

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, the text 'North Florida Chapter' is written in a white serif font. Below this, the word 'CONNECTION' is written 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 data network.

NECA North Florida Chapter CONNECTION

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Upcoming Education Opportunities

Construction Risk Management

Please be aware this class has been **CANCELLED**.

Planned for August- Understanding and Negotiating Subcontracts

This August, we will be welcoming Karalynn Cromeens, Managing Partner and Owner of The Crowmeens Law Firm, to speak at our office on the topic of Subcontracting. Karalynn holds more than 17 years of experience practicing construction, real estate, and business law. With her extensive experience within the construction and real estate industries, Karalynn provides her clients with innovative legal strategies and services necessary to protect their rights. Karalynn 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.

Please keep an eye out for more information in the near future about this class!

ELECTRI's Monthly Recap of Resources- April 2024

ELECTRI  **INTERNATIONAL**

Our friends at [ELECTRI International](#) have had an exciting April as they dive into Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) in their latest Council Room session and in their newest Research Report. Click the button below to access the full *Recap of Resources*, which includes the ELECTRI Cross-Border Meeting Recap, and a new *Think Like a Leader* interview, as well as ELECTRI calling on our members to take action as volunteers for the ECIC competition and the opportunity to provide insight on utilizing AI within the Electrical Construction industry.

ELECTRI's Recap of Resources- April 2024

Effective Job-Site Communication

Tips to Reduce the Likelihood of Accidents

Electrical and construction work are among the most dangerous professions, where workers face deadly hazards daily. To protect workers, even the best safety training, stringent OSHA regulations and safety protocols, hazard abatement and management programs in the world are useless if no one communicates appropriate roles and responsibilities effectively.

Robust communication protocols can help reduce the likelihood of accidents, streamline operations and enhance overall safety. Clear and timely communication is also extremely important in ensuring compliance with relevant regulations, safety practices and promoting an overall positive safety culture.



Organizations that facilitate open, transparent communication help establish an environment where employees feel comfortable enough to report unsafe conditions, identify hazards and speak up about near-miss scenarios.

Communicating as a team

Because electrical and construction work is often done as a team, maintaining proper communication is crucial to keeping up morale, preventing conflict and ensuring everyone is on the same page. It is also a very important component of safety training for workers.

Communication is paramount for educating workers on best practices, hazard identification and risk mitigation. Holding regular safety meetings, toolbox talks and training sessions helps familiarize workers with the hazards they may encounter and how to safely navigate them. Employers with a multicultural workforce should provide instructions and material translated into the necessary languages.

If an incident occurs, it is critically important to transmit information to first responders and those rendering first aid or assisting in evacuation. Effective communication during emergency response may reduce the severity of an injury and even save lives. As a result, employers should implement or already have an existing emergency response plan.

Worker responsibilities

Overall, effective communication protocols should include clearly defining roles and responsibilities, holding regular safety meetings and briefings, implementing visual tools and aides, using technology for real-time communication and encouraging reporting of near-miss scenarios.

Every worker on a job site needs to clearly understand their roles and responsibilities so they are familiar with their tasks, the hazards they may encounter and how to safely complete their work. This goes a long way toward decreasing the likelihood of an injury or incident occurring.

Regular safety meetings give employers the opportunity to reiterate roles and responsibilities and warn workers of hazardous conditions. Workers can ask questions and receive clarification on specific tasks. Many employers make these meetings mandatory.

Visual aids and technology

Signage, color-coding and labeling can be strategically positioned at key locations on a job site to reinforce the presence of hazards, hazardous materials, safety protocols and emergency exits.

Modern technology has made communication faster, more precise and accessible. For example, wearable devices can detect falls, health conditions that may predict a medical event and the presence of hazardous substances. Two-way radios and smart phones can also be effective in disseminating job-specific data, safety or weather hazards and emergency response information.

Anonymous reporting

To create an environment where workers are comfortable enough to report near-misses and the presence of hazards, organizations should implement an anonymous reporting system. Each report should be thoroughly investigated and responded to accordingly.

Additionally, employers must ensure no retaliatory or punitive action is taken against those who speak out. This proactive approach to safety will go a long way in creating an incident-free workplace.

Effective communication in the workplace can increase productivity and worker morale and improve safety. By improving worker safety, insurance premiums will be lower, the organization will have a better reputation and it will better comply with regulations.

[Article by Tim O'Connor on Electrical Contractor Magazine.](#)

Wire-Type EGC Sizing Requirements Quiz



The National Electrical Code contains minimum requirements, which means users must do at least that much. Sometimes the Code is modified to be more restrictive and specify larger sizes of wire-type equipment grounding conductors (EGCs) due to factors that require larger than table minimums. This is a case where the specific rules in Article 430 amend the general EGC sizing requirements in Article 250, and for good reason.

[Click Here to take the Wire-Type EGC Sizing Requirements quiz](#) on [Electrical Contractor Magazine!](#)

JATC Apprenticeship Reports

Jacksonville JATC

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

We are continuing to receive applications, have aptitude tests scheduled and are conducting interviews for the upcoming class that will begin in July. The first round of interviews for the 2024-2025 year began on April 11th here at the Electrical Training Alliance of Jacksonville. Application deadline is May 23rd, so if you know anyone that may be interested in a career in the electrical industry please have them visit our website at www.etajax.org.

We currently have a journeyman level instrumentation class going on. This class has 14 students and will conclude in August. Please check our website for more upcoming classes to be scheduled in the near future.

We will be holding graduation on May 10th at the Prime Osborn Convention Center. This year we will have 54 graduating from our Inside Program and 2 graduating from our VDV program.

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 Report

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) Report

'Inconsistency breeds inefficiency' is a fundamental principle that resonates across various industries, including the electrical construction industry, emphasizing the importance of standardized processes. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) can help define their business and success. SOPs set up the project for success by establishing consistency, standardization, teamwork, and a shared vision for how projects are executed. With the shortage of workers and the generation changes, SOPs are becoming critical for the success of the project (productivity, cost, schedule, quality, and communication, among others), transferring skills, and the overall continuity of contractors.

In this project, we developed SOPs for **five essential activities**:

- **Daily Logs:** Daily Logs serve as a pivotal component of daily operations on a construction project, providing a comprehensive record of activities, resources, and events.
- **Procurement:** Efficient procurement processes are crucial for ensuring a steady supply of materials and services to a construction project.
- **Lookahead Schedules:** Lookahead schedules are a forward-planning tool that allows electrical contractors to anticipate and prepare for upcoming tasks and challenges.
- **Change and Additional Tickets:** Change is the only constant on construction projects. Changes and additional tickets often arise during project execution, necessitating adjustments to the original plan.
- **Document Management:** Effective document management is foundational to organizational efficiency, compliance, and knowledge preservation and transfer.

Additionally, we created an SOP template for construction activities and developed an SOP-Pro tool to assist electrical contractors in creating their own SOPs. Finally, recorded videos are available to explain the research deliverables.

[Click here](#) to access the full report and watch ELECTRI's *Introduction and How to Use this Tool* video.

Looking Forward

- **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 4th, 2024: Risk Management in Construction Class in Jacksonville, FL**
- **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**

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