



March 2015

Holidays are Now Identical

To make this adjustment easier for our Sound and Communication employers, Mike Bryant from the Western Region office of NECA developed the matrix below to guide you through the holiday schedule in each Local Union in Northern California. Since this is the first iteration of this matrix, we suggest you confirm specific holidays and off-days before they arise until we get any bugs out. Also, this matrix will be subject to change from time to time so we will attempt to keep it up-to-date for you on our website (Click on the link below).

Inside Agreement Holiday Schedule - 2015

Please confirm with the area you are working in prior to replacing this information - these dates are subject to change without notice.
(Caution: This matrix has not been verified and should not be used to plan overtime - please check with the Area(s) that you are working in)

Area/Chapter	May 1st (M 5/1/15)	May 2nd (T 5/2/15)	May 3rd (W 5/3/15)	May 4th (Th 5/4/15)	May 5th (F 5/5/15)	May 6th (Sa 5/6/15)	May 7th (Su 5/7/15)	May 8th (M 5/8/15)	May 9th (T 5/9/15)	May 10th (W 5/10/15)	May 11th (Th 5/11/15)	May 12th (F 5/12/15)	May 13th (Sa 5/13/15)	May 14th (Su 5/14/15)	May 15th (M 5/15/15)	May 16th (T 5/16/15)	May 17th (W 5/17/15)	May 18th (Th 5/18/15)	May 19th (F 5/19/15)	May 20th (Sa 5/20/15)	May 21st (Su 5/21/15)	May 22nd (M 5/22/15)	May 23rd (T 5/23/15)	May 24th (W 5/24/15)	May 25th (Th 5/25/15)	May 26th (F 5/26/15)	
Central Costa Chapter (111 3031)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	Four additional "off days"
Greater Sacramento Chapter (112 3461)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	
Greater Sacramento Chapter (111 4051)	11/06/2015	X								X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Monterey Bay CA Chapter (111 2341)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		Two additional "off days"
Northern CA Chapter (111 5951)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	
Northern CA Chapter (111 5956)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	Variable "off days" on sites with other crafts
Northern CA Chapter (111 1861)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	Variable "off days" on sites with other crafts
Northern CA Chapter (111 6861)	11/06/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	
Redwood Empire Chapter (111 5551)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	
San Francisco Chapter (111 611)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	
San Mateo County Chapter (111 6171)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	Four additional "off days"
Sierra Sierra Valley Chapter (111 3331)	5/01/2015	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																	No additional "off days"

Holiday Matrix Link

NECA ▴ IBEW POWERING AMERICA

Changes in technology and customer requirements can create opportunities for NECA-IBEW employers. The IBEW and NECA have recognized such an opportunity related to customer requirements for certified employers and workers for Low, Medium, and High Voltage testing.

Testing has been around for as long as the industry. More recently, certification and training standards developed by the InterNational Electrical Testing Association (NETA) have been gaining appeal among owners and are finding their way into more and more job specifications. NETA's rigid certification program makes it very challenging for our contractors to meet the NETA qualification standards and still be able to follow a particular customer across the country. In order to streamline the movement of NETA accredited workers the IBEW and NECA have negotiated the "[InterNational Electrical Testing Association Portability Agreement](#)."

The [announcement letter](#) gives additional information about the opportunity and the agreement.



Basic Estimating of Electrical Construction

Dates: Monday – Thursday, June 8-11, 2015

Location: Chapter Office, 6300 Village Pkwy, Dublin

Instructor: Bob Mooty

NECA Member Cost: \$725.00 Non-Member \$1,025.00 (includes material & meals)

Prerequisite: An understanding of electrical construction and the application of electrical material and completion of NECA's *Introduction to the Manual of Labor Units* online course (included with registration). Small mistakes in an estimate can have a huge impact on your bid's bottom line and this course provides the tools needed to be both comprehensive and competitive. This course will discuss the process for assembling an estimate including: developing material lists, applying labor unit data, material takeoff, and application of direct job costs, overhead, and profit.

Following this class, participants will be able to:

- List types of mistakes found when estimating electrical construction projects and how to avoid them
- Describe the parts of an estimate
- Explain the importance of establishing the true cost for a project
- Develop an estimate to provide job management information
- Discuss how labor units can be used to competitively bid projects
- Explain the difference between a competitive bid and simply a low bid

Target audience: Individuals who are new to estimating or are looking to hone their skills

Duration: Four-days

Continuing Education Hours: 24 Hours

The following items are necessary for the successful participation of attending the course:

- One engineer scale
- One architect scale
- Rota meter with 1/4" and 1/8" scale
- Counter
- Calculator

TO SIGN UP FOR THIS COURSE:

Send an e-mail to Juanitas@norcalneca.org with your name and email.



Interested in an Opportunity Walk?

What is an Opportunity Walk? Driven by Graybar's Continuous Improvement department, Opportunity Walks are designed to identify opportunities to reduce waste in your company's processes and procedures. They address a variety of areas or specific issues such as how your employees complete day-to-day tasks, your warehouse receiving, inventory management and shipping processes.

We often become set in our ways, confined by routines and long-standing procedures that work but may not be the most efficient. An Opportunity Walk's outside perspective can provide a new way of thinking and potentially help you become more productive and profitable.

After nearly a decade of internal Opportunity Walks, Graybar extends their success to their valued customers and suppliers at no cost.

To get started fill out the form found [here](#).



TYPES OF WASTE

Material – Capital – Time – Gross Profit

See full brochure [here](#).

Health Care Law: What's New for Individuals & Families



IRS Releases Information and Forms for Satisfying the Individual Mandate and Claiming 2014 Premium Tax Credits

Although employers are not required to offer coverage during 2014, individuals are generally required to have health coverage during 2014 and must report on that coverage through their 2014 federal income tax return. In many cases, the employee will be able to simply state through a "yes/no" question on their federal income tax form that all individuals claimed on the tax form had minimum essential coverage during all of 2014. Individuals will not be required to attach proof of coverage, and employers and insurers are not required to supply proof of coverage provided during 2014. Individuals may wish to maintain evidence of coverage (such as pay stubs showing deductions for premiums or explanations of benefits) in case they are audited, but this is not required.

Individuals who did not have the needed coverage for the entire year, or who are claiming an exemption from the individual mandate, must use Form 8965 to claim an exemption or determine their penalty (which is determined on a month-by-month basis). The penalty for failing to have coverage in 2014 is the greater of 1% of income and \$95 per person or \$295 per family.

Individuals who received a premium tax credit/subsidy will need to complete Form 8962. Both state and federally-run Marketplaces will provide all individuals who had coverage through the Marketplace with a Form 1095-A. This form will include information the person will need to complete the Form 8962, including the employee's monthly premium and tax credit received, so that the employee can reconcile the premium tax credit already applied toward premium payments with the tax credit amount that they are actually due. Individuals who have not received their full premium tax credit will receive the balance as a tax refund, while those who have received a larger estimated subsidy than they were entitled to will owe additional taxes. The amount that must be repaid is capped, and the IRS has said it generally will waive penalties that may be due for late payment of the amount owed or for failing to pay estimated taxes.

Although employers are not obligated to help employees with these new requirements, for those that wish to do so, the IRS has created a [summary](#) and issued [Publication 5187](#) to explain the individual mandate requirements and premium tax credit rules.

IBEW Local 302 Golf Tournament



Local 302 is holding its 1st Annual Golf Tournament on April 18th at Lone Tree Golf Course in Antioch. Proceeds from the tournament will go to the IBEW Sick Committee.

If you would like to play or send a foursome, please let us know, as we will likely sponsor a number of foursomes for the event.

Click [Here](#) for Event Details.

Steelworkers Strike Tesoro



For the past several years, the State Building Trades and the United Steelworkers (USW) have been at odds because the Steelworkers have raided traditional Building Trades work. USW has actually gone out and signed agreements with large non-union contractors (Brinderson, Timec, and Petrochem) that provide for electricians at less than \$20/hour.

In February, USW struck Tesoro Refinery here in Martinez as one of the targets while nationwide talks continue. The link below provides an update on what appears to be a positive development in the evolution of an ugly spat between the Steelworkers and the Building Trades, although the strike continues.

[Building Trades Bulletin and Joint Statement from USW and NABTU](#)

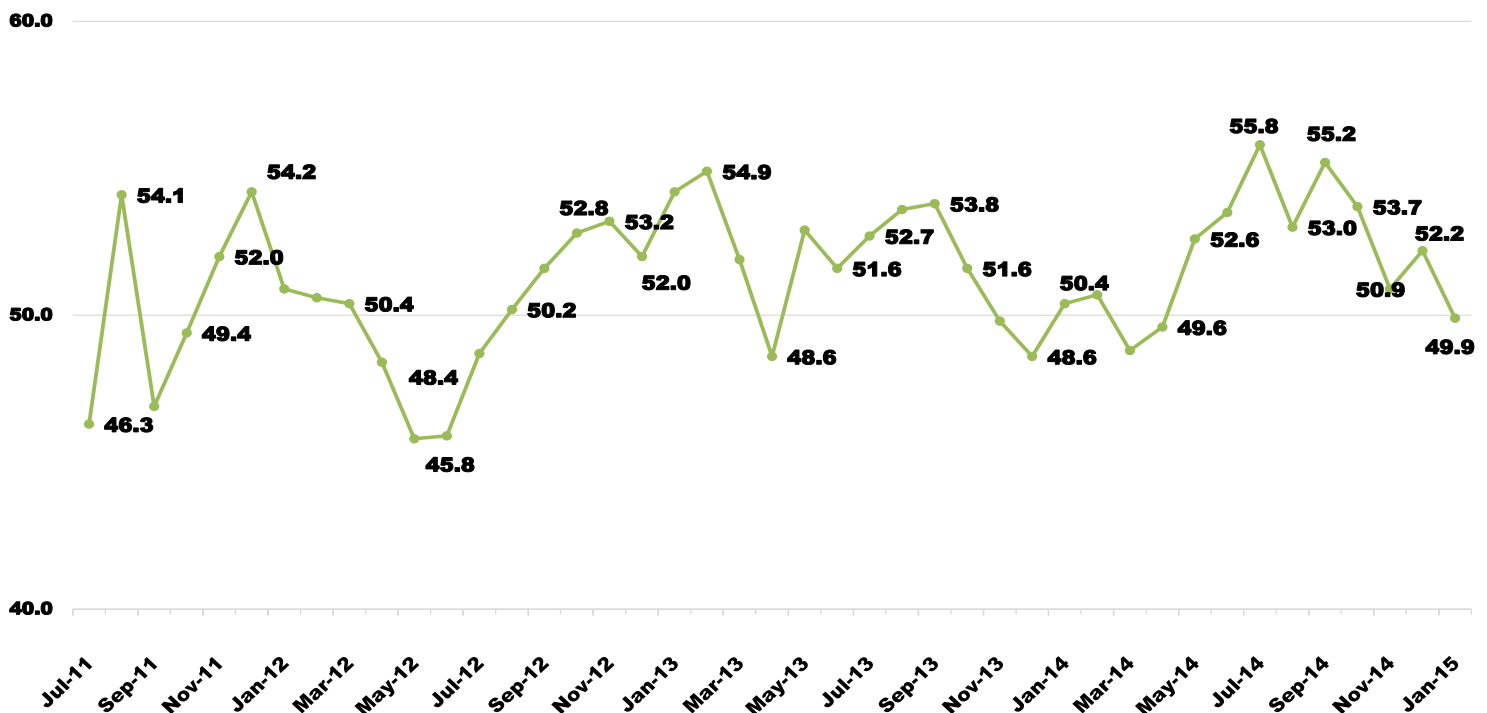
Architecture Billings Index

January ABI Falls into the Red

... [read more.](#)

January ABI 49.9

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



SYNERGY eLinks	
Inside Wireman & Sound and Communication Holiday Matrix	Building Trades Bulletin Building Trades Policy on Steelworkers Strike
Basic Estimating of Electrical Construction	NECA Store
1st Annual Local 302 Golf Tournament	Retirement Trust—Plan Related Information for Financial Statements Disclosure
Personal Best	



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Daylight Savings Time Begins						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
				Negotiations Training Center 5:30 p.m.		
22	23	24 JATT Training Center 3:00 p.m.	25	26	27	28
				Negotiations Training Center 5:30 p.m.		
29	30	31				
		Negotiations Training Center 5:30 p.m.				



CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER

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