

ClientCurrents

News & Views for Building Professionals

United for Quality.

THE ELECTRICAL ALLIANCE
National Electrical Contractors Association and Local 26 IBEW



Alliance Contractors Pro-Active on Green Building *Green Building is Putting Owners in the Black*

Get ready for green.

The Washington area is on the forefront of the green building movement. Washington, DC and Montgomery County, MD both recently passed bills mandating the construction of green buildings, and other local counties, like Arlington County, VA are actively addressing this issue.

The trend in this area represents a larger national movement to incorporate Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design® (LEED) and green building into all aspects of construction and building maintenance.

Perhaps the biggest driver of this movement is that owners and governments are beginning to realize the sizeable long-term financial benefit of green building, not just the environmental and health benefits.

The contractors of the National Electrical Contractors Association's (NECA) Washington area chapter are continuing their aggressive efforts to be out in front of this trend, so they can better serve their clients.

On December 8, 2006 the Washington area NECA chapter hosted a workshop on LEED® and green building practices. Over 50 people attended the workshop, which featured Professor David Riley, an expert

on green building from Penn State University. It detailed the green building movement; described the steps involved in getting LEED® certification; outlined the role of the electrical contractor; reviewed case studies; and enumerated the benefits to building owners.

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Alliance Contractors Attending the LEED® Workshop

Burnett & Jensen Corporation, Asburn, VA

Chesapeake Electrical Systems, Laurel, MD

Dynaletric Company, Dulles, VA

JKM Electric, Gaithersburg, MD

Lee Special Systems, Fairfax, VA

MEGA Power Electrical Services, Gaithersburg, MD

Miller Electric, Gaithersburg, MD

Mona Electric Group, Clinton, MD

NATELCO Corporation, Capitol Heights, MD

Pel-Bern Electric, Rockville, MD

Potomac Testing, Bowie, MD

RTL Electric Company, Chantilly, VA

Silverberg Electric Company, Washington, DC

Singleton Electric Company, Gaithersburg, MD

T&B Electric Company, Crofton, MD

R.M. Thornton, Capitol Heights, MD

VARCO/MAC Electrical Construction, Annapolis Junction, MD

Walker Seal Companies, Fairfax, VA

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The workshop represents the culmination of an 18-month research grant funded by Electri International, The Foundation for Electrical Construction, Inc., which is affiliated with NECA.

“Green building is becoming an important part of the construction world, and we want to ensure that our members are prepared for the vital role that an electrical contractor plays in helping achieve LEED® certification,” says Andrew Porter, executive director of the Washington area NECA chapter.

Additionally, members of NECA are participating with the local US Green Building Council, the association that oversees LEED®, to better acquaint themselves with future developments in the green movement.

“Because this is the wave of the future, it is critical that we continue to prepare our contractors to be able to meet the changing needs of owners,” Porter explains.

US Green Building Council is a Washington-based non-profit that seeks to promote sustainable building practices.

The December 8th workshop is part of a continuing series designed to teach electrical contractors about the changing needs of building owners and city, state and federal agencies.

Need more on Green Building?

To find out more about green building visit any of these sites:

- **US Green Building Council**
www.usgbc.org
- **Washington area chapter of NECA**
www.wdcneca.org
- **The Sustainable Buildings Industry Council**
www.sbicouncil.org



Green Building FACTS

- 1 Green buildings generate 3.5% higher occupancy rates, 3% higher rent rates, and improve ROI by 6.6% on average. *Source: McGraw-Hill 2006 SmartMarket Report*
- 2 DC's new ball park will be the first ever LEED® certified stadium.
- 3 Within 5 years all commercial development in DC over 50K square feet will have to meet LEED® standards.
- 4 Over 500 buildings in the US are LEED® certified, and 3,700 more are under construction.

What is The Electrical Alliance?

The Electrical Alliance is a partnership between the Washington area chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 26. Its goal is to provide quality products and services to customers and to set the standard for excellence within the electrical industry.