



OUR 54TH YEAR

CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER

JUNE 2017

SOUND AND COMMUNICATION AGREEMENT

CLARIFICATION REGARDING LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS

One of the more difficult aspects of utilizing our Sound and Communication Agreement with the IBEW is having a clear understanding of the scope of work that is covered by the agreement. For more than 30 years the issue of fire alarm vs. life safety has been one of the most misunderstood concepts in the industry.

Keep in mind that all electrical work is intended to be covered under the scope of work of any Inside Agreement. This includes work that may also be covered under one or more limited-scope agreements that we also have with the IBEW. In other words, the Inside Wireman can do anything under their agreement. However, in order to do a certain scope under the Sound and Communication Agreement, you need to find a “place” in the Sound and Communication agreement that says you can do it with Sound and Communication personnel, and with or without qualification -- like at the regular installer rate and fringe benefits or at the “equivalent” Inside rate and fringe benefits.

Generally speaking, that “place” would be the Scope, beginning on page 2 of the [Sound and Communication Agreement](#). While this probably does not represent the best creative writing effort between members of a management association and a labor organization, it is what we have been working with since the inception of this agreement. There are actually two different scopes in the printed agreement; the 9th District scope prevails unless it is modified by the Northern California scope.

Life safety systems, as defined in this agreement, are required in buildings having floors located more than 75 feet above the lowest floor having building access. In the Northern California Addendum, life safety systems are not considered “fire alarm” systems, and have not been covered work under the scope of the Sound and Communication Agreement. Until now.

There have been a number of negotiated changes to the scope since the inception of the agreement in the mid 1980's. The last time the agreement was negotiated in 2014, the parties submitted several scope issues to the CIR (Council on Industrial Relations). The decision of Council referred it back to the IBEW Vice President and NECA Regional Director. Recently, those two parties were able to craft a [decision](#) recommended by the Scope Review Committee that essentially says you can now perform work on a life safety system with Sound and Communication personnel working under the Northern California Addendum, but in the areas that have claimed the work under the Inside Agreement (all the Northern California Locals), you must pay the "equivalent" Inside wage and fringe benefits to the people performing the work. San Francisco (SFECA/IBEW Local 6) is specifically excluded from this which means the Memorandum on page 40 of the agreement stands, and you will still not be able to utilize Sound and Communication personnel to perform work on life safety systems in San Francisco. This means you must either assign the work to Inside Wiremen or sub-contract the work out to an employer that utilizes Inside Wiremen for Life Safety work in San Francisco.

We would like to extend our thanks to all of those that have worked diligently on your behalf to move this issue forward. In particular, Bill Orgill, our Western Regional Director for NECA, Bill Kuhr from the San Mateo Chapter, Aaron Colton from Integrated Communication Systems and Doug Lung from the Santa Clara Valley Chapter.



N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release No.: 2017-38

Date: May 22, 2017

Cal/OSHA Urges Employers to Prepare For Sizzling Temperatures

Oakland—As Northern California braces for triple digit temperatures, Cal/OSHA urges all employers to revisit their Injury and Illness Prevention Programs and their emergency response procedures to make sure they are thoroughly prepared for high heat. Sacramento's [National Weather Service](#) is forecasting temperatures in the 90s today and through the weekend. Early next week temperatures will reach triple digits in much of Northern California, from south of Stockton up to Redding.

"During heat waves and whenever temperatures reach or exceed 95 degrees, employers must take additional steps to monitor workers for signs and symptoms of heat illness," said Cal/OSHA Chief Juliann Sum "Water, rest and shade can protect workers from the heat."

California's outdoor workplace [Heat Illness Prevention regulations](#) require employers to take four steps to prevent heat illness:

- Training – Train all employees and supervisors on heat illness prevention.
- Water – Provide enough fresh water so that each worker can drink at least 1 quart per hour, and *encourage workers to do so.*
- Shade – Provide shaded areas upon request or when temperatures exceed 80 degree, and encourage any worker to take a cool-down rest in the shade for at least 5 minutes to protect against overheating. *Workers should not wait until they feel sick to cool down.*

Planning – Develop and implement effective written emergency response procedures for complying with Cal/OSHA's [Heat Illness Prevention Standard](#).

Cal/OSHA will inspect outdoor worksites of industries such as agriculture, construction, and landscaping throughout the heat season. Cal/OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention program, the first of its kind in the nation, includes enforcement of heat regulations as well as multilingual outreach and training for California's employers and workers.

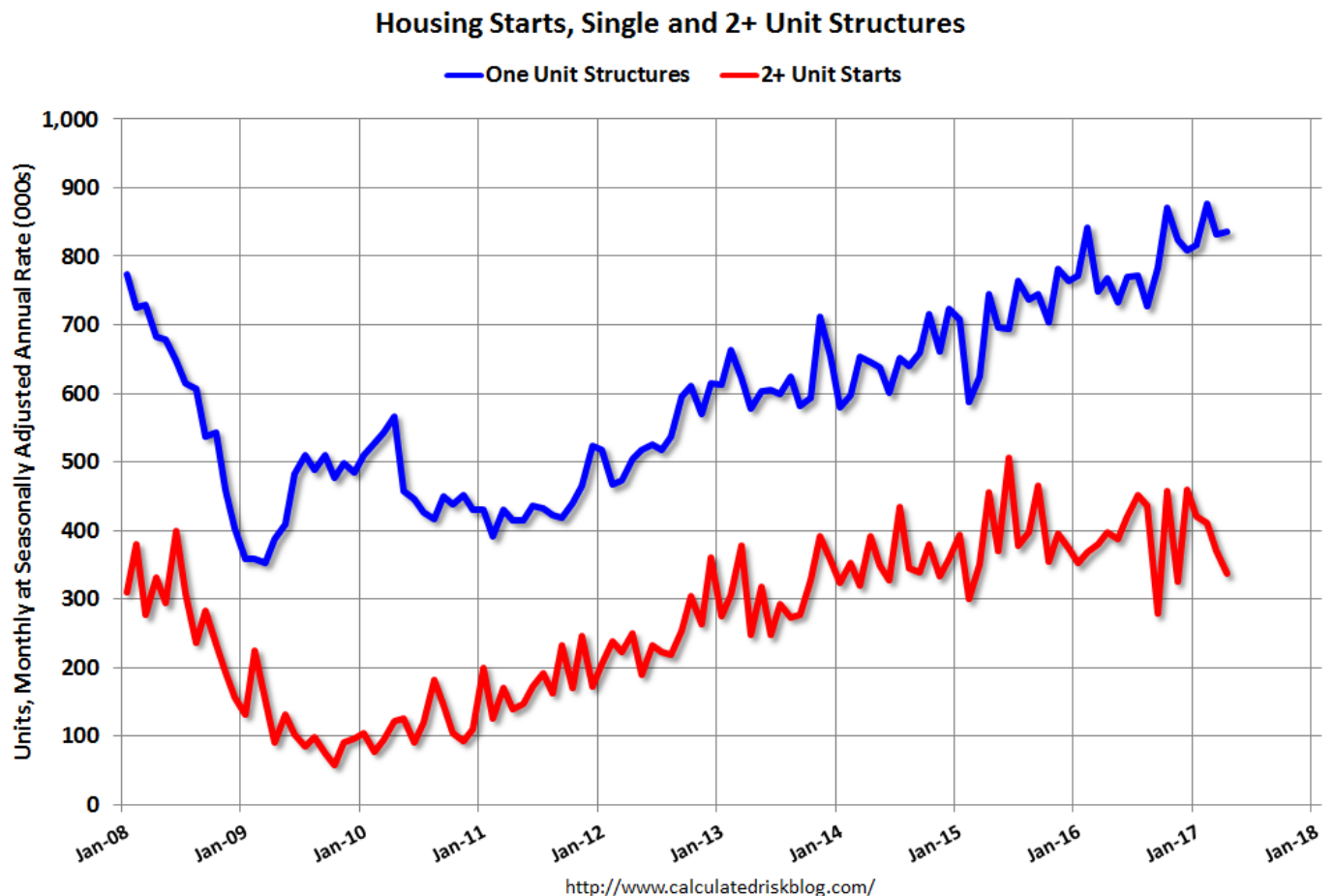
Information on heat illness prevention requirements and training materials is posted on Cal/OSHA's [Heat Illness Prevention web page](#) and on the "[Water. Rest. Shade. The work can't get done without them](#)" educational campaign website. A [Heat Illness Prevention e-tool](#) is also available on Cal/OSHA's website.

Cal/OSHA helps protect workers from safety and health hazards on the job in almost every workplace in California. [Cal/OSHA's Consultation Services Branch](#) provides free and voluntary assistance to employers to improve their safety and health programs. Employers should call (800) 963-9424 for assistance from Cal/OSHA Consultation Services.

Employees with work-related questions or complaints may contact DIR's Call Center in English or Spanish at 844-LABOR-DIR (844-522-6734). The California Workers' Information line at 866-924-9757 provides recorded information in English and Spanish on a variety of work-related topics. Complaints can also be filed confidentially with [Cal/OSHA district offices](#).

CALCULATED RISK

Every picture tells a story, don't it?



“Calculated Risk” a Finance and Economic blog by Bill McBride.

If you want to subscribe yourself, see the link below.

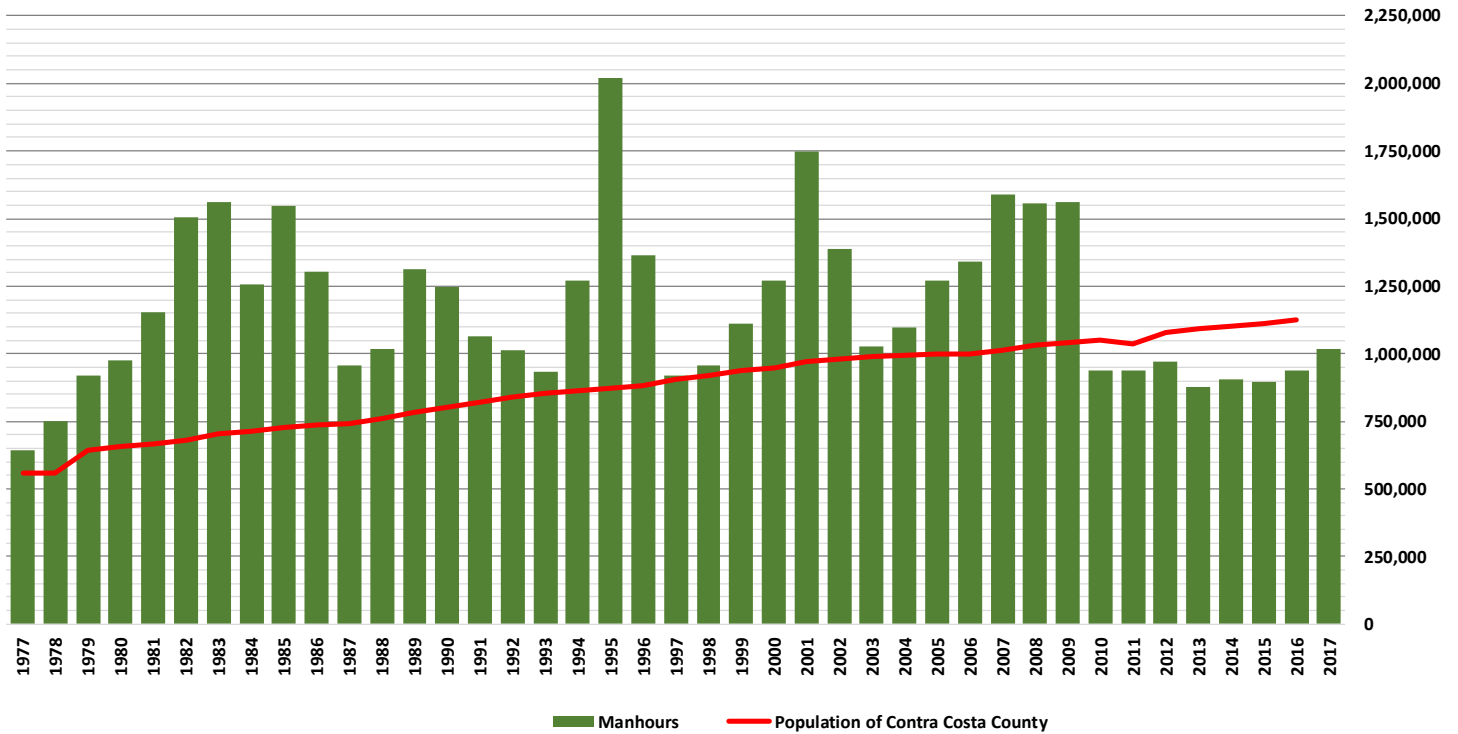
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IBEW LOCAL UNION 302

Inside Wireman/Maintenance

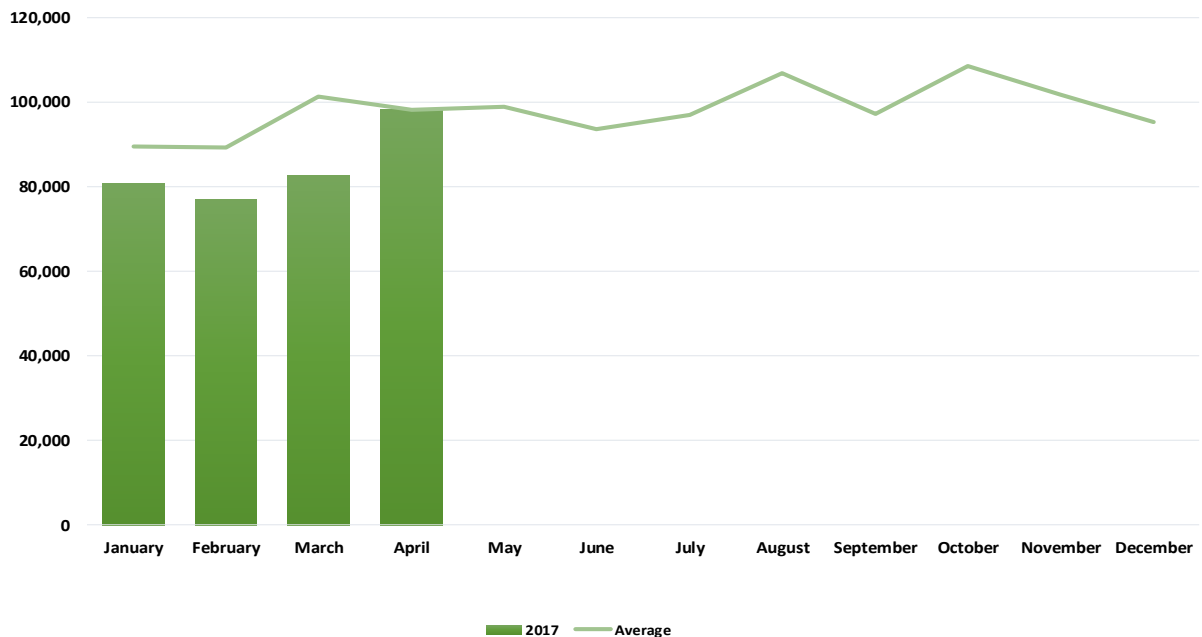
Manhours Worked

(Current year total projected on data available to date.)

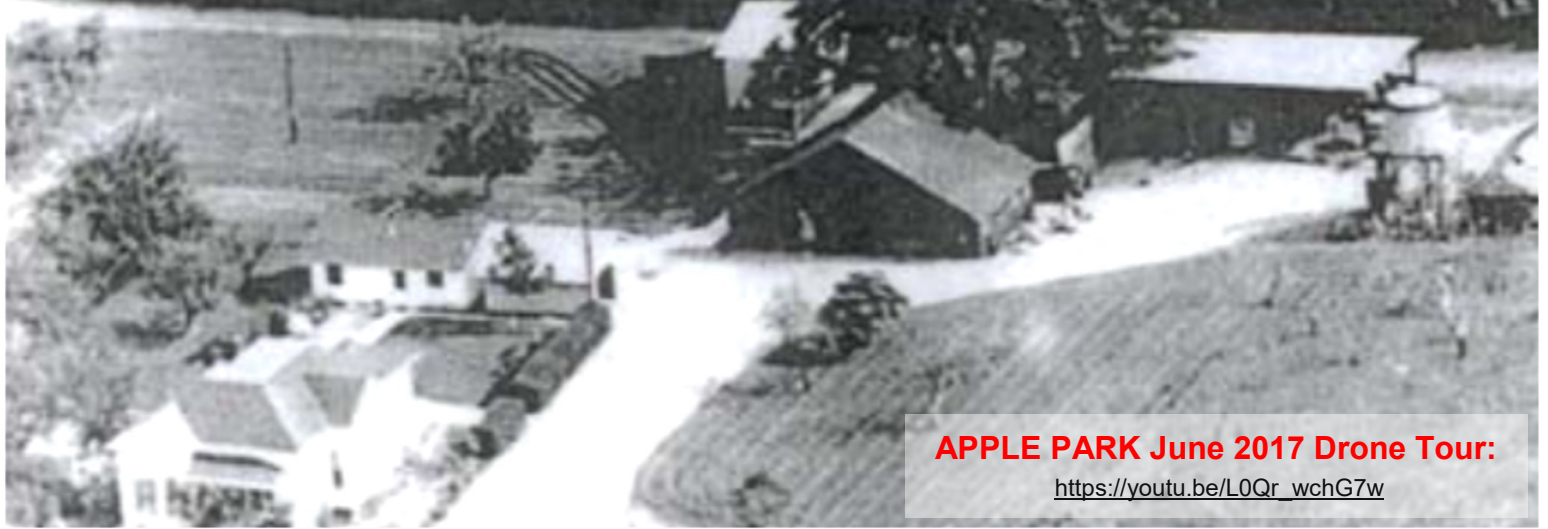


2017 Compared with Historic Average

Inside Wireman/Maintenance



The story behind the random century-old barn on Apple's futuristic \$5 billion campus: [Click Here](#)



APPLE PARK June 2017 Drone Tour:

https://youtu.be/L0Qr_wchG7w

June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1 Apprentice Turn Out Dinner	2	3
4	5	6 LMCC Martinez Training Center 5:30 p.m.	7	8 Health & Welfare Martinez Training Center 11:00 a.m.	9	10
11	12	16	14	15 NECA Board of Directors Plate and Vine Concord 11:45 a.m.	16	17
18 Happy Father's Day	19	20	21 First Day of Summer	22	23	24
25	26	27-28 NECA/IBEW Sound and Communication Partnering		29	30	



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