

The logo features the NECA logo on the left, which includes a stylized wave and three stars above the letters 'NECA'. To the right of this is the text 'North Florida Chapter' in a white serif font, and below that, the word 'CONNECTION' in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. The background of the logo area is a dark blue gradient with a complex network of glowing blue lines and nodes, resembling a circuit board or a digital network.

# NECA North Florida Chapter CONNECTION

## Board of Directors

**President:** Kevin Flanigan

**Director:** Brent Zimmerman

**Vice President:** Stan Brandies

**Director:** Scott Sullivan

**Governor:** Edward Witt Jr.

**Director:** Brad Giles

**Treasurer:** Chad Walker

**Director:** Daniel Brown

---

## ELECTRI Year in Review

### ELECTRI INTERNATIONAL

**EXTRAORDINARY** – For ELECTRI International, 2023 has been an extraordinary year, thanks to your involvement, your expertise, and your investment in our agenda. The ELECTRI team has put together our year-end report. The report is attached [here](#) for your convenience. You may find some reports and videos you want to access again and share with your own team, plus some new ideas worth considering for 2024. We look forward to being with many of you for our January 2024 Council meeting. For now, our very best wishes for a happy holiday and a healthy, prosperous new year.

Josh Bone  
Executive Director | ELECTRI International

---

## NECA EMERGE 2024

2024 is joining your old favorites with your new favorites at the all new NECA EMERGE 2024. NECA EMERGE is a specialty work and emerging opportunities conference that unites the Service & Maintenance and Business Development meetings with the NECA-BICSI Summit, bringing our members together for one groundbreaking



three-day conference. Attendees can customize their experience by choosing from diverse tracks that include Service & Maintenance, Green Energy Initiatives, Low Voltage & Systems Integration, Business Development, Emerging Opportunities, and more! NECA EMERGE 2024 will be held April 15th - 17th at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, NV!

Keep an eye out for more information in the future regarding registration and housing for this event.

---

## Workers Comp Rate Reduction

A 15.1% statewide reduction in workers' compensation insurance rates went into effect Monday with the start of the new year. The Florida Office of Insurance Regulation approved the lower rates in November based on favorable loss experience data from 2020 and 2021, and factors in changes in the medical fee schedule. The drop also accounts for a lower profit and contingency factor. The reduction applies to both new and renewed workers' compensation insurance policies in the state. Florida's workers' compensation system, a no-fault arrangement, provides benefits for workplace injuries and helps prevent workers from suing their employers. The new rate changes will vary for individual businesses.

Dr. Jeffrey Sharkey  
CEO/President  
Capitol Alliance Group, Inc

---

## Local Union 177, 1205, & 756 Industry Night- **POSTPONED**

Please be aware that the Multi-Local Industry Night Blitz event has been postponed until further notice. We will update our members soon when a new date for this event has been secured.

We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you all for your patience and understanding. Please feel free to contact our office with any questions.



---

## Children's Home Society

North Florida Chapter NECA was honored to once again work with the Children's Home Society this holiday season to provide full Thanksgiving meal bags to our community. Since partnering with Children's Home Society in 2016, we have helped provide over 600 meals to families in need across North Florida. The Children's Home Society works to reimagine the future of foster care. Their goal is to create a world where children are safer and a world where they don't enter foster care in the first place. The North Florida Chapter and each local union we work with partnered to create full Thanksgiving meals for 100 families this 2023 holiday season.



---

## Codes and Standards Report

### How IoT and Smart Technology are Shaping the Future of Electrical Code

*Updates to the National Electrical Code are incorporating more tech-first features for facilities.*

Emerging technologies are becoming an increasingly important part of building designs and renovations and are continuing to be incorporated as they are developed. The Internet of Things (IoT), for example, is an area of technology that has gained immense traction in the past decade, including devices such as smart thermostats, smoke sensors, LED lighting, smart sprinkler systems, and more. IoT provides the ability to connect equipment, tools, and other assets to a network that can monitor and manage their usage, functionality, maintenance, and performance. Data gathered by these devices and systems can then be leveraged to identify areas of risk and determine opportunities for improved efficiency.

Smart technologies are being adopted at a rapid rate. However, some hesitancy still exists across the sector. Obstacles to adoption include a general apprehension to technology, the initial costs associated with incorporating new tools (although there is often a short payback period), and a loyalty to traditional, tried-and-true ways of doing things. But while the traditional methods might still work, they also work for competitors that may be more willing to evolve old ways of doing things to become more efficient, safe, reliable, and cost effective. As such, even those that may have some initial resistance to technology are beginning to realize that this is the way of the future, and it's important to get on board sooner rather than later.

As this area of building design and renovation continues to evolve, so must the electrical codes and standards meant to drive safety in the installation and application of these new technologies. With the recent publication of the 2023 National Electrical Code (NEC), we are seeing additions that reflect the tech-first nature of today's facilities, a few of which are outlined below.

#### How Smart Tech is Shaping the NEC

Codes and standards like the NEC are continuing to incorporate new technologies into their requirements. While there are not yet NEC changes specific to IoT devices, the installation of those devices from an electrical perspective certainly falls under the scope of the NEC and its general installation requirements. As part of this evolution, other technologies will necessitate specific code requirements and, in some cases, even full articles containing many code requirements on the topic. Regardless of the specifics, all additions and changes relating to new technology are sure to work towards two main end goals: safety and efficiency.

#### An Eye on Safety and Data Protection

Alongside the rise of IoT devices comes serious considerations about safety and data security. Many buildings that incorporate smart life safety equipment also tie it into networks that are, by nature,

susceptible to malicious attacks. Cybersecurity is often utilized as a means of protection in these cases. As such, Section 110.3(A)(8) was added to the 2023 NEC to begin addressing safety within electrical installations from a cybersecurity perspective. This is the first time the term “cybersecurity” has appeared in an NEC edition and is indicative of smart technology’s increasing prevalence in the electrical realm.

Article 110 provides general requirements for electrical installations in the NEC, which incorporates both the examination of equipment and approval of installations. The authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) often uses this section as a reference point to determine what installations and equipment the NEC permits them to oversee and inspect. Adding section 110.3(A)(8) to the 2023 NEC allows the AHJ to examine cybersecurity considerations related to network-connected life safety equipment, addressing its ability to withstand unauthorized updates and malicious attacks while continuing to perform its intended safety functionality.

Additional areas of the 2023 NEC relating to cybersecurity include Section 240.6(D), on cybersecurity for circuit breakers capable of being adjusted remotely, and Section 708.7, on cybersecurity for critical operations power systems (COPS).

While these initial cybersecurity additions to the NEC don’t provide much in the way of requirements, other than the ability for related equipment to be evaluated, they open the door for further cybersecurity expansion in future editions of the NEC.

### **Strides Towards Electrical Efficiency**

To encourage enhanced efficiency, the 2023 NEC also includes a new section, 625.42(A), addressing the use of energy management systems (EMS) with electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), which includes what is more commonly referred to as electric vehicle (EV) chargers.

In many cases, especially in residential applications, electrical services do not have the capacity to incorporate the full load of an EV charger being installed onto the existing premises wiring system. Typically, that would mean that the owner needs to upgrade their electrical service in order to incorporate an EV charger, which can be costly. With the NEC now permitting EMS to be utilized with EVSE, provided certain requirements are followed, this means that an owner may be able to incorporate an EV charger into their premises wiring system without incurring the hefty expense of upgrading their entire electrical service. From an industry challenge perspective, the use of EMS with EVSE equipment may also allow multiple EV chargers to share a limited amount of the power from a single circuit and manage the distribution of power through the EMS based on the demand being used at the time.

### **A Connected Future**

New smart technologies aren’t going anywhere, and while it’s important to embrace change from a competitive standpoint, it’s also of the utmost importance to do so safely and in a manner that will deliver tangible ROI. Facility managers shouldn’t underestimate what technology can do for them. Any time there is potential to improve efficiencies and reduce costs (in materials, utilities, tools, parts, and labor), it’s worthwhile to do due diligence by fully exploring available options. By gathering as much information and knowledge as possible, everyone can make well-informed decisions about moving forward in an increasingly digital and tech-savvy landscape.

*From an article on FacilitiesNet.com by Corey Hannahs, Senior Electrical Content Specialist for NFPA. 7/21/23.*

---

## **JATC Apprenticeship Reports**

### **Jacksonville JATC**

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

We at the Electrical Training Alliance of Jacksonville would like to wish each and every one you a Happy New Year!!

2024 starts us out with three new 1st Year Apprenticeship classes beginning in January. These classes will begin January 8th and will run through August. These classes will be utilizing the new CML model that has been adopted by the National Electrical Training Alliance.

January will also start Journeyman level classes that will cover Fiber Optics and High Voltage Cable Splicing. These classes are limited in size and we will host more in the future if there is a demand. If you know anyone who may be interested in taking continuing education classes like these, please have them



contact the ETA.

As a reminder, we take applications year round and 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](http://www.etajax.org) to begin the application process.

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

## Daytona Beach JATC

Happy New Years from Daytona Beach!!!!

November and December were very busy months for us. We attended 6 different job fairs in that time. We recently celebrated apprentice week with over 100 attendees and students. We also held graduation for our 5th year group where again we had over 100 attendees.

Congratulations to **Trevor X. Woyton** (Electric Solutions Unlimited) for being top apprentice for 4 out of his 5-year apprenticeship!

Things have been somewhat slow over the last year, but we expect some jobs to kick off now that the holidays are over.

Robert Cruz MAED  
Training Director



## Looking Forward

- **January 16th-18th, 2024:** *ELECTRI Council January Meeting in Amelia Island, FL*
- **January 29th-31st, 2024:** *MEP Innovation Conference in Orlando, FL*
- **February 5th-7th, 2024:** *WINFL Leadership Conference in Atlanta, GA*
- **April 8th-10th, 2024:** *ELECTRI International Connection Summit in Roatan, Honduras*
- **April 15th-17th, 2024:** *NECA EMERGE Conference in Las Vegas, NV*

- **May 1st-2nd, 2024:** Large Contractors Spring Meeting in Santa Fe, NM
- **May 6th-8th, 2024:** National Legislative Conference in Washington, DC
- **May 20th-22nd, 2024:** Safety Professionals Conference in Denver, CO
- **June 21st-24th, 2024:** Southern Regional Conference in Banff, Alberta Canada
- **July 15th-17th, 2024:** ELECTRI Council July Meeting in Boston, MA
- **July 17th-19th, 2024:** Labor Relations Conference in Boston, MA
- **September 28th-October 1st, 2024:** NECA Convention and Trade Show in San Diego, CA

phone: 904-636-0663

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



Visit our website

North Florida NECA | 4951 A Richard St., Jacksonville, FL 32207

[Unsubscribe katiee@nflneca.org](mailto:katiee@nflneca.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [katiee@nflneca.org](mailto:katiee@nflneca.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!