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2009 INDUSTRY CONFERENCE – TAKE THE HELM!

Year after year electrical contractors are making it their business to stay on top of the latest industry developments by attending ECAO’s annual industry conference. Mark your calendar and plan on attending the 2009 Industry Conference held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. **The conference will be held June 24-28, 2009 at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel**, located on the beautiful Atlantic Coast with a perfect view of the deepest harbour in Canada. The conference program includes an array of sightseeing tours, functions, and educational sessions on leadership, encompassed in this year’s theme “Take the Helm!” Topics include NECA’s Talent Initiative, Nova Scotia’s Apprenticeship Mentoring Program, Lean Construction, and Stump the Lawyer! - a Q & A session with Dan Leduc. Don’t miss this unique opportunity to learn about the latest topics, talk with industry leaders and meet with your peers. Walk away with new ideas and information you can use immediately!

We would like to take this opportunity to give a special thanks to our 2008 sponsors - Joint Electrical Promotion Plan, Skipwith & Associates, Federated Insurance, Travelers, Graybar Ontario, IBEW Canada, Westburne and Northern Display for their on-going support. You helped make ECAO’s first European conference to Spain a huge success.

Don’t miss the deadline of **February 15, 2009** to qualify for the **Early Bird Draw** that will give two lucky registrants a chance to win a single registration fee valued at \$600.00. Registration forms, hotel information, program updates and sponsorship opportunities are available on the ECAO website at www.ecao.org. For additional information, please contact Lucy Roberts at lroberts@ecao.org or 416.675.3226 ext. 312.

NEW NECA SEMINARS & ECAO PUBLICATIONS

The ECAO Human Resources Committee has presented four new seminars from the NECA Management Education Institute. Seminars including How to Avoid Killer Jobs by Improving Estimation Accuracy, Short Interval Scheduling, Market Planning/Consultative Selling and Leadership

Dynamics are now available. Please contact Susan Boorman at 416-675-3226 ext. 316 or email sboorman@ecao.org for more information.

ECAO has posted the updated collective agreement onto the website and have currently shipped a copy to each individual contractor. For additional copies, contact Lyndsy Bartello at 416-675-3226 ext. 300 or email lbartello@ecao.org. The newly revised WSIB Guide is in the printing stages, and will be sent out once it is available.

DEADLINE FOR MEMBER RECOGNITION AWARDS

The R.H. (Hugh) Carroll Safety Awards and the Douglas J. B Wright Award applications are now being accepted. The winners will be presented at the Annual General Meeting held Saturday, June 27, 2009 in Halifax, Nova Scotia during the 2009 Industry Conference. Winning recipients will be featured on the ECAO website and in ECAO's industry magazine *The Ontario Electrical Contractor*. The deadline for the applications this year is **April 24, 2009**. Application procedures and forms are available on the "Member Recognition" page of the ECAO website at www.ecao.org. For more information contact Lucy Roberts at lroberts@ecao.org or 416.675.3226 ext. 312.

EDUCATION MATTERS – SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS FOR 2008

ECAO is proud to announce the 2008 scholarship winners – congratulations to Bryan Cuthbertson and Joe Miles who are both attending Fanshawe College in London, Ontario. Both recipients will receive \$2000.00 to put towards their college education, which they are both looking forward to.

Application procedures and forms for 2009 will be available shortly on the "Member Recognition" page of the ECAO website at www.ecao.org. The deadline for applications is **July 15, 2009**. Winners will be featured in ECAO's industry magazine *The Ontario Electrical Contractor* and on the ECAO website.

2009 AUTOMOBILE EXPENSE DEDUCTION LIMITS AND BENEFIT RATES

The Government has announced that the automobile expense deduction limits and prescribed rates for the automobile operating expense benefit that applied in 2008 will apply in 2009. The Government reviews these rates and limits annually and announces any planned changes prior to the end of the calendar year. This practice ensures that businesses are aware of the new rates before the beginning of the year in which they apply. For complete details visit www.fin.gc.ca/n08/08-114-eng.asp.

NEW DISCOUNT PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS

The Member Services Committee of ECAO is continuously working to provide the members with value-added and discount programs. ECAO is pleased to announce the following three new programs for members only:

- **Storstac** is a Toronto-based company specializing in the rental, sale and custom modification of storage or office containers ideal for on-site contractors. Storstac solutions can save you time and money while securing your valuable assets at a preferred rate for ECAO members.
- **Mobilizz** is offering a 10% discount on all GPS hardware and software systems.
- **MPH Graphics** is offering a 10% discount on printing and promotional products.

Enclosed is your new wallet-sized Choice Hotel ID Card providing you with easier on-line access to reserve accommodation anywhere in North America. Also enclosed is a new Mark's Work Warehouse Discount Card, which has an extended expiry date of 18 months. For additional cards or

if you have any questions, please contact Lyndsy Bartello at 416.675.3226 ext. 300 or lbartello@ecao.org. Corporate Express, ECAO's preferred supplier of office products, has merged with Staples. All Corporate Express brand products will be discontinued and be replaced with Staple brand products with the same discount applied. Please note that in-store discounts are not available at this time.

ECAO WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Addison Leasing ~ Associate Member ~ Accredited Representative: JohnPaul Agius
Beacon Utility Contractors Ltd. ~ Greater Toronto Member ~ Accredited Representative: Larry Tricinci
CDI Contracting Inc. ~ London Member ~ Accredited Representative: Bill Wright
Deville Electric Ltd. ~ Greater Toronto Member ~ Accredited Representative: Dave Di Girolamo
Deville Power Utility Contracting Inc. ~ Greater Toronto Member ~ Accredited Representative: Dave Di Girolamo
E.S. Fox ~ London Member ~ Accredited Representative: Dominic Fazio
Electricom BD ~ Ottawa Member ~ Accredited Representative: Gaetan Bernier & Cleo Dubeau
Electrostar Cont. Inc. ~ Greater Toronto Member ~ Accredited Representative: George Colomvakos
Eltor Electric Inc. ~ Greater Toronto Member ~ Accredited Representative: Jerry Grzyb
Energy Tronix Ltd. ~ Greater Toronto Member ~ Accredited Representative: Ashot Messerkhanian
Glenile Electric Ltd. ~ London Member ~ Accredited Representative: Nile Baker
McQuillan Electric ~ Ottawa Member ~ Accredited Representative: Matt McQuillan
Nevis Electrical Systems Inc. ~ Georgian Bay Member ~ Accredited Representative: Josh Gliddon
PowerBas Electric Inc. ~ Ottawa Member ~ Accredited Representative: Andrew Winch and Ken Fleck
RS Electrical Supply ~ Associate Member ~ Accredited Representative: Rishi Sudan
Storstac Inc. ~ Associate Member ~ Accredited Representative: Vincent Ruggerio
Zerem Electrical Services Ltd. ~ Greater Toronto Member ~ Accredited Representative: David Zafrani

Thanks to our 2008 Industry Conference Sponsors!

