

The logo features a blue background with a complex network of glowing blue lines and dots, resembling a circuit board or a digital network. Below this graphic, the text "NECA North Florida Chapter" is written in a white, serif font. Below that, the word "CONNECTION" is written in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font.

NECA North Florida Chapter CONNECTION

Board of Directors

President: Brent Zimmerman

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Third Quarter Membership Meeting

North Florida Chapter NECA's postponed third quarter membership meeting will now take place on **Tuesday, October 21st, at 11:30 a.m.** at the North Florida NECA office, in the upstairs training room. Lunch will be provided.

Keep an eye out for the RSVP invite coming soon!

Upcoming Education Courses

How to Avoid or Fix a Broken Project: Practical Law Training for Electrical Contractors

All construction projects have the potential to break down. Having strategies to avoid broken projects, and to fix them, are fundamental tools for the savvy electrical contractor. National construction lawyers Roy Cohen, Lori Azzara and Matt Skaroff will present to our Chapter ***"How to Avoid or Fix a Broken Project: Practical Law Training for Electrical Contractors."*** Their program addresses key contract concepts and provides examples for negotiating and modifying the most problematic contract clauses. They will identify time-tested preconstruction and construction-phase strategies for profitable projects, give concrete examples how to notify, preserve, and prove construction claims, and discuss ways to navigate payment traps on Florida projects as well as the requirements for Florida lien and bond claims.

[RSVP Here!](#)

NECA Convention and Trade Show 2025 Chicago

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Registration is now open for NECA's biggest event of the year! This four-day event equips electrical contractors of all sizes and specialties with the tools, knowledge, and connections needed to thrive in today's fast-changing market. Member registration includes over 1,700 minutes of education sessions, business development seminars, daily prize drawings, 1,800 minutes of workshops, and SO MUCH MORE!

[Click here to register](#), or contact our office and we would be more than happy to assist you in registration.

The 2025 NECA Convention and Trade Show will be held in **Chicago, IL on September 12 - 15th, 2025.**



Atkore Commodity Report

Our friends at Atkore have put together a Commodity Report Update to share with our members. This report gives contractors a clear and concise overview of current market conditions affecting key materials used in Atkore's products. It highlights recent pricing trends and supply chain factors in products such as copper, steel, aluminum, PVC, and resin. The purpose of this report is to provide contractors with relevant insights to anticipate cost fluctuations and adjust their strategies accordingly.

Click the button below to access the August 2025 Commodity Report by Atkore!

Atkore Commodity Update - August 2025

NECA Alert: NECA Officer Nominations

In accordance with Section 8.3(c) of the National Bylaws, the following people have been nominated for District Vice President for two-year terms commencing January 1, 2026.

Vice President, District 1
Michael P. McDonald
McDonald Electrical Corp
Hingham, MA

Vice President, District 3
Christopher M. Foster
Whitehead Electric Company
Mableton, GA

Vice President, District 5

Vice President, District 7
Daniel M. Smith
Electric Company of Omaha
Omaha, NE

Vice President, District 9
Fred L. Neubauer
Neubauer Electric, Inc.
Los Alamitos, CA

All candidates are unopposed. We look forward to welcoming Christopher M. Foster as our District 3 rep!

Survey Shows Top Risks for Manufacturing Facilities

Plant Services circulated its [third Electrical Safety Survey](#) in 2025 to more than 150 industry professionals earlier this year. Respondents answered 23 questions about training and certifications, time between electrical incidents, near-miss reporting and what kinds of tools and PPE are currently being used. There were even questions about [smart tools](#)—the devices that collect and process data in real-time and offer actionable suggestions.



Some of the key insights revealed in [the full survey report](#) include:

- The industry is gaining younger workers, but they lack experience and [advanced training](#). The number of respondents with five years or less experience increased by almost 70% from the previous survey in 2020. However, the largest segment of the workforce has at least 16 years of experience.
- The number of workers with key higher-level certifications, including the CMRP, CEI and CESW, was up—but so was the number of workers with no professional certifications at all (an increase from 40.9% to 49.0% since the 2020 survey).

When it comes to electrical safety challenges at manufacturing facilities, four were prominent: poor/ineffective equipment maintenance (37.0%); poor/ineffective training (36.6%); poor/ineffective incident reporting (23.5%); and slips, trips and falls (22.9%).

The good news is that more than 78% of respondents thought their facility was up to code, which is the highest level in 7 years. Other critical improvements include:

- An increase in the average time between electrical incidents. Almost 50% of respondents noted that it has been more than a year between incidents. Although more respondents have been part of an OSHA investigation since 2018 (37.2%), the number involved in arc flash incidents or who know someone involved in one has decreased from 60% to 52%.
- An increase in near-miss reporting plans at facilities (89%), although only two-thirds use formal reporting systems.
- An increase in the number of people trained on the latest version of NFPA 70E since 2020 (17.7%), but the number of people who admit they have not been trained at all increased in 2025 to 47.8%.

Poor maintenance and training are still threats to electrical safety on plant floors, but electrical contractors can help identify and mitigate electrical safety risks.

When asked about their attitude toward smart tools, 60% of respondents expressed interest in them, with almost 70% saying they believe these tools could improve electrical safety, job efficiency, and productivity, accuracy and troubleshooting.

One section of the survey focused on the types of electrical work that are commonly contracted out. Answers were fairly consistent with previous survey results: the percentage of respondents who contract installation was 71.9%, repairs were 67.9% and condition monitoring was 37.3%. Testing was 67.0%, an increase from 2020 data.

The last question inquired about planned technology investments to enhance electrical safety. Responses collected before the tariffs were announced listed switches (limit and interlock), single-function relays, PLCs and overcurrent protection devices as the most-deployed technologies. Last on the list were IR windows and viewports and motion control devices.

Article by Lori Lovely on [Electrical Contractor Magazine.com](#)

Jacksonville JATC

To the members of the North Florida Chapter of N.E.C.A.

This week we have our September 4th 2025-2026 Orientation at the Double Tree Downtown. Our guest speaker this year will be Glenn Brannen, IBEW International Vice-President for the Fifth District. In addition to our special guest speaker there will be vendors, door prizes and raffle drawings for all of our apprentices to participate in.

We currently have 450 registered apprentices that will begin attending class next week. We are moving to a one class night a week model with extended class hours. Attending class one night a week will enable students to work overtime they would otherwise miss out on when available and also assist contractors to better schedule work activities. Classes will be from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. one night a week.

Having seen the success that Saturday classes had, many students requested to be placed in a Saturday class. We had such a demand from students to attend on Saturday's that we were able to fill two classes this year. These two classes will attend two Saturday's a month.

If you know anyone who might be interested in instructing here for the ETA please have them contact the assistant training director at dmceachern@etajax.org.

If you know anyone who may be interested in beginning a career in the electrical trade, please have them visit our website at www.etajax.org to begin the application process. Deadline for the January 2026 class is November 6.

As always, I am here to answer any questions you may have. Feel free to contact me if I can help with anything. On behalf of the Trustees of the Apprenticeship Committee, thank you for your continuing support.

Daniel Van Sickle
Apprenticeship and Training Director

Daniel McEachern
Assistant Training Director

ELECTRI Research Reports

Building the Future: How Fault Managed Power Systems are Transforming Electrical Contracting

There are several emerging types of digital electricity technologies, each designed to address specific applications within smart building systems. This study focuses specifically on Fault Managed Power Systems (FMPS), a rapidly advancing digital electricity technology with significant potential for smart building applications. The study's findings and recommendations provide a quick reference guide for the electrical contracting industry.

[Click here to read the full report.](#)

In Case You Missed It...

- [NECA Labor Relations Bulletin: NLRB Issues New Guidance on ULP's](#)

Looking Forward

- **September 12-15th, 2025:** NECA Convention & Trade Show in Chicago, IL
- **September 24th, 2025:** Practical Law Training for Electrical Contractors Class
- **October 15th, 2025:** Understanding Your CBA Class
- **October 21st, 2025:** Membership Meeting
- **December 5th, 2025:** Membership Meeting & Holiday Party at TopGolf!

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