



CISCO

COMMUNICATOR

A Newsletter for Chicagoland Construction Labor & Management Professionals

Annual Luncheon to Highlight Chicago Infrastructure Trust leader *Scholarship Winners Also Recognized Friday, May 9, 2014*



With funding being such an important element of the construction process, CISCO welcomes the leader of the Chicago Infrastructure Trust, Stephen S. Beitler, as its keynote speaker to the 26th Annual Luncheon, beginning at noon, Friday, May 9, 2014 at Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant in

- Improve service to the people of Chicago and provide better access to facilities
- Harness the potential of private funding to expand/accelerate infrastructure development / improvement beyond the capacity of public funds and City resources
- Create jobs directly through project execution and/or by facilitating economic expansion
- Generate incremental revenue for the City from underutilized assets
- Reduce operating overhead of the City

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Stephen Beitler is the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Infrastructure Trust. The Trust's mission is to facilitate transformative infrastructure projects in Chicago by offering the widest range of financial tools to fund those projects. The Trust, which attracts capital from diverse types of investors, is an off-balance sheet, off-credit vehicle for financing, structuring and program management of projects to improve the infrastructure of the City of Chicago at the best value for its citizens.

Prior to becoming the first employee of the Chicago Infrastructure Trust, Mr. Beitler held executive positions in venture capital, public companies and government. Mr. Beitler, a former Special Forces (Green Berets) Officer, has extensive expertise managing, developing and implementing leading edge technologies in corporations and government.

Tickets for the Annual Luncheon are \$75 each or \$700 for a table of 10. To register, call CISCO at (630) 472-9411 or send your requests to Julia Mulvey via email at julia@cisco.org.

Schaumburg with seating available at 11:00 a.m.

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

With more construction work being done within public-private partnerships, Stephen Beitler plans to discuss how business, labor, government and other entities can work together to improve infrastructure, create jobs and generate a stronger economy.

"We have a critical need in this City, which is we have a 21st century economy sitting on a 20th century foundation. And unless we modernize it, we won't get moving." - Mayor Rahm Emanuel

THE ROLE OF CHICAGO INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST

The Trust will provide focus and leadership to build a pipeline of executable projects that will meet Chicago's infrastructure needs and attract private investment. By tapping into funding from private investors for infrastructure projects, the City of Chicago will be able to achieve the following:

From *the* Desk of the Executive Director



We began 2014 with our Annual Meeting featuring our Project of the Year awards. The CISC Board of Directors was assigned the unenviable task of selecting winning projects from a record number of entries. "Built right, on time, on budget, best trained, highest safety record, latest skills and technologies;"

are more than marketing phrases attributed to these projects. They are the results developers can expect if they "choose wisely," by employing union contractors and a skilled union workforce. The quality of the projects and the passion of the individuals who are associated with the union construction industry was apparent throughout the well-attended event. (See insert page)


Our first-ever PLA – Project Labor Agreement – Workshop was held on March 31st, with over 100 participants, comprised of both the building trades and contractors. As was evident by the questions and discussion, PLAs are one of the more misinterpreted components of our industry. I want to thank our speakers, specifically Tom Villanova, President of the Chicago & Cook County Building Trades for their time and expertise. With several contractors on hand who spoke of their experience in working under a PLA, it demonstrated once again how CISC serves as a forum to facilitate dialogue between contractors and building trades union leaders.

CISC was contacted by the Glenbard High School District 87 to help pass a bond referendum on the March 18th ballot. CISC sent a letter detailing the potential health risks such as mold, poor ventilation, and long term costs associated with neglecting infrastructure repairs. I am pleased to report the referendum passed, and the 10-year plan calls for \$100 million in improvements to all four of the district's high school facilities. A similar project is in its infancy in the New Trier School District in northern Cook County that if approved by voters, would result in a \$90 million construction plan. Each of these projects translates into hundreds of construction jobs, which is our key objective.

CISC's Legislative Committee continues to monitor a variety of bills which can have a crucial impact on our industry. One of our 2014 Legislative Committee priorities is to support Governor Quinn's effort to push for a new Capital Bill. The impact of public construction projects was very evident as I attended Governor Quinn's March 21st press conference in Schaumburg. 2014 will be the biggest construction year in Tollway history, with \$1.4 billion in capital spending improvements.

"2014 will be the biggest construction year in Tollway history, with \$1.4 billion in capital spending improvements." - Gov. Pat Quinn



 **Gov. Quinn announces the Tollway's plan to spend \$1.4 billion in capital improvements for 2014.**

The plans call for: 1) The widening of the 37-mile western segment of I-90 between Randall Road and I-39; 2) The reconstruction and widening of the Elgin O'Hare Western Access, now known as Illinois Route 390, 3) The completion of Phase One of the new interchange to connect the Tri-State (I-294) and I-57, and 4) Vertical construction of maintenance facilities.

This initiative is creating many construction jobs, while improving the quality and safety of our road system. Equally important is that a first-class transportation system helps existing businesses thrive, and is a critical component in attracting new corporations to Illinois.

**Dan Allen
Executive Director**

Presidential *Perspective*



I would like to begin by stating that it is an honor and a privilege to serve as CISCO's new Board President. As a long-time board member and executive officer, I continue my commitment to the success and growth of the unionized construction industry.

I began serving on the CISCO Board of Directors in 1999 and was previously Board President in 2002-03. CISCO is a labor-management organization which is second to none, and I offer my pledge to do my best to guide CISCO and its membership associations through these next two years of continued recovery.

I used the term recovery, because the construction trends are continuing to indicate positive growth across the board, and the job outlook is strong. This is not just my opinion, but a recent meeting of the Chicago Building Congress, Keith Stauber, Managing Director at a global real estate firm called JLL; told a group of top national contractors, construction managers, developers, architects and engineers that the future demand for construction-related services is optimistic and encouraging.

Stauber reported that industrial markets across the US have seen 15 straight quarters of positive growth, and according to their research, demand for industrial space is accelerating in almost all US cities with the strongest growth in Dallas, Chicago, Los Angeles and New York.

We continue to see strong activity in Chicago with projects like Wolf Pointe getting underway, and the \$70 million digital manufacturing grant that President Obama bestowed to Chicago provides more construction opportunities. It is reassuring to know that the trends are moving in the right direction and I look forward to leading our organization into a period of change aimed at building CISCO's industry prominence.

Sincerely,

Mark Maher
CISCO Board President

Mark Maher Leads Newly Elected CISCO Officers *2014 Board Announced at Annual Meeting*

CISCO members approved the 2014 Board of Directors at its annual meeting in January. In addition, the Executive Board was elected and is comprised of **President Mark Maher** (representing the *Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters*), **Vice President Joe Benson** (*Illinois Road and Transportation Builders Association*), **Treasurer Frank Furco** (*IBEW 701*) and **Secretary Dan Divane** (*Electrical Contractors Association*).

Also named to the Board were **John Boske** (*Sheet Metal Workers Local 265*), **Steven Cisco** (*I.U.O.E. Local 150*), **John Cronin**, (*Chicago Roofing Council*), **Steve DeGroote** (*Fox Valley AGC*), **Dennis Fleming** (*Sprinkler Fitters Local 281, U.A.*), **Dave Henderson** (*Lake County*

Contractors Association), **Maurice King** (*IBEW Local 134*), **Leon LaJeunesse** (*Builders Association*), **Frank Lollino** (*Underground Contractors Association*), **Chuck LoVerde III** (*Chicago Laborers' District Council*), **Gary Menzel** (*Roofers Local 11*), **James McGlynn** (*NECA-NEIL*), **Tom McTavish** (*Northeastern Illinois LMCC*), **Loretta Molter** (*Mason Contractors Association*), **Joseph Pastorino** (*Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters*), and **SJ Peters**, (*PAMCANI*).

Directors on the Board represent CISCO member organizations of both the Labor (building trades) and Management (contractors) sides and are appointed to two-year terms.

CISCO Welcomes New Associate Members

CISCO welcomes four associate members that recently joined in the first quarter of 2014.

Alvarez and Associates - Michael Alvarez is a Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. In addition, Alvarez is the President of Alvarez & Associates, a full-service public and government affairs firm providing strategic advice and tactical assistance to companies, organizations and coalitions. His firm assists clients with all branding and image enhancement needs, while focusing on proactive planning that can take your company to the top of the industry.

ELFCO Supply - Since its inception in 1970, Elfco has been a leading supplier to contractors and OEM manufacturers in the Chicagoland area. We specialize in supplying the commercial/industrial electrical and mechanical trades. Our core products include power tools, hardware, hangers, consumables, jobsite supplies and safety products. The outside sales staff has over 100 years of combined experience serving the construction industry to assist you with all of your needs while the inside sales staff is ready to service your needs from 6am to 5pm. At ELFCO "service is our most important product," and we continually train our staff to keep up with the latest products and industry advances.



Rooney Consulting - As a former Deputy Commissioner with the City of Chicago Department of Buildings, Bill Rooney has an excellent working knowledge and expertise of the construction industry. Rooney Consulting specializes in City of Chicago building permits, code compliance issues and inspection services. In addition, Bill Rooney has a proven track record of assisting customers with issues related to Administrative hearing notices and Housing Court violations.



UIG Union Insurance Group - UIG represents over 2,500 labor organizations including international unions, district councils, federations, apprenticeship programs, health & welfare funds, locals, and local members- serving each by providing quality insurance coverage from "A" rated carriers at a competitive price.



Our mission is two-fold: To ensure the financial security of labor organizations by providing customized insurance products, AND to do our part to strengthen the Labor Movement. We are the nation's only 100% union organized agency - enabling our customers to receive the added value of supporting a union shop.

PHOTO CORNER: At the Annual ASA Chicago Construction Expo and Safety Conference, CISCO's Executive Director Dan Allen (photo, below right) talks with Clark Johnson, FCAC Marketing Director, while CISCO Education to Careers Director Johnetta Ryan (photo, right) meets with Michael Clemmons, IBEW Local 176 Instructor.



Professor Bob Bruno Headlines CISCO Annual Meeting

With employee collective bargaining rights coming under attack, CISCO fittingly featured Keynote Speaker Prof. Bob Bruno, the Director of the Labor Education Program at the University of Illinois-Chicago for its January 31st Annual Meeting. More than 260 members and guests attended the event at Maggiano's Little Italy in Schaumburg.



Audience members listen intently as CISCO Executive Director Dan Allen provides an organizational overview prior to announcing the Project of the Year awards.



Professor Bob Bruno delivers his Keynote Address during CISCO's Annual Meeting.

Bruno presented the results of two of his recent research studies involving Illinois: "The Cost of Repealing the Prevailing Wage Act," and "The Economic Effects of Adopting a Right-to-Work (RTW) Law." The studies were conducted by researchers at the University of Illinois and both Michigan State University (Prevailing Wage) and University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (RTW) respectively.

Among his findings were 1) Prevailing wages do not lead to increases in costs of public construction projects; 2) RTW lowers worker earnings; and 3) RTW reduces employee benefits and increases workplace fatalities.

PRIDE IN CONSTRUCTION AWARDS

Following Professor Bruno's remarks, was the presentation of the winning entries of the 2013 Pride in Construction Awards. The winners were:

Educator of the Year – Glenn Krause, Counselor, Evergreen Park High School.

Labor Conciliator of the Year – Wesley James, Illinois Department of Labor

Public Body of the Year – Village of Bensenville, Mayor Frank Soto accepting.

- Winners for **Project of the Year** were:
- 1) New Construction/Chicago (above \$20 m) – Sarah E. Goode STEM Academy;
 - 2) New Construction/Suburbs (above \$20 m) – Elgin Community College – Health & Life Sciences Bldg;
 - 3) Rehabilitation – Chicago Bears Halas Hall Additions;
 - 4) Residential – 500 Lake Shore Drive Tower;
 - 5) Infrastructure – O'Hare Airport's Runway 10C-28C;
 - 6) New Construction Chicago/Suburbs (below \$20 m) – Hyatt Hotel/Hyde Park; and
 - 7) Special Mention – Walgreens Net Zero Energy Store.

Congratulations to our 2013 winners and we look forward to seeing more spectacular construction projects at next year's meeting.



Labor Conciliator of the Year winner Wes James (center) is congratulated by IDOL Director Joe Costigan (left) and John Tribble, Assistant Manager, IDOL Department of Mediation and Conciliation.

Glancing Back at CISCO's 2014 Annual Meeting





Johnetta Ryan,
Director
Education-to-Careers

EDUCATION 70 CAREERS

CISCO-IDOT Hands-On Event Touches 300 Students

Promoting careers via the union construction apprenticeship programs can be done through a variety of methods.

One such method was the March 13 Career Day 2014 Hands-On Expo (see photos on this page) at the Chicagoland Laborers' facility in Chicago. CISCO partnered with IDOT for the third consecutive year as more than 300 students from 17 CPS and suburban schools participated. In terms of percentages, 72% of the students were male and 28% were female.

The high schools/districts that sent students to the event were: Brother Rice, Rockford School District, District 211, Conant, Thornton Township, Thornridge, Ada S. McKinley Academy, Austin Career Education Center, Simeon, Schurz, CVCA, Curie, North Grand, Prosser, Southside Occupational, Manly and Harlan.

In addition to 42 exhibitors, there were eight different trades, 11 informational booths, 23 hands-on demonstrations and activities; and IDOT sent seven pieces of heavy equipment and operators to demonstrate this specialized equipment.




 **Laborers' Apprenticeship Coordinator Paul Hoetzer shows a student how to keep the jackhammer steady.**

CARPENTERS OPEN HOUSE

Another way our apprentice and training programs promote themselves is by simply opening up the doors. The Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters will be holding an Open House on Saturday, June 7 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the facility on 1256 Estes Ave., Elk Grove Village, IL, 60007.

All are welcome to attend as the apprenticeship training center will have demonstrations, exhibitors, major tool manufacturing displays, food, refreshments, raffles, prizes and more.



 **Roofers Local # 11 Instructor Mike Lafferty demonstrates the use of a blow torch commonly used in roofing.**

CISCO Legislative Committee Update



The CISCO Legislative Committee met February 17 just after the General Assembly's deadline for bill introductions. After discussing a variety of bills that the Committee felt required attention and monitoring, the following were deemed to be this year's legislative priorities:

Capital Bill - A new capital spending program – Supports

SB 3023 – Prevents the subordination of mechanics liens – Supports

HB 4769 – Amends the Public Construction Bond Act – Supports

HB 4657 – “Bonding Over” proposal weakens mechanics lien rights – Opposes

HB 924 – Responsible Bidder Ordinance – Supports

Leucadia – Construction of synthetic natural gas facility – Supports

Gaming – Passage of gaming bill directs funds to capital construction program – Supports

TIFF Funding – Diverts TIFF funds from construction to education – Opposes

LEGISLATIVE VICTORY

Just before press time, word came from Springfield that **HB 4657 (Bonding Over)** was heard by the House Judiciary Committee. This bill was an initiative of the Illinois State Bar Association and the title companies that would seriously weaken the mechanics lien rights of contractors, subcontractors, laborers and material suppliers. During the committee recess, our legislative partners at IMSCA (Illinois Mechanical Specialty Contractors Association) successfully urged the bill sponsor and the Committee Chair to move the bill to sub-committee. This move means the bill is highly unlikely to be passed by the House Judiciary Committee, and even less likely to be heard for consideration by the full House. This is a major victory for IMSCA and contractors. The call to action that went out to our legislative committee to both labor and management paid off.

- *Excerpt from PCA/Plumbing Council/PAMCANI Workflow of April 2, 2014.*

CISCO Outreach Workshop Focuses on Project Labor Agreements

CISCO and eight other partners/members hosted a March 31 Project Labor Agreement Workshop aimed at educating attendees on the nuts and bolts of the standard agreement and appeal process. More than 120 participants were on hand at Cement Masons Local #502 in Bellwood. The event's objective was to clear up any misconceptions of PLAs.



Left photo: Tom Villanova, President, Chicago & Cook County Building Trades walks through the standard agreement of a PLA to the audience as Pete Olson, President, Lake County Building Trades and Dan Allen, CISCO Executive Director take notes. **Above photo:** Jeff Eppenstein, Roofers Local #11 asks a question during the 90-minute session.



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April 2014

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CISCO Communicator is published by the Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO). CISCO is a labor-management group bringing together unions of the building trades and construction contractor associations representing more than 140,000 construction workers and 8,000 contractors in the six county Chicago Metropolitan area.

CISCO MISSION STATEMENT

It is the primary mission of CISCO to strengthen the unionized construction market in the greater Chicago Metropolitan area. In support of this mission,

CISCO will perform three major roles: 1) Serve as a forum to facilitate dialogue between contractors and building trades union leaders concerning mutual problems and concerns; 2) Serve as a clearinghouse for information on the local construction industry; 3) Serve as a promotional group to encourage union construction with the user community and the general public. As a joint labor-management organization, CISCO will focus on cooperative efforts to reduce problems and conflicts and enhance the competitiveness of union construction. Through its activities, CISCO will build trust between the parties and will foster the joint commitment of local contractors and union labor to high quality, on-time, within budget delivery on all projects.

Suggestions, story ideas, or comments should be directed to CISCO at: 2000 Spring Road, Suite 110, Oak Brook, IL 60523

Contact Us At: Toll-free 877-562-9411, (630)472-9411,
Fax: (630)472-9413, or e-mail gary@cisco.org

Executive Director: Dan Allen
Education-to-Careers Director: Johnetta Ryan
Managing Editor: Gary Karafiat
Office Manager: Julia Mulvey

CISCO is a registered Illinois Servicemark for the Construction Industry Service Corporation.

New Information

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Would you like to receive any of the following items?

Just check the appropriate item and return this form!

___ "Build Your Future" Apprenticeship Program Guide

___ "Union Construction" Bumper Sticker

___ Pre-Apprentice "Basic Skills" Training Guide (\$30 per book)