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Upcoming Education

Understanding and Negotiating Subcontracts

On **Wednesday, March 11th, 2026**, we will be welcoming back Chip Bachara of the Bachara Construction Law Group to once again speak with our group about ***Understanding and Negotiating Subcontracts***. Chip will be here to educate and inform subcontractors on the importance of understanding what they are signing, negotiating a fair subcontract, and understanding their lien and collections rights.

Date: Wednesday, March 11th, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: North Florida Chapter NECA office - 4951-A Richard St. Jacksonville, FL 32207

[Click here to RSVP!](#)

NECA National & ELECTRI International Webinar Series

**Seven Points of Clarity: An AI Blueprint for the Construction Industry
Virtual Classroom Series**

This seven-part NECA Education and ELECTRI virtual series helps construction leaders understand where AI fits and how to manage it responsibly. Each session focuses on what's working today, what's worth paying attention to, and how to apply AI in ways that actually support people, projects, and operations.



1. Construction AI Roundtable - February 5, 2026 | 3PM ET

This candid roundtable cuts through the hype surrounding AI in construction. Industry experts and early adopters share what's actually working today, where risks and liabilities need attention, and what's realistically ready for contractors to adopt.

Participants will leave with a grounded understanding of how AI can support their business now and how to avoid costly distractions.

2. Everyday AI: Practical Prompting for Real Work – March 5, 2026 | 3PM ET

AI delivers value only when people know how to use it well. This session equips contractors with practical prompting techniques they can apply immediately in both field and office settings. Learn how to get consistent, useful outputs from AI for emails, RFIs, submittals, SOPs, and other everyday workflows without purchasing new software.

3. How to Define and Manage AI Initiatives – April 2, 2026 | 3PM ET

Most AI efforts fail due to unclear goals and poor scoping. This session provides a simple, six-step framework for selecting the right AI initiatives, managing vendors, and defining success. Leaders will gain the tools to evaluate ROI, establish governance, and move forward with confidence instead of experimentation.

4. Boring AI: Automating Repetitive Tasks – May 7, 2026 | 3PM ET

Not all AI needs to be flashy to deliver results. This session focuses on practical, off-the-shelf automation that eliminates repetitive administrative work and delivers immediate labor savings. Through real-world examples, participants will learn how to pilot and scale “boring” AI solutions that quietly generate measurable ROI.

5. Confidence: From Vibe to Value – Coding Faster Than Copy/Paste – June 4th, 2026 | 3PM ET

AI-assisted development is changing how contractors build internal tools. This session explores how lightweight scripts, calculators, and jobsite utilities can be created quickly using AI often by non-developers. Learn when small, purpose-built tools outperform full platforms and how to keep them reliable and maintainable.

6. Data Models Demystified: Beyond the LLM Hype – August 6, 2026 | 3PM ET

AI cannot scale without structured data. This session breaks down data models, taxonomies, and structured information in plain contractor language. Participants will see how better data foundations improve estimating, prefab, QA/QC, and closeout and prevent costly fragmentation as AI adoption grows.

7. The Effort Equation: How Involved Should You Be? – September 10, 2026 | 3PM ET

AI success requires the right level of involvement—not burnout. This closing session offers a realistic look at the effort behind AI adoption, helping leaders decide what to own, what to delegate, and how to pace implementation. Participants will leave with clarity on how to adopt AI sustainably while aligning resources and expectations.

This series is being offered by NECA National through the NECA Learning Center. Each individual session is \$50 for NECA Members, or \$300 to register for the full series. [Click here](#) to register for this series.

Registration is Now Open!

2026 NECA EMERGE & NECA Southern Region Conference



Don't miss your chance to join fellow NECA members April 13–15, 2026, at the Marriott Marquis in Atlanta, Georgia for NECA EMERGE, a Specialty Work & Emerging Opportunities Conference designed to help contractors grow and adapt in today's evolving market.

This groundbreaking three-day event brings together several industry-favorite meetings, including Service & Maintenance, Business Development, Systems Integration, and other emerging work areas, into one streamlined experience. Attendees can choose from multiple tracks tailored to their business goals and discover new insights, strategies, and innovations that will prepare them to take on tomorrow's opportunities.

Whether you're focused on expanding services, strengthening operations, or connecting with peers and partners, EMERGE 2026 has something for you.

[Click here to register](#), or feel free to contact our office if you would like assistance with registration!

Registration is now open for the 2026 NECA Southern Region Conference! Join fellow NECA members June 26–29, 2026, at the Everline Resort & Spa in Lake Tahoe (Olympic Valley, CA) for an unforgettable experience combining education, networking, and inspiration in a stunning mountain setting. The conference will feature engaging general sessions with speakers including Olympic gold medalist Jonny Moseley, AI business strategist Chris Carr, and ELECTRI International Executive Director Josh Bone.

Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with industry leaders, gain forward-looking insights, and enjoy all that Lake Tahoe has to offer. Full registration is \$815, with guest and child options available. Hotel accommodations can be booked directly through the registration process at exclusive conference rates. Don't miss this chance to build stronger connections and return home energized.

[Click here to register](#), or feel free to contact our office if you would like assistance with registration!

Properly Applying Article 130

It's About More Than Just Risk Assessments

Article 130 in NFPA 70E provides minimum prescriptive requirements for work involving electrical hazards. Article 130 is the last article in Chapter 1. It is preceded by four articles containing definitions and requirements that are administrative, general and those necessary for [establishing an electrically safe work condition](#) (ESWC).

NFPA 70E's goal is to eliminate the hazard through the creation of an ESWC. [Shock and arc flash risk assessments](#) are required where justified energized work is performed (work involving electrical hazards) and when establishing an ESWC. Testing for the absence of voltage is considered energized work. See Section 110.2(C), which says electrical conductors and circuit parts are not considered to be in an ESWC until all applicable requirements in Article 120 are met.



Additionally, when testing for absence of voltage, safe work practices must be used based on the results of the shock and arc flash risk assessments until electrical conductors and circuit parts are in an ESWC. Employees must approach testing for the absence of voltage the same way as work on energized conductors or circuit parts.

The scope of Article 130 (130.1) explains that it contains requirements for work involving electrical hazards including, but not limited to, electrical safety-related work practices, shock/arc flash risk assessments and precautions/procedures when an ESWC cannot be established. Only qualified people are permitted to work on electrical conductors or circuit parts not in an ESWC.

The last paragraph in the scope requires all Article 130 requirements apply without regard to the type of arc flash risk assessment (incident energy analysis or the arc flash PPE table method) performed. This requirement mandates the user apply all applicable requirements in Article 130, not just those for shock (130.4) and arc flash (130.5) risk assessments.

The other applicable requirements address energized electrical work permits (EEWP); personal and other protective equipment; other precautions for personnel activities; work within the limited approach boundary or arc flash boundary of overhead lines, underground electrical lines and equipment; cutting or drilling (concrete walls/floors for example); and cutting, removing or rerouting electrical conductors and circuit parts where the conductor terminations or circuit parts are not within sight from the point of work.

In general, an EEWP (130.2) is required when a worker will cross the restricted approach boundary or will interact with the equipment when conductors or circuit parts are not exposed but an increased likelihood of injury from an exposure to an arc flash hazard exists. Where required, an EEWP, job planning and job briefing must be performed, implemented and documented. See the exemptions to an EEWP in 130.2(C).

Section 130.7 provides requirements for personal and other protective equipment. Employees must use and be given protective equipment made for each part of the body that has to be protected. It must be protected from damage, visually inspected before each use and cared for properly to maintain a safe, clean and reliable condition in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.

General PPE requirements mandate all parts of the body are protected. Rubber insulating gloves must meet the maximum use voltage requirements of Table 130.7(C)(7)(a) and all rubber insulating equipment, including, but not limited to, gloves, sleeves and blankets, must be tested at intervals not exceeding those in Table 130.7(C)(7)(b). Requirements for other protective equipment [130.7(D)] such as insulated tools and equipment, barriers to prevent inadvertent contact, ladders, nonconductive fish tapes for pulling wire and more must be employed for all work involving electrical hazards.

It is important to apply all applicable precautions for personnel activity in Section 130.8. This includes, but is not limited to, requirements to ensure employees stay alert and eliminate blind reaching, the need for additional lighting, how conductive objects are handled, confined spaces, hinged doors/panels, housekeeping, clear spaces, flammable material, anticipating failure, opening/closing of circuits routinely or after device operation, safety interlocks, alerting techniques, barricades and look-alike equipment.

Sections 130.9 and 130.10 contain requirements for working within the limited approach boundary of overhead lines and underground electrical lines and equipment, and 130.11 addresses cutting or drilling into equipment floors and walls.

Section 130.12 addresses cutting, removing or rerouting electrical conductors and circuit parts where the conductor terminations or circuit parts are not within sight from the point of work. This requirement mandates additional steps to verify the absence of voltage or to identify the conductors or circuit parts being worked on before cutting, removing or rerouting. Examples of these additional steps can be found in the associated informational note.

The requirements in Article 130 must be applied for all work involving electrical hazards. While performing shock and arc flash risk assessments are critically important, implementing comprehensive electrical safe work practices requires much more.

[Article by Jim Dollard on Electrical Contractor Magazine.com](#)

Women in Construction Week



Women in Construction Week celebrates the vital role women play in shaping and strengthening the construction industry. From project management and estimating to skilled trades and executive leadership, women continue to make meaningful contributions that drive innovation, safety, and excellence across every aspect of our field.

This week is an opportunity to recognize the talent, dedication, and leadership of the women in our chapter and throughout the industry. As we look to the future, we remain committed to supporting professional growth, mentorship, and opportunities that encourage more women to pursue and thrive in construction careers. Join us in celebrating the achievements of women who are building stronger teams, stronger companies, and a stronger industry.

In Case You Missed It...

- [SCOTUS Limits Presidential Authority to Impose Tariffs Under IEEPA](#)

ELECTRI Research Report

Best Practices in Planning for Productivity

This ELECTRI International research presents actionable best practices for planning in electrical construction. The findings are based on case studies, interviews, and document analysis from 20 leading companies, including electrical contractors, general contractors, and technology providers. You can choose to implement the practices that are right for you and your team. The goal is to equip construction professionals with proven strategies to enhance project constructability, productivity, and profitability across all project phases.

Download the full interactive report here: [Best Practices in Planning for Productivity](#)

Looking Forward

- **March 11th, 2026:** *Understanding & Negotiating Subcontracts Class*
- **April 13 - 15, 2026:** *NECA EMERGE Conference*
- **April 29th, 2026:** *Membership Meeting*
- **May 13th, 2026:** *How to Avoid or Fix a Broken Project: Practical Law Training for Electrical Contractors Class*
- **June 26 - 29:** *NECA Southern Region Conference*
- **August 26th, 2026:** *Membership Meeting*
- **December 4th, 2026:** *Membership Meeting & Holiday Party*

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