



Synergy

OUR 53RD YEAR

CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER

NOVEMBER 2016

NECA 2016

Convention Recap



Surging revenue for firms generating power, light and building communication technologies charged up record attendance for the 2016 National Electrical Contractors Association convention in Boston. But officials and members of the trade group for the \$130-billion construction-industry sector pointed to business uncertainty on several fronts, including workforce gaps, impact of disruptive technology and changing government regulation.

Among the convention's 5,242 attendees were 584 local electrician apprentices who attended educational sessions and tool demonstrations. Despite having approximately 35,000 apprentices across several specialties nationwide, NECA sees a need for 16,000 new craft entrants a year to replace retirees. "That doesn't account for new work or additional improvements in the economy, and we are probably adding in the area of [only] eight to 10,000" workers a year, said association CEO John Grau.

NECA also has combatted its labor deficiencies by investing \$1.25 million in an existing program to identify and train people with prior experience who don't need a full five-year apprenticeship. "They could be people who were maintenance electricians or they could come out of the military—anybody who had some electrical training," Grau said.

One technology that was disrupting many conferees is "power over Ethernet," known as PoE. Systems using the approach bypass traditional electrical infrastructure by channeling electric power and data through a single Ethernet cable. The technology approach that uses category-5 wiring eliminates additional costs for cabling.

One market forecast predicts the sector will rise to more than \$1 billion by 2022 from \$451 million in 2015, growing at more than 12% per year. Skip Perley, CEO and president of Thompson Electric Co., Sioux City, Iowa, said the technology is "really exciting but also scary" because, in many states, it doesn't require licensed electrical work. "That work can be done by basically anybody," he says.

But with an estimated 50 billion to 200 billion devices to be connected to the internet by 2020, the "internet of things" also is a boon to electrical contractors, including the recent boom in data center construction. Market-sector growth is providing opportunities for contractors to supply owners with a wide range of solutions, such as BIM coordination for power systems and prefabricated circuits and lighting systems. "Our contractors can also perform load bank testing on the new data centers as a preventative maintenance measure," said Marco Giamberardino, NECA executive director for government affairs.



RSVP
([Click Here](#))

Contra Costa Chapter, NECA **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Our next Chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 29th, upstairs at Massimo's in Walnut Creek, beginning with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Eddie Bernacchi, our legislative advocate in Sacramento, will be our featured speaker at the meeting. Always one of our most popular guests, Eddie will share his insight on the most recent session of the legislature and how the November election and ballot measures might affect the industry going forward.

Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee **APPLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Our Inside Wireman's JATC will be taking applications during the month of January 2017 at IBEW Local Union 302, 1875 Arnold Drive, in Martinez, on two Mondays (January 23rd and the 30th) from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, be a high school graduate or equivalent, and must have a full year of high school algebra with a passing grade of C or better. Even at this late date, it is possible for a motivated individual to meet the math requirement by taking the self-paced algebra course offered by the Martinez Adult school.

We rely on our members to look for and encourage interested individuals to apply for our program as the future of this industry depends on our talent pool. Please distribute the announcement which can be downloaded [here](#) to any individual that you believe would be an asset to our industry.

news

9th District / Northern California Sound and Communication Wages and Fringes Schedule A

December 1, 2016 to November 30, 2017

On Saturday, October 15, 2016, the members of the IBEW met for the purpose of allocating their two dollar/hour increase in December and voted to allocate \$0.75 to wages, \$0.75 to the pension, \$0.25 to Health and Welfare and \$0.25 to their Health Reimbursement Account. We have the updated wage sheet and cost per hour sheets on our website (see links below):

[Updated Wage Sheet](#) and [Updated Cost Per Hour Sheets](#)

Sound and Communication Registered Apprentice Program

Accepting Applications

The Sound and Communication Apprenticeship program is accepting applications on a year-round basis. Please click on links below to view the Official Announcement and Program Brochure and forward to appropriate department or responsible individual at your firm.

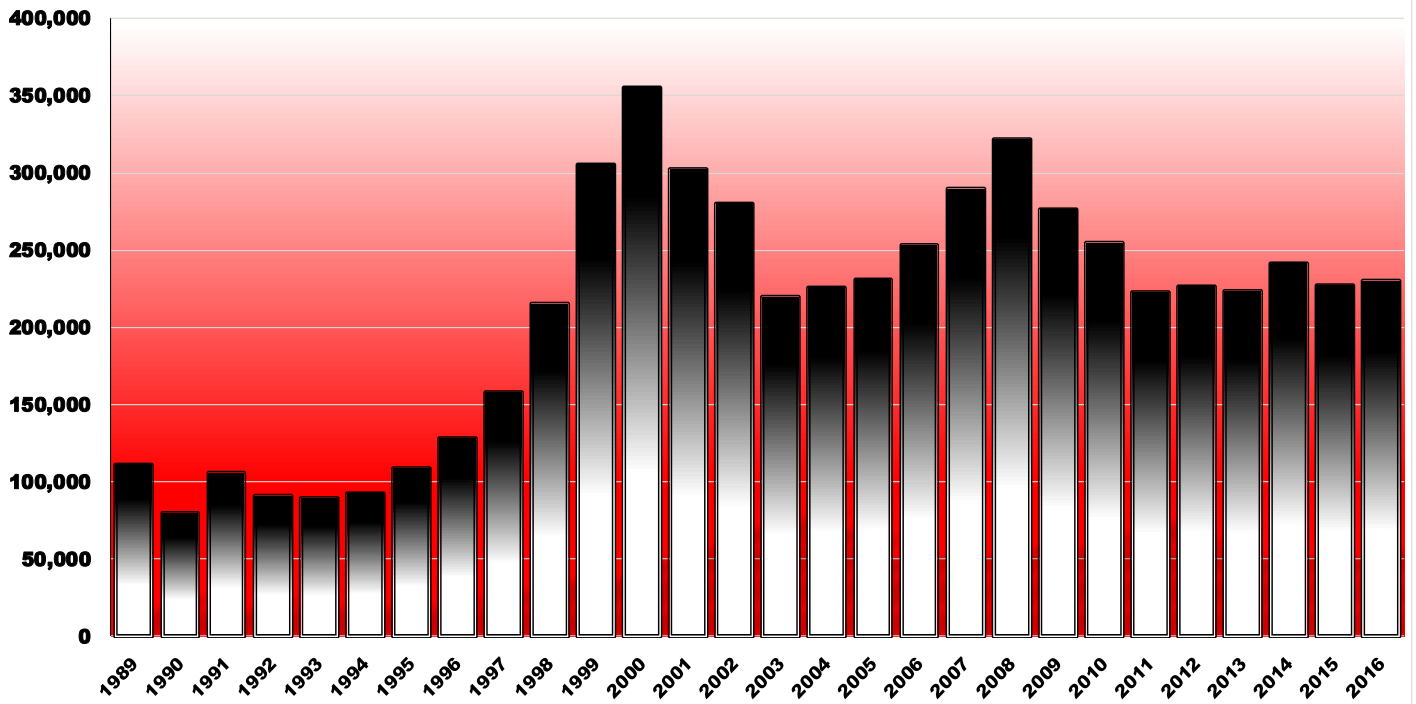
[Official Announcement](#)

[Program Brochure](#)

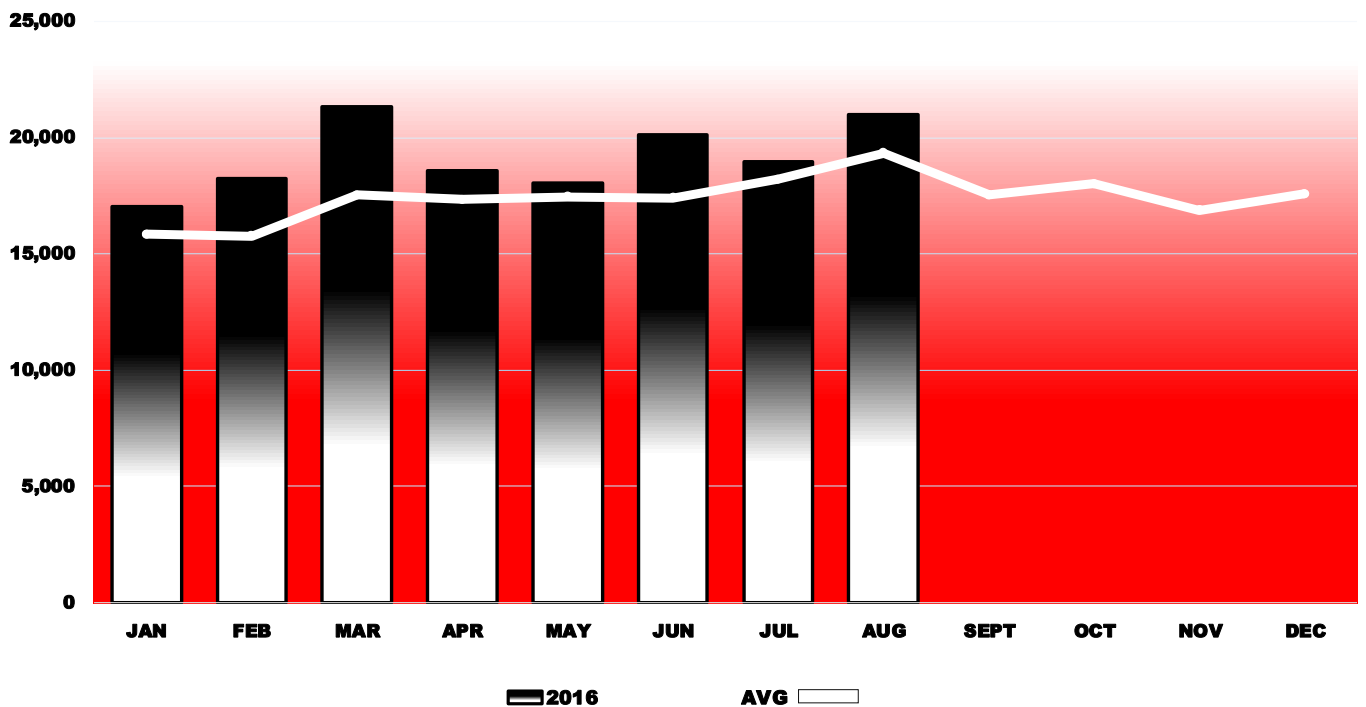


IBEW LOCAL UNION 302

Sound and Communication Manhours Attributed to Contra Costa County Employers (2016 total projected on data available to date)



2016 Compared with Historic Average

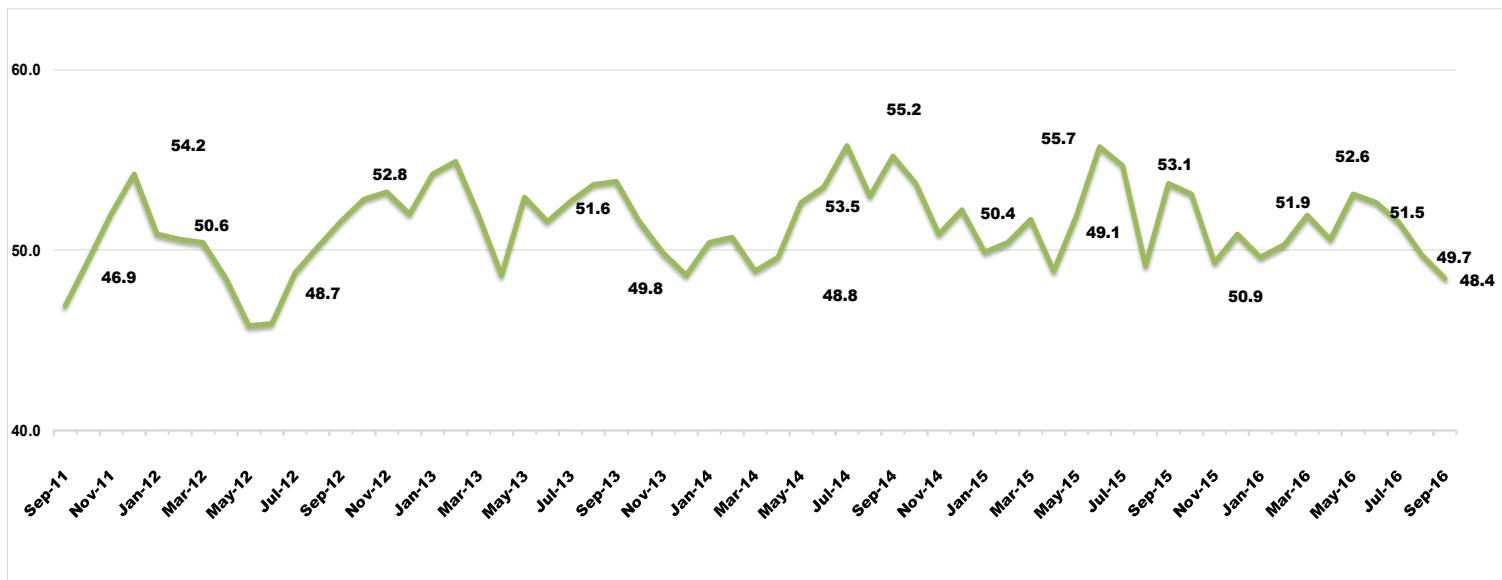


Architecture Billings

Firm billings decline but design contracts grow . . . [read more.](#)

September ABI 48.4

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



SYNERGY eLinks		
SOUND & COMMUNICATION WAGE RATES EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2016	JATC INSIDE APPLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT	75 BAY AREA CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
SOUND & COMMUNICATION COST PER HOUR SHEETS EFF. 12/01/16	JATC SOUND & COMMUNICATION APPLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT	OSHA CLARIFIES WHEN DRUG TESTING, INCENTIVES MERIT WHISTLE- BLOWER CITATIONS



November 2016

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2	3 Industry Trust Primas 11:45 a.m.	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Sound and Communication App Committee 10:00 a.m. Mtz Training Center	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Holiday	25 Day-After Thanksgiving Holiday	26
27	28	29 NECA Board & Chapter Board: 4:30 p.m. Chapter: 6:00 p.m. Massimo's Walnut Creek	30			



CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER
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