

# CISCO

## CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org) - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

### UNION CONSTRUCTION'S STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH VETERANS

Every American will agree that our military is by far the most superior, and has rightfully earned both the respect and gratitude of peace loving citizens both here and abroad. Its great success comes from their willingness to give 100% to everything they do. This is especially true of their commitment to training, and learning to perform duties under adverse conditions.



*From the battlefield ...*

The challenges our veterans face and overcome while deployed around the world, while protecting our freedom and our families, make us forever grateful to them all. Unfortunately, after their dedicated service our veterans encounter an exceedingly high unemployment rate despite the fact they are highly disciplined, trainable and adaptable.

Our gratitude to these brave men and women must include more than just appreciative words. It must include concrete career opportunities so they can support and care for the families they had to leave, as they provided protection for us and our families.

CISCO provides more than lip service to our military personnel. Veterans have always comprised a large portion of our past and present union work force, and many of our union contractors are veteran-owned businesses. The union construction industry recruits veterans through many

avenues. Two of the largest and most successful of these programs are Helmets to Hardhats, and Veterans In Piping (VIP).



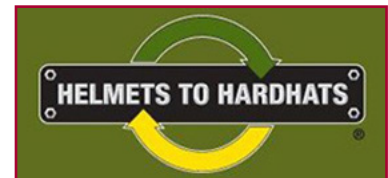
The VIP program offers skills training in the pipe trades to U.S. veterans and active duty military personnel preparing to leave the service, through 18-week accelerated courses. VIP participants earn industry-recognized certifications, and 100 percent of VIP graduates are placed in quality jobs with good pay, along with healthcare and retirement benefits. This allows them the opportunity to provide for their families after their service to our country has been completed.

All this is done at absolutely no cost to the military, the government, or participants because all costs are paid by the UA and their union contractors. The Union of Plumbers, Fitters, Welders, & Service Techs (UA) and its contractors invest millions in building training facilities at six military bases across the country. As a result military and government officials have lauded VIP as a model in workforce development.

Helmets to Hardhats helps recruit veterans to achieve the mission of North America's Building Trades Unions. That mission is to develop and deploy the safest, most highly skilled and productive craft workforce found anywhere in the world, while establishing and protecting wage and

benefit standards that ensure that careers in the construction industry are a path to the middle class.

Helmets to Hardhats connects National Guard, reserve and transitioning active-duty military members with quality career training and employment opportunities within the building and construction industry.

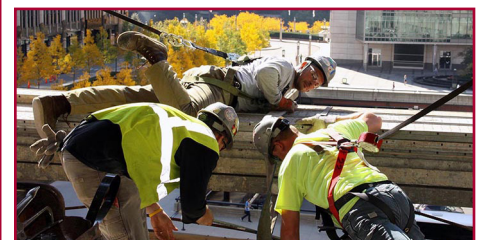


The program is described best by Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

"Together, the military and the construction trades have built America over the past several hundred years, with the same kind of sweat, equity, commitment and courage," Blum said.

The results of this program in the Chicagoland area alone, show that more than 1,000 veterans have enrolled in apprenticeships through Helmets to Hardhats.

After protecting America and keeping us safe and strong for so many years, our Veterans continue to be a source of strength as they help to build America's bridges, roads and high-rises thanks to the union construction industry.



*... to the work site*

*More news and photos on the back page.*

# CISCO ON THE MOVE

## NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK - NOVEMBER 14-20

This year, the second Annual National Apprenticeship Week will take place November 14-20, 2016.

In accordance with the national recognition week, the Apprenticeship Information Committee will provide a panel discussion at 9:30 am, Thursday, November 17 at the IBEW 134-NECA Institute, 6201 W. 115th St. in Alsip. Interested groups can learn more about apprenticeship programs. The event has been registered with the Department of Labor Bureau of Apprenticeships.

## CARPENTER'S APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING CENTER OPEN HOUSE

On November 2, 2016, the Carpenter's Training Center hosted its 2nd Annual Apprenticeship Open House in conjunction with the Department of Labor's National Apprenticeship Week. The event showcased the Apprenticeship Training Center in Elk Grove Village and the training program for prospective apprentices.

The night started out with tours of the facility led by 13 apprentice & journeymen volunteers from various locals and six instructors from the school. The tours were followed by a UBC video titled - "One Trade, Many Crafts" - which highlighted the various crafts that fall under Carpentry.

Vince Sticca, Apprenticeship Coordinator, described to 191 participants what an apprenticeship in the Carpenters Union meant, and how someone could potentially develop into a Union Signatory Contractor running their own company.

The event was made possible with the help of the UBC, which offered the training to all of its members from Skill Advancement classes to Leadership, Foreman and Superintendent Training at no cost to the members.

Apprentices **Shannon Boothe** (2nd year) and **Vince Tybor** (3rd year) spoke to the audience about their apprenticeship work experiences.



*An audience of 191 participants attended the Nov. 2 Open House at the Carpenters Apprenticeship Training Center.*

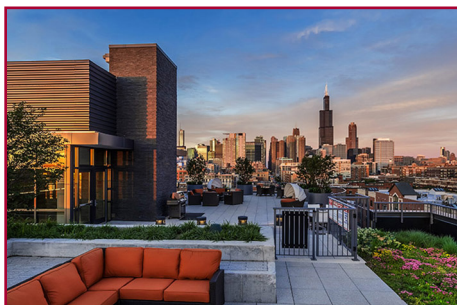
Many thanks goes out to all those that volunteered for this event, as well as those that attended even though it was Game 7 of the World Series.

## PROJECT OF THE YEAR APPLICATION DEADLINE APPROACHES

The deadline for entry into the 2016 Project of the Year Award is now only a month away! The deadline for submittals is **5:00 p.m. Thursday, December 1, 2016.**

The submittal process is completely electronic, easy and convenient. Click the following link to download the forms: [www.cisco.org/wp-content/pdf/POY-App-16.pdf](http://www.cisco.org/wp-content/pdf/POY-App-16.pdf).

There are 6 different project categories that are judged on Quality of Construction, Design, Impact on the Community and Safety Record.



*One of last year's winning projects (above) - Madison Racine Apartments showing a rooftop view at dusk, submitted by Power Construction in the New Construction/Chicago category.*

For more information, contact Gary Karafiat at (630) 472-9411 or via email, [gary@cisco.org](mailto:gary@cisco.org).

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - NATIONAL AND STATEWIDE ELECTION RESULTS

It's too early to tell what impact a Trump presidency will have on national prevailing wage laws (Davis-Bacon) and project labor agreements, but CISCO and its Legislative Committee promises to keep our readers informed of any impact on the union construction industry.

Tammy Duckworth's victory over Mark Kirk was one of the few seats that changed hands in the U.S. Senate, and Brad Schneider's win in the U.S. Congress race shifted the breakdown in the House of Representatives to 11 Democrats to 7 Republicans.

On the state level, here are some of the significant results from last night's election:

When the smoke clears, it appears (based on unofficial results) that the Senate Democrats incurred a net loss of two seats and now have a 37-22 majority, and the House Democrats incurred a net loss of four seats and will maintain a 67-51 majority.

In the race for State Comptroller, Susana Mendoza won over Leslie Munger, who was appointed to the office by Governor Bruce Rauner after the death of Judy Barr-Topinka.

And finally, the Safe Roads Amendment was approved with nearly 79 percent of voters. The Safe Roads Amendment called for motor fuel taxes and other fees, that you already pay, to be secured in a "lockbox" and only be used for transportation-related purposes. This will end the practice of raiding funds designed for road and bridge repairs and sweeping those funds to pay for other budget items.

