

Client **C**urrents

News & Views for Building Professionals

THE ELECTRICAL ALLIANCE

National Electrical Contractors Association and Local 26 IBEW

200 Contractors and 8,000 Electricians **United for Quality.**



Region's Electricians Conquer New Frontiers



Washington, DC JATC Will Be the First in the Area to Offer Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Training Program



The new electric Chevrolet Volt (photo courtesy of Chevrolet)

To build the Washington, DC regions' energy-efficient buildings and smart infrastructure, contractors and building owners need the highest-quality electrical work. Providing that level of quality takes continuous training on the electrician's part. The Electrical Alliance, a cooperative effort between the Washington, DC Chapter of National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the skilled electricians of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, (IBEW) Local 26 has a long history of cutting-edge training.

The Washington, DC Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee (JATC) is responsible for most of this education, offering accredited apprenticeship programs that prepare students to excel in the industry and continuing education to ready experienced electricians for work on tomorrow's systems.

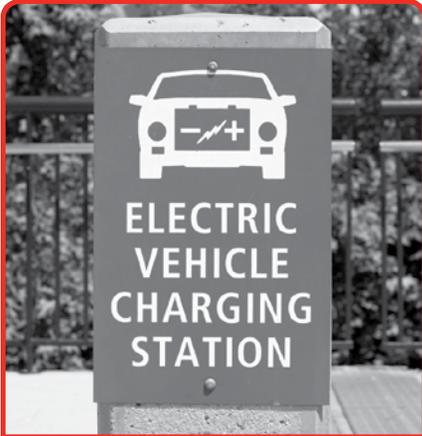
Two and a half years ago, solar panels were installed at the JATC facility to both power the building and provide hands-on training to apprentices. The JATC is also one of a handful of North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) training centers. Now, it's readying itself for the next step—Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Training. The JATC will be the first to offer this type of training in the Washington, DC area.

“There will be company fleet vehicles and public parking lots that will need EVSE. NECA electrical contractors will be able to meet their EVSE needs, no matter how large or small the job.” –Rob Colgan

Ralph Neidert, a master electrician in Virginia, Maryland, and West Virginia and assistant director at the JATC recently participated in the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) to become certified to train the trainers who will teach electricians how to install, commission and maintain Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE).

The EVITP's program addresses technical requirements, safety imperatives and performance integrity of industry stakeholders. At the national level, NECA is one of those stakeholders.

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Electric Vehicle Fast Facts

- Electric vehicles have the potential to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 30% in the U.S.
- UL estimates there will be 1 million Electric Vehicles on the road in 5 years.
- Washington, DC got its first Electric Vehicle Charging Station in November, 2010.
- NECA is finalizing a new EVSE National Electrical Installation Standard that will define processes and best practices.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

“There will be company fleet vehicles and public parking lots that will need EVSE,” said Rob Colgan, NECA executive director, market development in a statement on the organization’s website. “NECA electrical contractors will be able to meet their EVSE needs, no matter how large or small the job.”

Colgan emphasized that charging equipment for electric vehicles is an electrical installation and subject to the same workmanship and safety requirements as traditional electrical work.

“We bring everything together for a customer – the equipment, the specifications, the permitting, the inspections, and the installation they want,” he added.

Neidert is now establishing an EVSE training lab at the JATC’s Lanham, MD facility and will train additional trainers to teach licensed journeymen how to install this equipment. The JATC plans to have the training underway by this fall.

“Our goal is to train as many electricians in this area as possible,” said Neidert.

To find an Electrical Alliance contractor with experience in any type of green building work, visit www.electricalalliance.org and search the member database.



The Electrical Alliance is a cooperative effort between electrical contractors of the Washington, DC Chapter of National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and skilled craftsmen of the Local 26 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) to provide quality products and services to customers and to set the standard for efficiency and productivity within the electrical industry.