples. While these systems are built to withstand the most severe weather conditions, StoTherm ci can also be configured to meet various impact levels consistent with the everyday requirements of a specific location or type of use. Employed in entryways, staircases, lower-level, street-facing walls and many more applications, Sto's Impact Resistant System can provide an excellent solution for keeping exterior wall surfaces intact, clean and fresh.

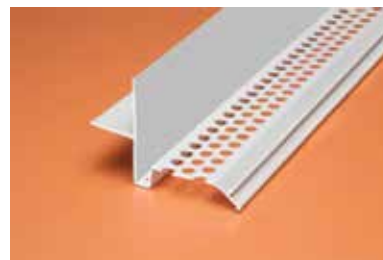
Impact Resistance is just one of many benefits offered by StoTherm ci Systems. Please also refer to their HP Colorant Program to find out more about unique finish designs, Sto Studio design services and the superior fade-resistance that characterizes the entire line of Sto finishes.

For more information, see the company's program brochure and video.

STO Corp.

www.stocorp.com

Plastic Components' NEW CI Trim for Hard Coat



Save time and installation costs with Plastic Components' new continuous insulation trim. Its design incorporates

the cornerbead into a single piece, improving job quality and delivering a better finish. Made of heavy duty, contractor-grade PVC our new CI trims are perfect for 1.5", 2" and 2.5" foam, with 3/4" or 7/8" stucco finishes.

Plastic Components

plasticcomponents.com

LENOX® Introduces the HRX™ Bi-Metal Band Saw Blade

Engineered to cut structural steel, tubing and bundles, large metal beams and heavy walled tubes, LENOX® introduces the HRX™ Bi-Metal Band

Saw Blade, an entirely new product in the LENOX band saw blade

lineup, designed for heavy duty industrial applications.



Engineered in response to increasing customer demand for cutting large structural components for commercial construction and infrastructure projects, the new LENOX® HRX™ Bi-Metal Band Saw Blade features:

- **Long blade life.** LENOX POWER BLAST TECHNOLOGY® strengthens the blade to minimize breaks, and durable teeth for cutting large structural beams.
- **Straight cuts through wide cross-sections.** The LENOX HRX™ Bi-Metal Band Saw Blade is designed to improve chip flow and reduce blade deflection for cutting efficiency. The blade's tooth geometry was designed to minimize edge chipping and crooked cuts.
- **Wide kerf limits pinching in larger beams.** The HRX™ bi-metal band saw blade utilizes alternating set teeth, which widen the cutting channel to limit blade pinching.

As an entirely new product in the LENOX® line, the new LENOX® HRX™ Bi-Metal Band Saw Blade leverages the success of the LENOX Rx+® Bi-Metal Band Saw Blade, and is designed to deliver clean cuts, efficiency and durability in large structural cutting applications. High speed steel tooth tips combined with flexible alloy steel backing

material result in a band saw blade that is a cost-effective choice in these sawing applications. The LENOX® HRX™ Bi-Metal Band Saw Blade come in widths from 1-1/4" (34mm) to 2-5/8" (67mm), with extra-heavy set options available to avoid blade pinching large material.

LENOX® HRX™ Band Saw Blades are available at construction and industrial tool suppliers throughout the U.S. and Canada. For more information, visit lenoxtools.com

LENOX

lenoxtools.com

Hitachi Power Tools Introduces Its First 15-Amp Worm Drive Circular Saw, Model C7WDM

Hitachi Power Tools has announced its first 7-1/4" Worm Drive Circular Saw, model C7WDM. It features a powerful 15-Amp motor that produces 5,000 RPMs (no-load) to powerfully rip through OSB, 2x4's, LVL, plywood and

other typical framing materials or fiber cement boards when equipped with a fiber cement blade. Its



soft non-slip grip rear handle is ergonomically designed for comfort and vibration reduction. It comes with Hitachi's 5-year warranty along with two 24T Premium 7-1/4" VPR Framing Blades for fast cutting right out of the box.

The C7WDM was built to withstand the tough

Continued on next page

Product News

Continued from preceding page

conditions of a jobsite. Its worm drive gears deliver longer life. The steel levers increase toughness and real world durability. The highly durable, yet lightweight magnesium base offers easy to read front and side scales for accurate cuts. Bevel capacity on this worm drive circular saw ranges from 0-53°. At 45°, the C7WDM can cut 1-3/4" deep. At 90°, the max cut capacity is 2-3/8". A three-position rafter hook is incorporated for convenient placement at the jobsite and easy storage.

The carbon brushes are easily accessible and allow for simple replacements for user friendly maintenance. The included blade wrench stores in the base of the tool for fast blade changes. It comes complete with a box wrench and two (2) 24-tooth carbide tipped premium framing Hitachi VPR blades. This pro-grade worm drive circular saw retails for \$199. For more information including the full line of Hitachi products and support, please contact Hitachi Power Tools at 1-800-829-4752 or visit www.hitachipowertools.com

HITACHI POWER TOOLS

www.hitachipowertools.com

CGC Unveils Quick-Drying Liquid Waterproofing Membrane For Seamless Application In Wet Areas

CGC Inc., a leading building materials manufacturer, unveils CGC Durock™ Brand Liquid Waterproofing Membrane, a durable and seamless application for use in commercial and residential tile and stone applications. CGC Durock™ Brand Liquid Waterproofing Membrane only requires a one-coat application when installed over smooth

surfaces, and is suitable for wet areas from showers (including steam showers) to flooring assemblies to countertops.

With the waterproofing membranes market size estimated to surpass \$10.5 billion USD by the end of 2024, the need for durable materials in construction for commercial and residential projects is growing. CGC Durock™ Brand Liquid Waterproofing Membrane is a strong polymer-based fluid application that is designed to be rolled, brushed, troweled or sprayed. This liquid membrane provides a sealed waterproof barrier in a single-step application when administered over vertical smooth surfaces or in a two-ply application when used on rough surfaces and all horizontal surfaces. Its fast-drying time allows for quick turnaround on the jobsite.

CGC Durock™ Brand Liquid Waterproofing Membrane has the lowest permeance rating (0.43 perms at 15 milliliters dry thickness) of any liquid waterproofing membrane when tested to ASTM E96, making it not only ideal for showers and other wet areas, but for continuous-use residential and commercial steam showers without an additional vapor retarder.

CGC Durock™ Brand Liquid Waterproofing Membrane complements the CGC Durock™ waterproofing membrane portfolio of products, which includes the CGC Durock™ Brand Waterproofing Membrane and Band (sheet membrane).

CGC Durock™ Brand Liquid Waterproofing Membrane is available nationwide through tile and flooring distributor channels. For additional more information, please visit CGC.com.

USG

www.usg.com

Carboline Introduces Thermo-Sorb® 263 and Thermo-Sorb® E, Intumescent Fireproofing

Carboline has announced the release of Thermo-Sorb 263 and Thermo-Sorb E. Both are VOC compliant intumescent coatings. They provide a durable and decorative, fast drying fire protection solution for commercial and light industrial applications.

Thermo-Sorb 263 provides up to four hours of cellulosic fires protection for interior structural steel. While Thermo-Sorb E provides up to



three hours of cellulosic fire protection for exterior structural steel.



“Both products are part of a LEED compliant system. Carboline continues to provide green options for owners, architects and operators

around the world,” said Jim Rippe, Executive Vice President Fireproofing / Engineering Sales.

Thermo-Sorb 263 and Thermo-Sorb E have been tested and certified in accordance with ASTM E-119, UL 263 and CAN/ULC S 101-07 and is rated for exterior and interior use.

The intumescent reaction and resulting char production slows the rise of steel temperature and allows it to maintain its strength for an extended period of time. This increases the time for safe evacuation of the occupants and protection of assets.

“In addition to providing functional coatings in a competitive industry, the fireproofing products we develop actually protect against loss of life by ensuring the integrity of the steel,” said Ed Taylor, Fireproofing Laboratory Manager.

These solvent based intumescent offer a decorative finish as well as excellent resistance to high humidity, wet/freeze/thaw cycling, ultraviolet exposure, and atmospheric weathering.

“Thermo-Sorb 263 and Thermo-Sorb E can save our customers time and money by offering many benefits over water based systems; including low application temperatures, 4 hour recoat time and superior weatherability,” said Sean Younger, Senior Market Manager – Fireproofing.

The superior physical characteristics and a high quality finish make Thermo-Sorb 263 and Thermo-Sorb E the ideal fire protection solution for both exterior and interior exposure.

CARBOLINE

www.carboline.com

ParexUSA Acquires Super-Tek and Formulated Solutions

Parex USA, Inc. has announced the acquisition of New York-based Super-Tek Products, Inc. and Formulated Solutions, LLC, further strengthening its North American market position. The acquisition brings together two

Continued on next page

Product News

Continued from preceding page

companies with a shared vision of innovation and service and will further increase the value that Parex USA delivers to its customers and partners.

Headquartered in Queens, Super-Tek has been a leading force in tile and stone installation products in New York City since 1978. Formulated Solutions boasts well-known brands in façade solutions: New York Stucco, Bestcoat™, TESS, cMent®, and XT 2000+. With this acquisition, Parex USA considerably strengthens its position in North East region with a unique logistics and production platform based in New York City.

Jamie Chilcoff, President and CEO, says, “I am proud to welcome Super-Tek and Formulated Solutions into the Parex USA family of award-winning brands. Adding them accelerates our ability to service the Northeast. They are proven industry leaders in their own right, and we are excited about growing our businesses together.”

Parex USA

www.parexusa.com

New Bosch BLAZE™ Pro 165 Ft. Laser

The Bosch BLAZE™ Pro GLM165-40 165 Ft. Laser Measure is a fully featured yet simple-to-use tool. It provides an easy-to-read backlit display that illuminates the measurements, and it delivers real-time distance, distance, area, volume and indirect measuring functions. It has a 10-measurement storage capability. This measure has addition/



subtraction functionality, so the user can add or subtract measurements. The BLAZE™ Pro includes default real-time measurement mode, adjusting the measurement the closer to or further from the target the laser measure is. It has laser precision technology and real-time measurement mode, for instant and reliable measurements up to 165 Ft., to size up the job in seconds. It is accurate up to $\pm 1/16$ In. and features a digital level. It fits in any pocket for easy access.

BOSCH TOOLS

www.boschtools.com

PEI Evaluation Service® Certifies MarinoWARE's Viper20 Stud with High Impact-Resistant Wallboards for Soft Body Impact

Progressive Engineering (PEI) Evaluation Service is an accredited ISO Standard 17065 Product Certifier. Recently, PEI tested and certified MarinoWARE's Viper20 Stud as meeting the requirements of ASTM C1629 for Soft Body Impact Resistance.

Currently, sellers advertise high-impact wallboards as achieving Level 3 Impact Resistance with 30 mil studs. Now Viper20 has also achieved Level 3 impact resistance with 7 high-impact wallboards. PEI compiled this data into an Assembly Evaluation Report (AER), the full text of which is available at the MarinoWare web site.

MarinoWARE continues to be an industry leader in testing & code compliance. We stand behind our Viper20 product with high-impact wallboards, and have the 3rd party documentation to back it up.

MarinoWare

www.marinoware.com

Armstrong Ceiling & Wall Solutions Introduces New Direct Attach Option for SoundScapes® Blades™

With the introduction of a new direct attach installation option for its line of SoundScapes® Blades™ linear acoustical panels, Armstrong Ceiling & Wall Solutions offers maximum



Armstrong SoundScapes in a cafe setting

design flexibility, making it possible to attach the panels directly to decks, ceilings or walls, including drywall, metal, or other surfaces. The direct attach option requires no main beams or cross tees. This makes it ideal in spaces with limited ceiling height that may prevent the panels from being attached to a suspension system or in exposed structure spaces that have enough height for acoustical treatments but have obstructions that make ceiling installation difficult.

With the addition of the new direct attach option, designers have the flexibility to install the vertical panels from the metal deck, drywall ceiling, or wall, using a Prelude® 15/16" suspension system, a hanging kit, or the direct attach method with Axiom® Wall Molding.

SoundScapes Blades panels combine excellent acoustical absorption with upscale linear design to reduce reverberation time in spaces.

For example, an untreated 1,000 square foot exposed structure space has a reverberation time of 2.4 seconds. By installing forty 22" x 46" panels, which represents three percent ceiling coverage, the reverberation time is reduced to 1.0 second, providing a better level of noise reduction in spaces where speech privacy is not a concern.

The panels are seismic tested and approved and have a Class A fire rating. They are made from 71 percent recycled material and can be recycled at the end of their service life.

For more information about SoundScapes Blades panels, including a colorful new brochure featuring 21 different layout designs, visit armstrongceilings.com/soundscapeblades.

Armstrong Ceilings

www.armstrongceilings.com

Crane Composites Introduces Wall Protection Collection

Crane Composites, announced 13 new colors in 2 finishes within the new VARIETEX Sands Collection. According to Crane Composites, durable wall coverings will gracefully stand up to the rigors of most commercial buildings. VARIETEX helps to create a sustainable space with a wide range of stylish finishes and colors, while still meeting the sanitary requirements of even the toughest commercial environments. Go beyond traditional surfaces with Crane resilient wall panels as wainscoting, accent walls, counter facades, and many other applications. Use VARIETEX in any interior setting that receives abuse, yet needs to remain attractive.

To view the new VARIETEX Sands Collection, visit cranecomposites.com/sands.

Crane Composites

www.cranecomposites.com

Product News

New DEWALT® 20V MAX* 1/2" Mid-Range Impact Wrench

DEWALT announces two new 20V MAX* 1/2" Mid-Range Impact Wrenches (DCF894 and DCF894H). They are available in detent pin style for users who need maximum socket



retention and hog ring style, for users who value quickly being able to change sockets.

Each tool is ideal for use overhead or when space is constrained in applications that require high torque including plumbing, mechanical, concrete and masonry, automotive, steel erection, and elevator repair.

At 3.48 lbs. (tool only) and 6.95" to the front of the anvil, the 20V MAX* 1/2" Mid-Range Impact Wrenches are compact yet deliver high-power and torque. Each tool achieves 330 ft.-lbs. of maximum torque, 0-3,100 impacts per minute, and no-load speeds from 0-900 and 0-2,000 RPM in two mode settings (low and high) designed for use in a wide variety of applications. These applications include threaded couplings, pipe flanges, wheel lugs, and concrete anchor setting, among others.

The 20V MAX* 1/2" Mid-Range Impact Wrenches also features Precision Wrench™ Control which helps sense when a bolt is getting tight and pauses before impacting to help avoid over-torque. In reverse, Precision Wrench™ Control regulates how quickly a nut or bolt is removed, helping to prevent run-off. With an efficient brushless motor that provides increased efficiency and runtime over brushed units, the tool is a powerful cordless option.

In addition, the Mid-Range Impact Wrench includes a variable speed trigger and LED light to help provide visibility in low light situations.

Available where DEWALT products are sold, the 20V MAX* 1/2" Mid-Range Impact Wrench comes standard with a three-year limited warranty, one-year free service contract and 90-day money-back guarantee.

DEWALT Tools

www.dewalt.com

Milwaukee M18 FUEL™ High Torque 1/2" Impact Wrench with Pin Detent (Tool Only)

The 2766 M18 FUEL™ High Torque 1/2" Impact Wrench with Pin Detent provides a full corded replacement delivering 750ft-lbs of fastening torque and 1100ft-lbs of nut-busting torque.

The industry's most compact cordless High Torque Impact wrench at 8.1" in length, this tool allows for more access in tight spaces. 4-Mode DRIVE CONTROL™ with Bolt Removal

mode gives users the most control over their fasteners. Bolt Removal mode gives the user more control when removing fasteners by slowing to 750rpm once the fastener has been busted loose. This tool includes a 1/2" Pin Detent anvil which provides superior socket retention. A premium rubber overmold material gives you ultimate comfort during prolonged use while lasting longer against corrosive materials.



Milwaukee Tools

www.milwaukeetools.com

Renewed OSHA Alliance To Focus On Hazards ‘Unique To Female Construction Workers’

OSHA has renewed its alliance with the National Association of Women in Construction “to continue promoting safe and healthful working conditions for female construction workers.”

Five-year initiative to address women-specific concerns within the industry

As part of the OSHA Alliance Program, the five-year pact will target hazards specific to women in construction, including selection of personal protective equipment, sanitation, and workplace intimidation and violence, a Dec. 15 OSHA press release states. The alliance began in 2013.

“Women represent a small, but growing, segment of the

construction workforce,” Loren Sweatt, OSHA’s acting assistant secretary of labor, said in the release. “OSHA’s renewed alliance with NAWIC will continue to promote innovative solutions to safety and health hazards unique to female construction workers.”

According OSHA’s website, the alliance intends to collaborate on raising awareness of OSHA’s rulemaking and enforcement tactics by:

- Sharing information on OSHA’s National Emphasis Programs, Regulatory Agenda, and opportunities to participate

in the rulemaking process

- Sharing information on occupational safety and health laws, standards and guidance resources, including the rights and responsibilities of workers and employers
- Convening or participating in forums, roundtable discussions or stakeholder meetings on construction to create innovative workplace solutions or to give input on safety and health issues

To spread their message of recognition and prevention of workplace hazards specific to women, the organizations will use print and electronic media, as well as OSHA and NAWIC websites; and speak, exhibit or appear at OSHA and NAWIC events. The agreement also calls for encouraging NAWIC chapters to foster relationships with federal OSHA regional and area offices, as well as State Plans and OSHA’s On-Site Consultation Program, to address construction health and safety issues.

NAWIC was formed in 1955 and provides educational and professional development opportunities to more than 4,000 women, the organization’s website states.

OSHA Adjusts Penalty Amounts For 2018

On Jan. 2, civil penalty amounts for violations of workplace safety and health standards increased by two percent from last year. In accordance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, the Department of Labor is required to adjust penalties for inflation each year. New penalties for willful and repeat violations are \$129,336 per violation; serious, other-than-serious, and posting requirements are \$12,934 per violation; and failure to correct violations is \$12,934 for each day the condition continues. •

BLS Releases Census of 2016 Fatal Occupational Injuries

The Bureau of Labor Statistics recently released its National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2016, which reports 5,190 workplace fatalities in 2016 — a 7 percent increase from 2015. The fatal injury rate also increased from 3.4 per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers in 2015 to 3.6 in 2016.

More workers lost their lives in transportation incidents than any other event in 2016, accounting for about two out of every five fatal injuries. Workplace violence injuries increased by 23 percent, making it the second most common cause of workplace fatality. The report also shows the number of overdoses on the job increased by 32 percent in 2016, and the number of fatalities has increased by at least 25 percent annually since 2012.

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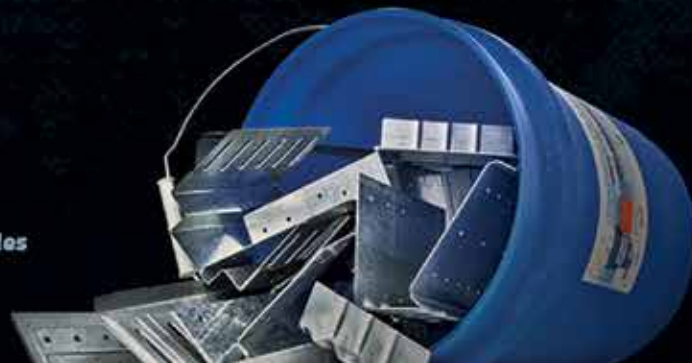
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