



SYNERGY

OUR 52ND YEAR

CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER

November 2015

This Just In

*San Diego, California
October 30, 2015*



34TH ANNUAL BENEFIT
GOLF TOURNAMENT

In sports, some things are downright unexplainable. For instance, how is it possible that the Chicago Cubs last won the World Series in 1908? Or for that matter, how it is possible that the Cubs have not even been the National League representative in the World Series since 1945?

We have had a "Cubs phenomenon" going on around here with respect to the Electrical Contractors Trust of California Annual Golf Tournament. For the past 34 years, we have been sending at least one team (in good years two teams) to compete with the other NECA Chapters in the annual tournament that serves as a fundraiser for our Legislative Advocacy program (Ron Barrow, Eddie Bernacchi, and Beverly Carr). While we have always sent talented players, our teams finished close nearly every year, but never captured the actual title . . .

Until Now.



It is with great pleasure that we convey that our Chapter Golf Team won the Electrical Contractors of California Golf Tournament, which took place at The Grand Del Mar, in San Diego. Pictured left to right are Dave Medeiros, Tom Tatro, Gary Thorne and Rick Henry, our Championship Team!



Employers Signed to the Inside Wireman Agreement

Between IBEW Local 302 and Contra Costa Chapter, NECA

We are providing this advance notice to our employers that effective January 1, 2016, there will be several important changes to the remittance process for employer contributions due on employees covered by the Inside Wiremans Agreement covering Contra Costa County.

First, we will have a new custodian bank for the receipt of employer contributions (your transmittal report and checks). Union Bank will replace the Bank of America as the receiving bank for those reports and contributions. We will provide the exact instructions at a later date, but for now, know that you will be sending your reports and check to a San Francisco address beginning in January (for hours worked in December).

Second, the due date for all contributions will be moved from the 20th of the month to the 15th of the month. Transmittals and checks not received by the 15th will be considered delinquent and assessed liquidated damages. This change is significant. Our new due date will now match all of the other due dates for NECA/IBEW contributions in the Bay Area. We recognize this will affect your cash flow planning, hence we provide this advance notice so that the transition goes smoothly.

Third, we will be expanding NECA/STAR reporting so that you will be able to certify your report, lock it, and eventually transmit it online along with an ACH payment. It will take some time to accomplish all of this, but we anticipate the implementation will begin shortly after the first of the year. Your participation in NECA/STAR will remain optional on your part, but we believe the enhancements will be well-received by everyone in your office involved with fringe-benefit reporting.

news

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

December 1, 2015 to November 30, 2016

On Saturday, October 17, 2015, the members of the IBEW met for the purpose of allocating their two dollar increase in December and voted to allocate \$1.00 to wages, \$.50 to the pension, and \$.50 to Health and Welfare. 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.

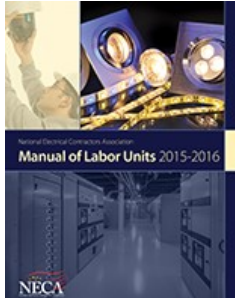
[Official Announcement](#)

[Program Brochure](#)



NECA's 2015-16 Manual of Labor Units Now Available

Request your Free Copy



The 2015-2016 edition of the NECA Manual of Labor Units is now available. Last week, each member company received an order form in the mail for a complimentary copy. You may choose hard copy or CD format. Need more than one copy? There's an opportunity to order additional copies at \$90 each on the order form as well. Requests for complimentary copies must be received by November 15, 2015.

Download Order Form [Here](#).

Note: Order forms must be returned directly to National NECA (orderdesk@necanet.org).



A series of upcoming, no-cost interactive workshops are being offered to explain how California's K-12 schools and community colleges can achieve Zero Net Energy (ZNE) through whole-building retrofits.

These workshops are part of an investor-owned utility (IOU) pilot program aimed at leveraging Proposition 39 dollars to test how some of the state's existing K-12 and community college buildings can be transformed into ZNE facilities.

Full-day technical sessions will focus on best practices in design and operations. Half-day school community workshops will cover design approaches, planning and financing.

School administrators, operations managers, business officers, construction managers, community stakeholders, building designers, operations staff and others interested in ZNE are invited to attend. Space is limited, so please register and reserve your spot today at energydesignresources.com/zneworkshops.



10 dumb
things
smart
people
do when
testing
electricity

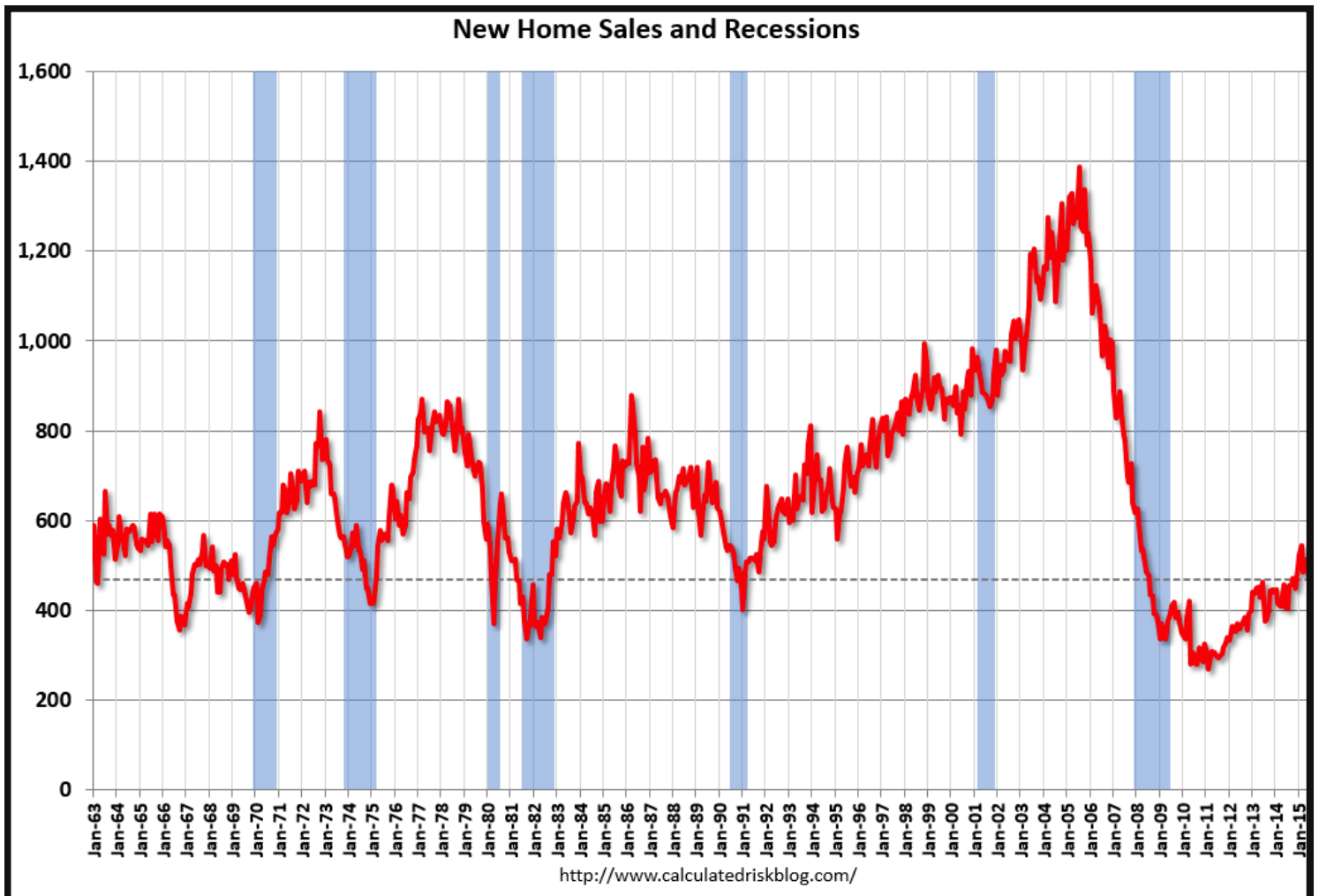
1. Do not replace the original fuse with a cheaper one.
2. Do not use a bit of wire or metal to get around the fuse.
3. Do not use the wrong test tool for the job.
4. Do not grab the cheapest DMM on the rack.
5. Do not skip out on PPE.
6. Do not work on a live circuit.
7. Do not fail to follow lockout/tagout procedures.
8. Do not Multi-task while measuring.
9. Do not neglect test leads.
10. Do not hang onto an old test tool forever.

Click [HERE](#) to view the complete Safety Checklist put out by FLUKE on

WHAT NOT TO DO when taking electrical measurements

CALCULATED RISK

Every picture tells a story, don't it?



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

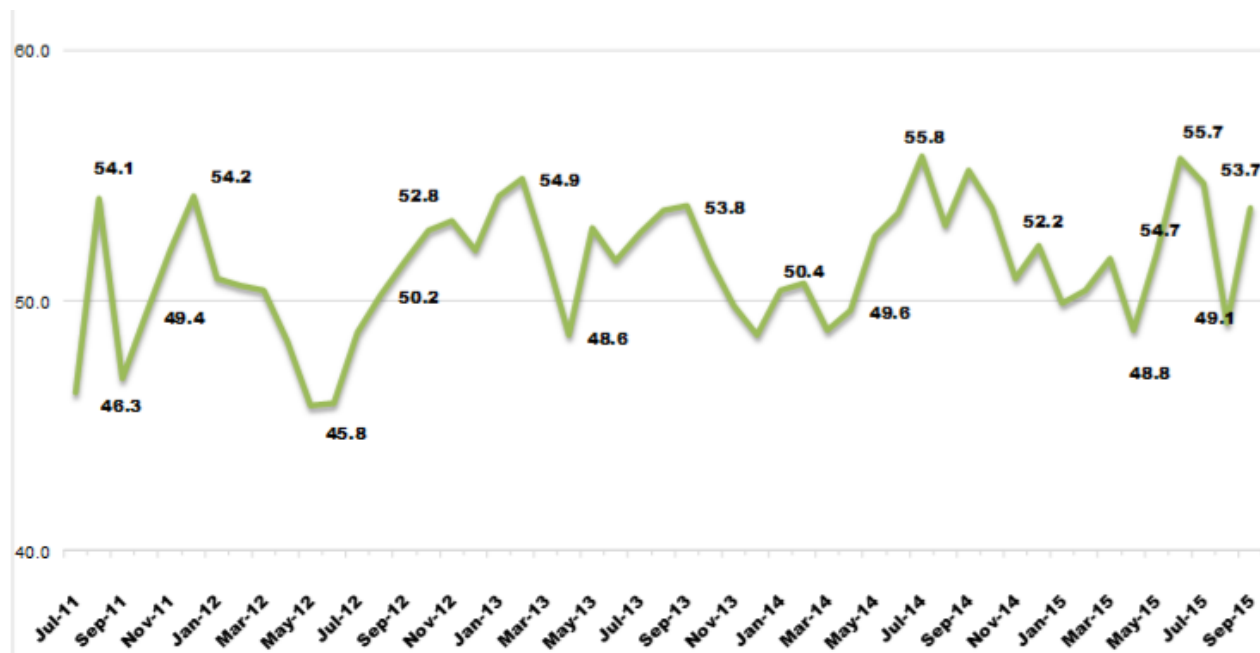
If you want to subscribe yourself, see the link below.

Architect Firm Billings

Strong Rebound for Architecture Billings Index ... [read more](#)

September ABI 53.7

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



We make a *living*
by what we get.
We make a *life*
by what we give.

Electrical Partners Against Hunger 2015 Food Bank Drive

Download Flyer [Here](#).

SYNERGY eLinks

[10 DUMB THINGS SMART PEOPLE DO WHEN TESTING ELECTRICITY](#)

[NOTICE REGARDING GENERAL PREVAILING WAGE DETERMINATIONS](#)

www.ul.com/whitebook

[SMALL BUSINESS TAX DEDUCTION STRATEGIES](#)

[ELECTRICAL PARTNERS AGAINST HUNGER](#)


[SOUND & COMMUNICATION WAGE RATES](#)

[SOUND & COMMUNICATION COST/HOUR](#)



*Happy
Thanksgiving*

November 2015

<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	5 <u>LMCC</u> 5:30 p.m. Training Center	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 <u>Electrical Code</u> 10:30 a.m./11:45 a.m. ZioFraedos RSVP	20	21
22	23	24 <u>NECA</u> Board 4:30 p.m. Chapter 6:00 p.m. Location TBD	25	 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday</i>		28
29	30					



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