



Synergy

OUR 51ST YEAR

CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER

July 2014

IT'S OFFICIAL

Acceptance Testing Begins July 1, 2014

At its June 18th meeting, the California Energy Commission approved, on a unanimous vote, the Industry Certification Threshold for Lighting Controls Acceptance Test Technician and Employer Certification. This means that the requirement for nonresidential owners to acceptance test their lighting systems with certified acceptance test technicians will be moving forward with the rest of the energy related provisions of the 2013 California Building Standards Code, Title 24, California Code of Regulations. The effective date is July 1, 2014. Permits issued on or after that date are subject to the new standards.

WHAT THIS WILL MEAN:

- There will be greater compliance and enforcement of Title 24. The new Title 24 requires that building owners install code compliant lighting controls and have state certified acceptance tests performed. Those lighting control acceptance tests must then be approved and documented by certified lighting control acceptance test technicians before a certificate of occupancy can be issued. Building officials are required to ensure that the lighting control acceptance test forms have been completed and signed by certified technicians. To build awareness of the new certification requirement, CALCTP has held 16 Title 24 lighting control workshops across California for more than 700 building officials and inspectors. They are ready to enforce the new code.
- The Appliance Efficiency Regulations are contained in Title 20. Be certain everyone in your estimating department is aware of the new standards, and that they verify that all fixtures and lighting control devices are compliant. They should verify products meet Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulations by searching for the product in the approved Appliance Database found in the following link: <http://www.appliances.energy.ca.gov/QuickSearch.aspx>. They also need to know the database is constantly changing.
- If you have taken a “wait and see” approach to this new development, you can scratch both off your list now. If nobody from your firm has taken the Contractors AT course, please call the Chapter office. If sufficient interest exists we will run the class again, or we will refer you to a class put on by a neighboring chapter. If you have not take the course you will not be able to self-certify your projects.



Streamline Your Company's Required Safety Meetings and Access 900+ Jobsite Safety Talks

The new NECA Safety Meeting app is a powerful smartphone and tablet-based tool designed to streamline the process of holding required safety meetings and delivering required jobsite safety talks.



- ✓ **Record Incident/Accident**
- ✓ **Meets OSHA's Required Meeting Laws**
- ✓ **950+ Safety Meeting Topics – [View List of Topics](#)**
- ✓ **Spanish & English Topics (new)**
- ✓ **Access from your Phone, Tablet or Computer**
- ✓ **Print & Download PDF Reports (new)**
- ✓ **Date Stamps each Safety Meeting**
- ✓ **Covers a Variety of Trade Types**
- ✓ **Record Disciplinary Actions with Digital Signatures**
- ✓ **Record Active/Inactive Employees**
- ✓ **One Account For the Whole Company**

Includes hundreds of general safety talks + NECA's customer safety talks for inside and line industries! There's also a useful web portal for the office that allows for efficient company administration of employees and provides real-time accounting of safety meetings held in the field.

Developed specifically for NECA members to provide a consistent, cloud-based, user-friendly platform to efficiently and effectively manage their company's safety meetings and documenting them as required by OSHA.

NECA members can sign up for either a [FREE 30-day trial](#) or a one year subscription of the NECA Safety Meeting App at NECASafetyapp.com.

New Wage Sheets and Cost Per Hour Sheets

Use the following link, [Cost Per Hour Sheets](#) to access the updated wage rates and cost per hour sheets on our website, ccneca.org. We have updated the standard cost per hour sheet to reflect the fact that most journeymen now receive \$10.00/hr. on the pension contribution.

Also note that we have included a [comparison](#) between the cost of a first year apprentice and a Construction Wireman Level 1. We bring this to your attention because we received our first fringe benefit transmittal for the CW/CE classification last month. Local 302 has begun dispatching Construction Wireman to local contractors on jobs within the scope of work under that Memorandum of Understanding.

While we're on that, we want you to know that the CW/CE's are reported on a separate fringe benefit transmittal that is mailed to the NECA office in Martinez for processing. Note this is a different procedure than how inside wireman and apprentices are reported, even though they may be working side by side on the same job.

July Chapter Meeting

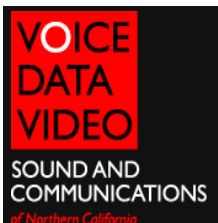


The next meeting of the Chapter Membership will be held on Thursday, July 31, 2014 at La Finestra Ristorante, 100 Lafayette Way, Lafayette, beginning with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m.

We have extended an invitation to Summit Financial Group to do a short presentation on "Six Steps to Succession Planning." Regardless of what stage of life your business happens to be in today, this is a topic you should become familiar with well before its time to think about the next generation of your company. Please make every effort to attend the meeting.

Sound and Communication Pre-Negotiations Meeting

There will be a meeting of all interested employers that utilize the 9th District Sound and Communication Agreement in Northern California on Wednesday, July 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (including lunch) at the Zero Net Energy Center, 14600 Catalina Street, San Leandro.



This is your opportunity to provide input on changes that you believe would improve the agreement. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to NorCal Chapter, Pete Halver at peteh@norcalneca.org.

Negotiations will begin in August. The current agreement expires on November 30th.

Public Works Contractor Registration

Now Required

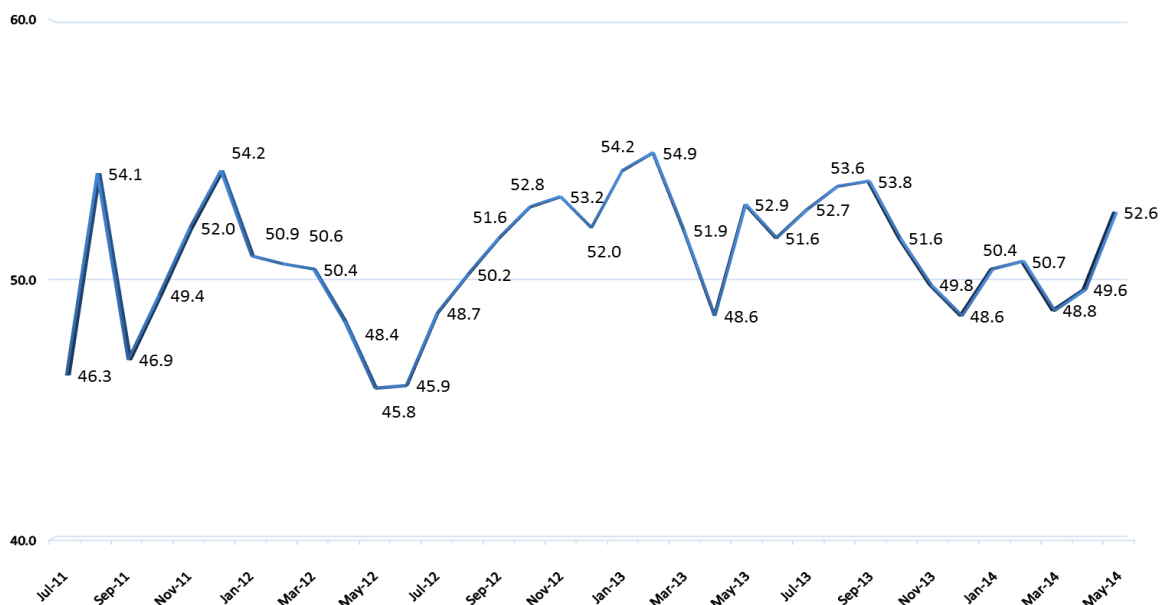
**Online
Registration**
Click here

Our members that pursue state public works contracts will be subject to a registration and annual renewal fee (\$300) under a provision that was passed as part of the State Budget last month. Under the new provision, no contractor or subcontractor will be qualified to bid on, be listed on, or engage in a contract for a state public works if they are not registered with the state as a public works contractor. The additional revenue will be utilized by the Department of Industrial Relations. The requirement to list only registered contractors and subcontractors becomes effective on March 1, 2015. The requirement to use only registered contractors and subcontractors will apply to all projects awarded after April 1, 2015.

The changes will have the effect of strengthening the public works law by screening out bad players. Contractors and subcontractors may not have any outstanding unpaid wage or penalty assessments due to any employee or agency. It also looks like the Certified Payroll Reporting process will get more scrutiny by the state. See the linked [review and discussion](#) from Eddie Bernacchi, our legislative advocate in Sacramento, and the link to the [actual revisions to the Labor Code](#).

Architecture Billings Index

May 2014—Index 52.6



Any score above 50 indicates an increase and score below 50 indicates a decline.

Click [Here](#) to read full article.

CALCTP Acceptance Testing Class for Contractors
June 27, 2014



All fifteen (15) Contractor representatives that attended our CALCTP Acceptance Testing Class for Contractors, on June 27, successfully passed the written test at the conclusion of the program to qualify for contractor certification.

The program was hosted by our Electrical Industry Trust. If you missed the June class, but would like to take it this summer, please contact the Chapter office (925-372-3222).

NECA 2014 Chicago

September 27-30, 2014



[Download or View the Brochure Here](#)

SYNERGY eLinks

[Appliance Database](#)

[NECASafetyapp.com](#)

[Public Works Contractor Online Registration](#)

[NECA 2014 Convention Website](#)

[Wage Rates & Cost Per Hour Sheets](#)

[Personal Best](#)





July 2014

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2	3	4 Holiday	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Sound & Com. 11:00 a.m. Zero Net Energy Center San Leandro	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 NECA La Finestra, Lafayette Board 4:30 p.m. Chapter 6:00 p.m.		



CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER
1024 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 372-3222
www.ccneca.org