



CISCO

CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - www.cisco.org - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

CISCO/CTA "CONSTRUCTION TALKS" HIGHLIGHTS IBEW LOCAL 134

The CISCO/CTA webinar series titled "Construction Talks" finished last month's features on Friday, May 29 with a virtual tour of the Apprenticeship Training Program at IBEW Local 134.



Local 134's Gene Kent (left) and CTA's Chynna Hampton discuss the Local 134 Apprenticeship Program during the webinar.

The series host, CTA's Chynna Hampton, Senior Project Manager - Workforce Initiatives was joined by Local 134 Apprenticeship Training Director Gene Kent, and Director of Community Relations Maurice King (a CISCO Board member).

Also adding to the dialogue were CISCO's Executive Director Dan Allen and Johnetta Ryan, Director of Education-to-Careers.



Gene Kent (left) asks a second-year apprentice about his experiences in the program.

The tour included a peak at various classrooms and training activity rooms where first, second and third year apprentices were learning their craft.



A classroom of third-year apprentices explain their reason for entering the program.

Impromptu interviews highlighted the hour-long webinar as viewers were able to listen to current apprentices describe their experiences and why they chose construction, specifically electrical work, as a career.

CISCO/CTA "CONSTRUCTION TALKS" TO CONTINUE INTO JUNE



CISCO's partnership with the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and other affiliates continues into June.

The next session featuring a building trade's apprenticeship program will be held on Friday, June 19th. The apprenticeship program of the Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11, will be featured. The Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11 celebrated its 100th anniversary last year.

Previously, the webinar series has featured the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters program and most recently, IBEW Local 134's program.

Visit CISCO's website (cisco.org) and watch for alerts to register.

LERA WEBINAR FOCUSES ON LABOR/MANAGEMENT COOPERATION

The Labor and Employment Relations Association (LERA), which has been hosting a series of webinars on "Labor and Employment Relations During the COVID-19 Pandemic," focused on the collaboration between contractors and the building trades during its recent webinar on Thursday, May 28th.

CISCO's Executive Director Dan Allen was one of the featured panelists for the May 28th session, as the goal of the series is to deepen understanding for the breadth of labor and employment relations matters during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Now more than ever, the collaboration between union building trades workers and union contractors has been very important during the pandemic," Allen began.

"This cooperation had been in place for many years prior, but the undertaking was immense in order to make job sites safe and maintain social distancing on hi-rises was the toughest item to achieve. The amount of incidences were minimal, and the issues were addressed immediately."

Allen added that the pandemic will impact the construction industry. "Moving forward our job sites will be cleaner and safer than ever. New norms will include distancing, remote technology, 360 photos, virtual public meetings and safety talks; and unions will have a huge influence on these changes as we learn from what we are currently experiencing."

More news and photos on the back page.

CISCO ON THE MOVE

LYONS & PINNER ELECTRIC VIDEOS PROMOTING TRAINING FACILITY & NEIGHBORHOOD GOOD DEEDS



Lyons & Pinner Electric Company, Inc. in LaGrange, Illinois has recently produced two videos to

promote the Local 9 Training Center in University Park, as well as a recent project to help repair homes in low-income areas in Bellwood.

The first video contains an interview with one of the Lyons & Pinner employees who is installing 5G cell phone infrastructure and who received his training from the Local 9 training facility in University Park.

The second video describes the company's recent initiative in conjunction with Local 134 and NECA Chicago to give back to the community by repairing homes in Bellwood.

The videos can be found on CISCO's website - www.cisco.org.

OSHA ISSUES COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



OSHA has just issued COVID-19 guidance for the construction

industry. This closely mirrors the requirements in the NABTU/CPWR standards adopted by the Governing Board last month.

One aspect of the guidance that bears reading is OSHA's level of requirement for using respirators when workers are within six feet of other workers or civilians, but it very clearly infers that employers need to assess hazards and comply with 29 CFR 1910.134.

The guidance: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/construction.html>

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COMMUNICATION ON DISPLAY DURING PROTEST PREPAREDNESS

Recent protests throughout the City of Chicago and suburbs proved to be another challenge for the construction industry.

The pandemic, as we all know, has brought about a myriad of unprecedented changes involving social distancing, PPE necessities and many other safety initiatives. Union contractors and union building trades personnel have met these challenges with precision collaboration.

City of Chicago officials quickly recognized that the central business district would be one of the major hot spots for both peaceful and dangerous protesting.

The Mayor's Office and the Building Commissioner notified both the Chicago & Cook County Building Trades and union contractors associations about the parameters of closings and those in turn were quickly relayed to organizations throughout the industry.

HIRE360 ANNOUNCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

HIRE360 announced its upcoming committee meeting schedule saying that supporting community business and connecting individuals to jobs is now more important than ever.

- Facility Committee – June 5; 11am
- Business Development Committee – June 17; 9am
- Curriculum Comte. – June 25; 3pm

Since the stay at home order began, 300 people attended virtual orientations and 200 took the sample test online. The second cohort started virtual 12-hour test prep courses this week and with a few apprenticeships opening soon HIRE360 will be adding a third course shortly. The first interview training was conducted and another session will be added shortly.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



The Illinois General Assembly wrapped up a four-day special session in the early hours of Sunday, May 24th.

One of the bills of interest was the workers' compensation and unemployment insurance legislation that was negotiated through the "agreed bill process" - meaning that changes do not move forward unless all negotiators agree on language.

Those involved in the negotiations on this issue included the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, Illinois Retail Merchants Association, the Illinois AFL-CIO and the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association.

HB 2455 Senate Amendment #2 was the result of these negotiations and received bi-partisan support. The end result is that while this legislation allows essential employees to receive rebuttable presumption, the approved bill will allow for employers to rebut those claims using an ordinary level of rebuttal; meaning an employer simply has to show "some evidence" that the employer was engaged in best practices.

HB 2455 also includes changes to the unemployment insurance system. Due to a record number of layoffs as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, the fund has been drained.

In order to receive federal aid, Illinois had to make two important changes to the system: 1) Wave the one-week waiting period, and 2) making the layoffs a non-chargeable event for the employer.

