



# Action

October 2011

Volume 2, Number 3

## IN THIS ISSUE

<a href="#">CSA Standards and NETCO Launch Personnel Certification Program for Electricians Installing Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems</a> .....	1
<a href="#">2011 CECA Retiring Directors &amp; Welcoming New Directors</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Canadian Electrical Installation Standards (CEIS) Update</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Electrical Project Supervision (EPS) Course Update</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Webinar on “Suite of Services”</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Government Relations Update</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Verdict in on NECA Management Education Institute (EMI) Course Delivered in Canada</a> .....	4
<a href="#">ELECTRI' Council News</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Featured NECA Publication</a> .....	5
<a href="#">NECA Convention – October 22-25 – San Diego</a> .....	5
<a href="#">CECA Holds National Industry Convention</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Building Information Modeling (BIM) NECA “Success on the Job” Case Study</a> .....	6

## CSA STANDARDS AND NETCO LAUNCH PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR ELECTRICIANS INSTALLING SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SYSTEMS

The growth of the Canadian solar photovoltaic (PV) energy sector, the shortage of skilled labour and the need for safe and effective installation of solar PV systems have accelerated the requirement to identify and formally recognize competent system installation personnel.



In September 2011, CSA Standards (CSA) and the National Electrical Trade Council (NETCO) launched a national, third-party, independent personnel certification program for qualified electricians installing solar photovoltaic (PV) systems in Canada. It is the mechanism through which CSA—serving as a third-party certifying body—assesses and formally recognizes a journeyman electrician’s ability to meet national standards related to the installation and maintenance of solar PV systems.

“Electrical contractors may consider leveraging this Made-in-Canada personnel certification program to gain market share by promoting consumer confidence in the quality and safety of solar PV installation projects,” says Eryl Roberts, CECA Executive Secretary and NETCO Treasurer. As more Canadians appear to be embracing a green economy, a qualified workforce for solar PV installation and maintenance is critical to capturing work in this emerging market.

## CSA Issues First Certifications in Canada

On September 16, 2011 at a special ceremony during the IBEW International Convention Exposition in Vancouver, British Columbia the first certifications were awarded to four qualifying IBEW electricians working with United Power Ltd. Congratulations to Peter Curtis, Martin Kugler, Raymond Moffat and Dustin Thomas. These electricians participated in a beta test round of the certification in order to establish an acceptable pass mark, and the certification is now openly available to everyone who wishes to earn it.

Certifications were also issued to Endre “Andy” Cleven, Training Director, Electrical Joint Training Committee, IBEW, Local 213 and Electrical Contractors Association of British Columbia and to John Salmon, President of A.R. Milne Electric in Waterloo, Ontario.

“CSA applauds the first Construction Electricians certified in solar PV systems in this program that is designed to help ensure the safe and effective installation of solar equipment while reducing the risk of serious accident and injury,” says Stephen Brown, Director, Energy, CSA Standards. “These certified candidates have demonstrated measurable knowledge in the solar PV area by passing an assessment against objectively identified criteria. We hope this program will increase public confidence in PV installations and in turn promote energy efficiency.”



CSA Standards' Director, Global Learning Services, Robert Rashotte (far left) and NETCO's President, Phil Flemming (centre left) presented certificates for Construction Electrician (NOC 7241) Solar Photovoltaic Systems Certified to six recipients: A.R. Milne's President, John Salmon (3rd from left); Electrical Joint Training Centre's Training Director, Endre “Andy” Cleven (centre right); and IBEW, Local 213 electricians working with United Power Ltd. Dustin Thomas (2nd from left), Raymond Moffat (far right), Peter Curtis (2nd from right) and Martin Kugler (3rd from right).

United Power Ltd.'s President, George Ingham (left)—a strong advocate for solar PV—speaks with CSA Standards' Director, Global Learning Services, Robert Rashotte (right) at the IBEW International Convention Exposition where NETCO and United Power Ltd. were exhibitors.

For more information visit [www.csa-america.org/personnel\\_certification](http://www.csa-america.org/personnel_certification) or [www.ceca.org/netco](http://www.ceca.org/netco).

## Fast Facts

**Certification Program Name:** Construction Electrician (NOC 7241) Solar PV Systems Certified. Construction Electrician is the official Red Seal occupational title which may vary by province/territory. The National Occupational Classification (NOC) code refers to the occupational description referenced in the Red Seal Program's national standards development.

**Who?** In order to challenge the certification exam, candidates will demonstrate compliance with the following requirements:

- Construction Electrician (NOC 7241) Certificate of Qualification
- demonstration of completion of a recognized solar PV Installation and Maintenance Training Program consisting of in-class and a practical (hands-on) component; and,
- submission of a completed application, certification agreement and certification fees.

**Quality?** CSA's approach adheres to the ISO 17024 international standard for certifying bodies.

**Cost?** \$250 Certification Fee & \$95 Application Fee

**Certification Period & Renewal?** Five year period for certification. Renewal by re-examination only.

**Certification Exams?** Certification exams are administered at CSA-designated test centres across Canada.

**Certification Documentation?** CSA issues a certificate and maintains a database of qualified practitioners.

**Recognition of Training Providers?** CSA does not accredit training providers but rather offers recognition if the curriculum aligns to the national standards and related test blueprint. Training providers are invited to submit their curriculum to CSA for review. CSA then posts a list of recognized training providers on its web site.

## 2011 CECA RETIRING DIRECTORS & WELCOMING NEW DIRECTORS

CECA pays tribute to three outstanding contributors retiring from the Board of Directors – Rick Brodhurst, Willard Kondro and Dan Mott. Thank you for your commitment, dedication and endless support and passion to the association, its members and to the industry as a whole.

The following members have been nominated to serve as Directors by CECA and the Provincial ECAs in accordance with the procedures laid out in Part 4 of the CECA By-law:

- ECA Alberta – D. J. Coppens
- ECA British Columbia – Bob Alger
- ECA New Brunswick – Bob McKibbon
- ECA Nova Scotia – Kevin Ashley
- ECA Ontario – Dave Mason
- CME Quebec – Alain Paradis
- ECA Saskatchewan – Bryan Leverick

Directors from the membership-at-large are:

- Colin Campbell
- Fred Cahill
- Garry Fitzpatrick
- Simon Kragt
- John Salmon

At the Board of Directors meeting immediately following the AGM, the following officers were appointed for the next term:

- Colin Campbell, President
- Dave Mason, Vice-President
- Garry Fitzpatrick, Secretary-Treasurer
- Eryl Roberts, Executive Secretary

## CANADIAN ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION STANDARDS (CEIS) - UPDATE



There has been significant progress to the CEIS, since the Technical Committee meetings of April 19-21, 2011. All 35 target standards have been reviewed by the Technical committee, 1 (CECA 1) is through the editorial process in both official languages and ready for publication, with most of the remaining standards through the editorial process, awaiting image verification and translation. This progress and expected project completion date, will be presented by CECA's president, Mr. Colin

Campbell, at the NECA convention in San Diego, October 22-25.

## ELECTRICAL PROJECT SUPERVISION (EPS) COURSE UPDATE

Most of the action lately, surrounding EPS delivery, has been focused in B.C. and Alberta. Updating of course material and aligning it with NECA's recent changes, will be carried out in the new year. With respect to promoting this exceptional three-level course, we will include it in our Webinar "Suite of Services". For more information, please contact Susan Boorman at 416.675.3226 X316 or [sboorman@ecao.org](mailto:sboorman@ecao.org).



## WEBINAR ON "SUITE OF SERVICES"

CECA is embarking on an exciting new endeavor in delivering cutting edge programs, products and seminars to its membership!!

We have recently attained the versatile "WebEx™" webinar product to deliver information to Canadian contractors in areas of – BIM, NTCCC's "Guide to the CCA1 Sub-contract", NETCO PV installations, Electri-International, NECA courses, etc. We will be highlighting all these areas in a "Suite of Services" webinar, to be delivered to ECA's across Canada. Stay tuned!!



## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

Through its participation with the NTCCC, new draft "Prompt Payment" Legislation, aligned with Industry Consensus Standard Documentation, has been constructed. This ground breaking legislation will be submitted to the Ontario Legislature and promoted to the Western Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C.



## VERDICT IN ON NECA EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (EMI) COURSE DELIVERED IN CANADA – HOME RUN!

We are pleased to report that NECA's prestigious EMI course was delivered to Executives in the Canadian and American Electrical Contracting community **IN CANADA** at the Vintages Pillar and Post Hotel in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, from September 21-25, 2011. The feedback from those in attendance was that this 4-day "MBA Style" course was just what the doctor



**CANADIAN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION**  
**L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES ENTREPRENEURS-ELECTRICIENS**

460 – 170 Attwell Drive, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M9W 5Z5 T. 416.675.3226 F. 416.675.7736  
[ceca@ceca.org](mailto:ceca@ceca.org) [www.ceca.org](http://www.ceca.org)

ordered in this ailing economy. Special thanks to Lucy Roberts of CECA and Greg Mankevich of NECA for attending to the minutia, allowing this tremendous educational and networking vehicle to come off without a hitch. Those interested in reserving space or obtaining information on the next EMI to contact Gregory Mankevich, Executive Director, Management Education Institute at 301.215.4550 or [greg.mankevich@necanet.org](mailto:greg.mankevich@necanet.org).

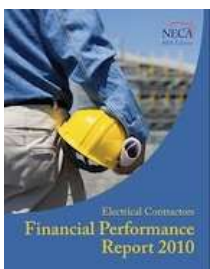
## ELECTRI' COUNCIL NEWS

The ELECTRI' Council met at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago, July 14-15, for their "Mid-Year" meeting. Business focused on three main areas:

1. Breakout sessions and reports on the five (5) items chosen in January for 2011:
  - An Economic Analysis of Portability
  - Combining Charging Station Installation with Energy Efficiency Upgrades: An Emerging Market
  - ELECTRI International: Preparing for the Next Twenty Years – Analysis and Recommendations for Operations and Governance
  - National Energy Leadership Corps. (N.E.L.C.)
2. Presentation of four, and selection of two, "Early Career Award Projects" ("Broadening the Electrical Contractor Portfolio: Pilot Studies into Service as a Core of Business Excellence" and "Succession Planning & Mentoring Programs for Electrical Contractors" were the two chosen), and
3. Presentation of two Completed Projects and Progress Report on one:
  - Using the Measured Mile Approach – Awad Hanna, U of Wisconsin
  - BIM – Thomas Korman, Cal Poly
  - Strategic Energy Initiative – Dave Riley, Penn State

## FEATURED NECA PUBLICATION

### Electrical Contractors Financial Performance Report 2010



The Electrical Contractors Financial Performance Report 2010 is a state-of-the-art, industry- wide reporting program that provides you with comparative information to measure your own operations versus your industry peers — overall, by volume size, by region, and by other criteria. And you don't have to be financially "sophisticated" to benefit from its easy-to-understand guidelines for identifying business strengths and weaknesses and performance improvement opportunities. To purchase, visit the Publications page of the CECA website at [www.ceca.org](http://www.ceca.org).

## NECA CONVENTION – OCTOBER 22-25 – SAN DIEGO

Signs of economic recovery are beginning to appear. The nation's workforce is getting re-energized. New ways of doing business and advancements in technology present opportunities for electrical contractors. Energy efficiency and renewable energy have gained widespread acceptance. Learn how to stay ahead of your competition. Gather knowledge from leading industry experts. Network with your peers and industry leaders. Take back



ideas to incorporate into your day to day business.

It's not too late to attend the NECA Convention and NECA Show in sunny San Diego, October 22-25. Visit [www.necaconvention.org](http://www.necaconvention.org) for registration information.

## CECA HOLDS NATIONAL INDUSTRY CONVENTION

The Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario and the Electrical Contractors Association of British Columbia will co-host the next Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) National Industry Convention to be held June 13-17, 2012 in the Upper Village at the Four Seasons Whistler in Whistler, British Columbia.



**EARLYBIRD deadline is February 15, 2012 for three chances to win a room upgrade, 2 tickets to the Alpine Adventure Peak 2 Peak Tour and special welcome gift!**

Please note that the last day for registering for rooms is May 14, 2012. All transfer arrangements from Vancouver to Whistler are your responsibility. Please note that ECAO's and ECA BC's Annual General Meetings will be held on Saturday June 16, 2012.

Highlights include the welcome party held at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre with access to their Museum and keynote comedian – Roman Danylo, from Vancouver – who is sure to get your morning started off just right (bio is available on the ECAO website), and so much more.

Registrations forms, hotel information, sponsorship opportunities and program updates are available on the ECAO website at [www.ecao.org/events.asp](http://www.ecao.org/events.asp) and can be submitted online. For more information, contact Lyndsy Miceli at 416.675.3226 X300 or [lmiceli@ecao.org](mailto:lmiceli@ecao.org).

## BUILDING INFORMATION MODELING “SUCCESS ON THE JOB” CASE STUDY

The following is an excerpt from a recent NECA Newsletter, identifying a success story in BIM:

*VEC Leverages BIM Expertise for Underground Connections*



On the eve of groundbreaking for a \$650 million steel pipe mill in Youngstown, Ohio, it was discovered that nearly 200,000 feet of underground embedded conduit needed to be redesigned and re-routed. Then, NECA contractor VEC, Inc. brought in Building Information Modeling and saved the day ... and the project! [Learn](#)

[how VEC leveraged its BIM expertise for underground connections >>](#)