Newest NECA contractors

In the last eighteen months, four new electrical contractors have become Western Ohio Chapter National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) members. Let’s see why.

Quantum Power Systems
Quantum is a fairly new company, established in September of 2002. However, President Jeff Serrer has been in the business most of his adult life. He started out by completing the Electrical Apprenticeship program, then worked in the trade for several years before deciding to strike out on his own. Jeff’s partner, Mike Loy, also has an engineering firm in Columbus, so design build projects are right up their alley.

Quantum’s services meet all the day to day electrical requirements including tenant remodels for office buildings (First National Building and 111 W. First), alarm systems, power upgrades, and new installations. One of their largest customers is Qwest Communications (a telecommunications company). Quantum provides electrical services to the Qwest network and has performed generator installations, HVAC upgrades, and maintenance services to sites in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Virginia.

Jeff decided to become a NECA member because, among other benefits, the Association provides support to new businesses. “I believe that membership in NECA increases our ability to become successful,” says Jeff. “We do a lot of work out of the Dayton area, and being a member allows our company to be part of a larger Network.”

Hesseling Electric
Located in Delphos, Ohio, Jerry Hesseling started Hesseling Electric in 1986. Their services include all types of industrial and commercial electrical work, including security and fire alarms, low voltage work, remodels, new installations and maintenance and service.

Several of their customers have large warehouses and factories. When they expand their facilities, Hesseling provides the necessary electrical backup. For example, Toledo Molding & Die often installs new

Affiliate membership offered

Without customers, none of us would be in business. But what can you do to stand apart from your competition in order to capture new business? Provide superior products, be creative, stay within budget and meet your deadlines. And who do you depend on to help you meet these objectives? Your network of suppliers.

Several years ago, the by-laws of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) were amended to allow for a non-voting Affiliate Membership category.

Western Ohio Chapter NECA is expanding its membership reach beyond electrical contractors in the Dayton/Lima area by developing an Affiliate Membership Program to open the lines of communication and encourage a better working relationship among the contractors, distributors, manufacturers, manufacturers representatives and electrical consultants.

Affiliate Membership is open to any person, firm or corporation who is not an electrical contractor but whose business it is, in whole or in part, to provide goods and/or services to members of the electrical contracting industry. (Affiliate members will not be eligible to participate in the Chapter business).

Benefits
- Valuable contacts and business leads are made through association with other professionals in our industry.
- Access to the membership directory.
- Invitation to attend three membership dinner meetings, including the Annual Christmas Social at the Racquet Club in downtown Dayton.
- Participation in the annual IBEW/LMCC/NECA Golf Outing.
- Access to Educational Workshops and Seminars: NECA Code Conferences, Management/Leadership Seminars and Technical Workshops.
- Use of meeting facilities for product seminars, contractor briefings, or other industry related function.
### Affiliate cont’d

- Listing in LMCC website with a link to your own website.
- Discounted rates for web development and other promotional materials.
- A subscription to our quarterly newsletter, *Connections*.
- Invitation to NECA District and National Conventions and NECA Show.

The NECA Show is renowned as the industry’s premiere event for electrical contractors, which features cutting-edge technologies, highlights new trends, and provides courses to help contractors broaden their knowledge and skill. The Show takes place in conjunction with the NECA National Convention.

If you are interested in becoming an Affiliate Member, please call Executive Director, Dan Neal at 937-299-0384.

### New Members cont’d

machinery. Hesseling hooks up the new equipment, and adds necessary lighting or upgrades power to meet increased electrical requirements. Another customer, I and K Distributors, a food processing and distributor, may add new product lines. This requires a plant expansion, and Hesseling is there once again to supply new electrical installations.

“There are several advantages to being a NECA member,” says Jerry. “When meeting with other members I have the opportunity to discuss current topics in our industry. It’s simply a great support network.”

### About NECA

The National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), founded in 1901, is the leading representative of a segment of the construction market comprised of over 70,000 electrical contracting firms. NECA includes 120 U.S. chapters in addition to others in countries around the world.

NECA is dedicated to enhancing the industry through continuing education, labor relations, current information and promotional activities. It is the voice of the electrical contracting industry, working to promote higher standards, quality workmanship and training for a skilled workforce. NECA provides services to contractors, including detailed publications and workshops on virtually every aspect of the electrical construction industry.

### Why join NECA?

- OCIEB approved continuing education classes
- Management education programs
- Codes and Standards program
- Marketing programs
- Legislative representation
- Labor relations and negotiation
- Insurance
- Publications with the latest news & emerging technology
- Convention/Electrical Industry Exposition

### Complete Electrical Service

Another up and coming electrical contracting company, Complete Electrical Service, was established in 2002 by Earnest Pittman (better known as Ernie). Ernie has worked for several electrical contractors over the years and most recently at a company that closed their doors. Their existing clients still needed electrical services; therefore Ernie decided to start his own business, so he could continue to support these companies.

Complete Electrical Service performs industrial and commercial work and is a lighting specialist company. Other services include pre-fabrication work, machine hookups (for companies like Anchor Fabrications), general maintenance, lighting and ATM installation for area banks, and general electrical maintenance for most of the Wendy’s in the Dayton area. One of the business’s more unique customers is Miami Valley Feed and Grain, where Complete Electrical Service maintains the electrical needs of their grain elevator equipment and facility.

“Joining NECA just makes sense,” says Ernie. “The Organization provides representation in the NECA/IBEW relationship and has both local and nationwide advertising clout. Membership also provides a forum for sharing ideas and concerns about the electrical industry.”

### Reliable Electric

The newest electrical contractor in the area, Reliable Electric, was founded in July 2003. President Mack Spears also worked in the industry for over 30 years. Along with Doug Mayse, Jack McDaniel and Bob Wiltshire, Reliable was established to meet both the electrical and mechanical needs of local businesses.

Their list of clients and work includes general maintenance and service at Behr, PMI, Honeywell, Panasonic, several area schools and city government buildings. Reliable provided electrical installations during the remodel of the Municipal building for the City of Centerville, remodeled the Armory in Greenville, and assisted in the upgrade of the New Bradford library.

One of Reliable’s specialties involves the use of Infrared cameras. Shots are taken of switch gears to determine how well they are functioning and to detect any hot spots that may need to be serviced. In addition to electrical work, Reliable also provides mechanical services and HVAC service and repair.

“Being in the business for so many years, I already had an affiliation with NECA,” says Mack. “History has shown that NECA provides its membership with negotiation support, ongoing educational opportunities and advertising power that can’t be replicated by just one company.”

### Welcome Aboard!

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**Complete Electrical Service**

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**Welcome Aboard!**
License requirements updates

The Ohio Construction Industry Examining Board (O.C.I.E.B.) has developed new continuing education guidelines and requirements for electrical contractors, effective February 9, 2004. However, the rule change does not take effect for electrical license holders until their 3-year cycle and thirty hours has been completed.

One of the biggest differences is that the continuing education renewal requirements will change from three years to one year. Until recently, contractors were required to complete 30 hours of continuing education over a period of three years. This has been changed to 10 hours, annually, five of which must relate to the electrical code. The other five hours may consist of any board approved course or courses, i.e. business, safety, or technology.

Previously, license holders were also given a 90-day grace period on education. Not anymore! If continuing education requirements are not attained in a timely manner by the individual holding the specialty contractor’s license on or before the expiration date set forth on the license, the license shall automatically expire.

So, it is imperative that you make sure you receive credit for all educational courses and seminars that you attend. Attendance forms are handed out which each license holder must sign at the end of the class and have signed by the instructor. It is extremely important that forms are turned in at the end of class since the training agency (NECA) must submit a roster within seven business days of the date of completion of the course or program. Sorry, but continuing education hours obtained in excess of ten hours in a one-year period cannot be carried over to next year.

Insurance requirements have also changed. Prior to the new guidelines, a contractor was required to maintain liability insurance in the amount of $300,000. This has been increased to $500,000.

Western Ohio Chapter NECA has a Power Point presentation detailing the new changes. To request a copy, please send an email to wocneca@choiceonemail.com or call Julie Bernard at 937-299-0384.

Code Seminar

By the end of this course you will have complete understanding of the 2004 NEC including:
- Application of conductors and overcurrent devices
- General wiring requirements
- Grounding systems and equipment
- Flexible cords and cable
- Motors
- Transformers
- Electronic Computer/Data Processing wiring
- Emergency wiring.

Wagner Smith marks 75-Years as NECA member

Wagner Smith Electrical Contractors receives a plaque marking its 75th year as a NECA member. Pictured (from left) are Wagner Smith Vice President retired Tony Fortkamp; his son Jim Fortkamp, current Vice President of Wagner Smith; John O’Meara, Wagner Smith Area Manager and Vice President of Western Ohio Chapter NECA; and Greg Brush, President of Kastle Electric and the Western Ohio Chapter NECA.
Yuletide Thanks!

Once again, a big thanks to all of the electricians from Local 82 and Local 71 who volunteered their time over the last Christmas holiday to brighten downtown. Thousands of strings of lights were hung on buildings throughout the city. On January 29, an appreciation dinner was held in their honor. Thanks again to Chapel Electric, Kastle Electric, Wagner Smith Electrical Contractors, Newco Electrical Contractors and Studebaker Electric for all their help.

Mayor Rhine McLin offers congratulations to volunteers.