Changes Aimed at Building CISCO’s Industry Prominence

Organization Welcomes New Executive Director and Board Members

In April, The Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO) celebrated its 25th year of service to the union construction industry. But then CISCO was just getting started.

In August, CISCO successfully transitioned to new leadership as Executive Director Dan Allen took over at the helm. Allen came to CISCO from the City of Chicago, where he had served as Chief Electrical Inspector for the past 10 years of a 30-year career with the City. The Board of Directors appointed Allen to succeed John Brining, who had announced his retirement last spring.

In addition to his work in Chicago, Allen has been a member of IBEW Local 134 since 1982, and is also affiliated with the Electrical Contractors Association.

“Certainly Dan’s experience in both the building trades and contracting community was an important consideration as we searched for a new executive director,” said Board President Dave Henderson. “We are pleased that someone of Dan’s caliber came calling, and the Board has enjoyed working with him thus far as we move CISCO forward to more prominence within the union construction industry.”

BOARD CHANGES

In addition to Allen’s arrival, the CISCO Board has a few new faces as well. Secretary Mike Wiedmaier, who served as board president in 2008-09 and was also a board member for 16 years, stepped down to accept the Executive Director position for the Underground Contractors Association. Board member Dan Divane was appointed Interim Secretary, and S.J. Peters, Executive Director of the Plumbing Council and PAMCANI was named an interim board member.

In other action, Charles LoVerde III, who currently serves as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Laborers’ District Council of Chicago & Vicinity, was appointed to an open seat. LoVerde began his career with the Laborers’ in 1977 as a member of Local #1092. He was elected President and Business Manager in 2002 and now serves as President. The District Council appointed him as Assistant Business Manager in 2006, and in 2010, he was appointed and later elected to the Secretary-Treasurer position.

The Board also approved the appointment of Gary Menzel, who replaces retiring 10-year member Rich Mathis, and John Cronin, who replaces Jim Cronin.

Menzel was recently elected to a three-year term as Business Manager for Roofers Local #11. Menzel started roofing in 1985, completed his apprenticeship in 1989 and began training apprentices in 1996 for Local 11. He became Recording Secretary and then Business Agent in 2001.

John Cronin is employed by Trinity Roofing Services, Inc. and is affiliated with the Chicago Roofing Council. His brother Jim stepped down this fall after he served on the CISCO Board for 12 years.

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank the CISCO Board of Directors for allowing me the opportunity and privilege to serve as the Executive Director of this great organization. I promise to work hard to continue to build on the many past successes and achievements that CISCO has accomplished over the last 25 years. These accomplishments are the direct results of the dedication and hard work of the CISCO board members and directors, both past and present.

I would also like to thank and acknowledge the dedicated CISCO staff I have been fortunate to join. Under Johnetta Ryan’s leadership, CISCO continues to reach countless potential apprentices through a variety of career training outreach programs to insure we replenish and maintain the most highly skilled union labor workforce. Julia Mulvey handles the ever growing office responsibilities with the utmost professionalism. And, Gary Karafiat, coordinates all of the communications, and assists with the Legislative Committee.

In my first three months, I have been fortunate to witness much of what CISCO brings to the table. On October 29, I had the privilege to attend The Illinois Tollway’s historic groundbreaking of the Elgin O’Hare Western Access Project. With Gov. Quinn serving as master of ceremonies, many labor leaders and state and local elected officials were on hand to jump start this 5-year $3.4 billion project that will bring much needed road construction jobs to the area and spur significant vertical construction along the western corridor.

This project and other large capital projects do not happen by chance. They are the direct result of when organizations that represent labor and management, our elected officials and the business community collaborate for the benefit of all parties. CISCO is proud to be a catalyst to foster and combine these efforts which help strengthen the unionized construction industry, through job-creating capital projects.

On the political front, I was recently in Springfield as part of the Illinois Building Trades coalition to lobby legislators on behalf of HB 924 - Responsible Bidder Ordinance. Due to the efforts of the coalition, the bill passed the labor committee. This is just one of CISCO’s many Legislative Committee priorities as we monitor legislation that impacts our industry.

Lastly, I want to specifically mention and thank our loyal and committed members and supporters. I have begun to meet with many of you in order to listen to your needs and ideas, so that we can continue to focus on new ways to improve the “service” within the Construction Industry Service Corporation.

Dan Allen
Executive Director

2014 CISCO Scholarship Applications Now Available

The Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO) is now accepting applications for its 2014 Scholarship Program. One additional program category was added last year to enable a wider range of the children of both building trade union members and union contractor employees to apply. CISCO now offers (2), four-year scholarships ($2,000/year) to high school seniors; (2), two-year awards ($1,000/year) for seniors planning to attend community college; and (2), two-year continuing education awards ($1,000/year) to union members or contractor employees.

Applications for each of the three categories of scholarships are available at www.cisco.org/scholarships/ or by calling CISCO at 630-472-9411. All applications and accompanying documents must be postmarked by February 21, 2014 to be eligible for consideration. Winners will be notified in March and awards will be presented at CISCO’s Annual Luncheon in April, 2014.
My second, two-year term as President of the CISCO Board of Directors comes to an end this year. 2012 and 2013 have been a busy couple of years, marked by change, for CISCO. Good years that brought promise for the future of our organization. We said goodbye to our longtime Executive Director John Brining when he retired this September and appointed Dan Allen as our new Executive Director in August. Dan has hit the ground running, meeting all our members and taking charge of CISCO’s many initiatives. When we hold our annual meeting in January, we will also have welcomed six new board members.

It has been my privilege to serve you as an officer of the Board. CISCO’s promotion of the union “Value Team” contractors and skilled union tradesmen and women, and our joint commitment to the delivery of high-quality, on-time and within budget projects; has helped to keep union construction in northeastern Illinois as one of the healthiest union construction markets in the country.

The future of CISCO looks very encouraging; it is stronger, more involved and more relevant than ever before. Through our Education to Careers program, our legislative successes and the many great accomplishments that are the byproduct of coalition building, CISCO is helping promote the union construction industry to our many construction end users.

As I hand over the reins, I want to thank our members and supporters for their continued support and involvement. I am confident that CISCO’s excellent staff will continue to put the “service” into the Construction Industry Service Corporation! As we all know, our people are our greatest asset and everyone involved at CISCO strives to be the best asset possible for the union construction industry.

Sincerely,

Dave Henderson
CISCO Board President

Save The Date: CISCO Annual Meeting - January 31, 2014

Keynote Speaker: University of Illinois Professor Robert Bruno

CISCO welcomes Keynote Speaker University of Illinois Professor Robert Bruno to its Annual Meeting on Friday, January 31 at Maggiano’s Little Italy, 1901 Woodfield Road in Schaumburg. The meeting also features the 2013 Pride in Construction Award presentations.

Bruno is a professor in the School of Labor & Employment Relations at the University of Illinois and the Director of the Labor Education Program in Chicago. In the faculty and staff directory website page, he states, “I became a professor because I believe that it is the best way for me to act on behalf of working-class men and women. Labor & Employment Relations has a long standing and significant commitment to labor studies and the institutions that support collective bargaining.”

His research focuses broadly on working-class and union studies issues. He is the author of three books and has published articles in such journals as Workplace Democracy, Labor Studies Journal and Working USA. Bruno has taught many different industrial relations courses and has specialized in labor history, steward training and working-class studies. Bruno earned his Ph.D. in Political Theory from New York University and his M.A. in Political Science from Bowling Green State University.
CISCO Welcomes New Associate Members

The lifeblood of CISCO’s organization is its members and supporters, and CISCO would like to welcome three new associate members that recently joined in September.

Prospect Mortgage/Union Benefits - Labor unions play a vital role in the lives of more than 15 million American. That is why Prospect Mortgage is proud to support the social and economic achievements of American workers who helped build this great country. The Prospect Mortgage Union Benefits Program makes the American dream of homeownership a reality for working families everywhere.

Prospect Mortgage is in the business of helping people. With more than 200 branches nationwide, Jody J. Anderson is CISCO’s contact out of the Schaumburg office. The Union Benefits Program offers: 1) Exclusive “Cash Back”, 2) 203(k) renovation loans, 3) FHA and VA loans, 4) Refinance programs and more.

Willis of Illinois, Inc. - The Willis Group is one of the world’s largest professional services firms specializing in insurance brokerage and risk management. Willis has more than 17,000 dedicated associates that are highly trained and knowledgeable in their particular area of operation, and work closely with clients to provide a wide range of strategic and operational risk management services and solutions across all industries, around the world.

Willis, with its main office in downtown Chicago, are pioneers in combining retail and reinsurance solutions, and are one of the world’s leading re-insurers.

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage/Union Plus - A provider of banking, mortgage, investing, credit card, insurance, and consumer and commercial financial services, Wells Fargo is an international company. Wells Fargo Home Mortgage offers the Union Plus program.

This plan provides exclusive benefits for union members, their parents and children; education tools to help you prepare for homeownership; and a wide range of financing options. Lori Staben is a Home Mortgage Consultant who is CISCO’s contact and she works out of the Vernon Hills office.

CISCO Board Changes

(Continued from page 1)

Rounding out the changes is the news that Maurice King, Vice President of IBEW Local #134, will be formally joining the board in December to replace Frank Cunningham, who served one year.

King began his apprenticeship for Local 134 in 1985, subsequently became a Training Instructor for the apprenticeship programs and was promoted to Community Relations Coordinator. He is currently the Assistant Director of the Electricians Apprenticeship Program and the founder of the 134 Jump Start Program, created to help stimulate a more diverse work force within the apprenticeship program.

Industry News Update

Gov. Pat Quinn; Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur, IDOT; Operating Engineers Local 150 President Jim Sweeney; and IBEW Local 701 Business Manager Frank Furco (CISCO Board Treasurer and DuPage County Building Trades Financial Secretary) were among several dignitaries and elected officials on hand for the October 29th groundbreaking of the Elgin O’Hare Western Access Project (I-390). The 5-year, $3.4 billion project will bring much needed road construction jobs to the area and spur significant vertical construction along the western corridor.
This year’s “Last Swing” Golf Outing at Bloomingdale Golf Club had special significance as we welcomed our new Executive Director Dan Allen to the team and bid farewell to our retiring Executive Director John Brining.

We wish to thank you once again for your continued generosity to CISCO and for making our 2013 golf outing such a huge success! We had another record number of sponsors (see reverse side), and we sold out the course. The sunny, warm day was enjoyed by all.

In addition, your spirit of giving helped raise more funds for the Chicago Food Depository and the Northern Illinois Food Banks. We owe it all to you. The success of the event, of course, was made possible by the generous support of our loyal members and partners. Our sincere thanks once again to all of you who continue to support CISCO and our efforts.

Set your calendars, I-Phones and Blackberries for next year’s outing - Monday, September 8, 2014. We hope to see you again at the Bloomingdale Golf Course.
Lunch Sponsors:
- Brandywine Global Investment
- Chicago Cubs
- Multi-Employer Property Trust
- Ullico

Beverage Sponsors:
- Chicago Building Congress
- Donven Homes, Inc.
- Evoy, Kamschulte, Jacobs & Co., LLP
- Ironworkers Local 63
- PDM Bridge, LLC
- Sprinkler Fitters Local 281
- Teamsters Local 731
- Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
- Willis of Illinois, Inc.

Halfway House Sponsor:
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- Delta Dental
- FCA of Chicago
- Sommers & Fahrenbach, Inc.
- State Farm Agency

Hole Sponsors:
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- Amalgamated Bank of Chicago
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- Benefits Management Group
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
- BMO Taft Hartley Services
- Carpenters Local 181
- Cement Masons Local 502
- Chicago Area LECET
- Chicago Cubs
- Chicagoland Regional Council of Carpenters
- Concrete Contractors Association
- Construction Safety Council
- Delta Dental
- DuPage County Building Trades
- Electrical Contractors Association
- Elevator Construction Local 2
- Ellico
- FCA of Illinois
- Fox Valley Building Trades
- Heat & Frost Insulators Local 17
- Humana
- Hunt Insurance Group
- IBEW 134
- IBEW 701
- Illinois American Water
- Italian American Labor Council
- J.J. Henderson & Son, Inc.
- Laborers District Council
- Lake County Building Trades
- Lake County Contractors Assoc.
- Marquette Properties
- MGK Personal Financial Care LLC
- Midland States Bank
- North Central IL Labor Council
- Operating Engineers Local 150
- People’s Gas
- PowerForward DuPage
- Power Up Now (NE IL LMCC)
- Principal Financial Group
- Prospect Mortgage/Union Benefits
- Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11
- Sav-Rx Prescription Services
- ScreenSafe
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 265
- Sprinkler Fitters Local 281
- Underground Contractors Assoc.
## 2013 CISCO Board of Directors

**Executive Board**

**President**
Dave Henderson, Lake County Contractors Association

**Vice President**
Mark Maher, Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters

**Treasurer**
Frank Furco, IBEW 701

**Interim Secretary**
Dan Divane, ECA

**Members**

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<td>Chicago Painting &amp; Decorating Contractors Industry Advancement &amp; Promotional Fund</td>
<td>Chicagoland Roofing Council</td>
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<td>Construction &amp; General Laborer’s District Council of Chicago &amp; Vicinity Electrical Contractors Association of City of Chicago, Inc.</td>
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| Electrical Workers Local 117, 134, 150, 461, & 701 | Finishing Contractors Association of Chicago | Glaziers Union Local 27 | Illinois Regional Insulation Contractors Association |
| Illinois Road & Transportation | Builders Association | Ironworkers Local 1 | Insulators Local 17 |
| Lake County Contractors Association | LMCC (IBEW Local 117, 150, 461 & NECA-NEIL) | LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 & ECA) | NECA-IBEW Local 701 LMCC |
| Machinery, Movers & Riggers | Local 136 | Mason Contractors Association of Greater Chicago | Mechanical Contractors Association National Electrical Contractors Association Northeastern Illinois Chapter |
| National Fire Sprinkler Association | Northern Illinois Chapter | Northeastern Illinois Sheet Metal Contractors Association | Northern Illinois Painting & Drywall Institute |
| OP & CMIA Local 11 | Operating Engineers Local 150 | Painters District Council Local 30 | Plasterers Local 5 |
| Plumbing Contractors Association of Chicago & Cook County | Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Authority of Northern Illinois Professional Flooring Installers Association | Residential Construction Employers Council | Roofers Waterproofers & Allied Craftsmen Local 11 |
| Sheet Metal Workers Local 73 | Sheet Metal Workers Local 265 | SMACNA Chicago | SMACNA/SMART #265 |
| Sprinkler Fitters Local 281 | Teamsters Joint Council No. 25 | Underground Contractors Association |

**Associate Members**

- AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust
- Amalgamated Bank of Chicago
- ASB Capital Management
- Benefits Management Group
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
- Brandywine Global Investment Mgmt.
- Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council
- Chicagoland Construction Safety Council
- CIGNA HealthCare
- Clark Hill PLC
- Construction Employers’ Association
- Culloton Strategies, LLC
- Delta Dental
- DuPage County Building & Construction Trades Council
- Fox Valley Building Trades Council
- Fox Valley Construction Industry Advancement Program
- Humana Health Care Plans
- Hunt Insurance Group
- Illinois American Water
- Illinois Pipe Trades Council
- I.M.P.A.C.T.
- Labor Management Cooperation Committee of Chicago
- Labor Management Cooperative Committee of Northeastern Illinois
- Lake County Building & Construction Trades Council
- M & T Trust Services
- Martin Salvino State Farm Agency
- Megent, Inc.
- Middle States Electrical Contractors Association
- Midland States Bank
- Midwest Medix Surgery Center
- Missouri Valley Partners
- Multi-Employer Property Trust
- NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC
- PDM Bridge LLC
- Principal Financial Group
- Prospect Mortgage/Union Benefits
- Putnam Investments
- Russell Investments
- Sav-RX Pharmacy Benefit Mgmt.
- ScreenSafe
- Secure Services, Corp.
- Segall Bryant & Hamill Investment Counsel
- Ullico, Inc.
- UMB Asset Management
- Unimar Public Relations
- Union Plus Mortgage
- Wells Fargo/Home Mortgage
- Willis of Illinois, Inc.

## Project of the Year

The December 3rd deadline to submit an application for the 2013 Project of the Year Award is fast approaching. The program highlights the excellence of union construction workers and contractors by promoting outstanding projects in Northeastern Illinois. This year two new categories (denoted by *) have been added:

- New Construction-Chicago (Above $20 million)
- New Construction-Suburbs (Above $20 million)
- New Construction-Chicago/Suburbs (Below $20 million)
- Rehabilitation-Chic./Suburbs
- Residential Construction Infrastructure (Road/Excavation, Bridge or Utility)

For more information on the program and to download an application, visit www.cisco.org/projects-of-the-year/ OR contact CISCO at 630-472-9411 or email Gary Karafiat at gary@cisco.org.
CISCO to Assist in Two New Minority Training Programs

The recent funding for much needed public infrastructure and toll way projects has spurned a demand for skilled union workers. CISCO has been asked to assist in the implementation of two new and exciting initiatives specifically designed to help in training a diverse, highly skilled union workforce to meet this challenge.

The first initiative is the Chicago Urban League Transportation Construction Apprenticeship Readiness Training (TCART). This program is a collaborative effort among Chicago-area community based organizations and the Apprenticeship Skill and Improvement Program of Local 150, and the Chicagoland Laborers’ District Council Apprenticeship Fund. The goal is to insure increased participation of minority groups, disadvantaged persons, and females in all phases of the highway construction industry. The other community partners are the Austin Peoples Action Center, Black Chamber of Commerce of Lake County, and United Services of Chicago, and they will provide the candidates. The program is funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Candidates must reside in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties, and must meet all the requirements of the specific skilled trade for which they apply. One of the invaluable aspects of the TCART program is participants receive training addressing industry expectations, conduct, life skills and math skills. This invaluable training is certain to help achieve the TCART goal of creating successful new careers in the union construction industry for minorities.

Secondly, CISCO has been appointed to the Advisory Board for the Highway Construction Careers Training Program. This initiative is also funded by IDOT, and begins on February 18, 2014. This is a pre-apprenticeship training program for the union construction trades, whereas the training and education provided will greatly contribute to the program’s success. As the program progresses, CISCO will be providing the Careers in Construction program for this entire group. The cooperation and commitment I have seen by all the parties involved in these programs is to be commended, as we strive to improve our greatest asset, a proud, diverse, and highly skilled union workforce that is second to none.

The new CISCO Careers in Construction Training Center in Carol Stream provided these training services.
CISCO Legislative Committee Update - Fall Veto Session

The CISCO Legislative Committee met October 28 after the first Fall veto session had concluded. With Pension Reform, Gaming and Marriage taking up much of the General Assembly’s time, there were a few items of interest.

HB924 (Responsible Bidder Ordinance) – This bill amends the Prevailing Wage Act and provides that a public body shall specify in the call for bids that each bidder/contractor participates in a USDOL-approved apprenticeship program. This bill has already passed the House, and it was approved by the Senate Labor Committee 10-5-1 in November.

Leucadia – Word that this project will be returning is good news as this $3.6 billion project involves 1,200 construction jobs over three consecutive years - built under a Project Labor Agreement. The project, a synthetic natural gas facility in Chicago, was vetoed by Gov. Quinn in 2012.

During the summer, the following bills were signed into law:

HB2869 (Capital Bill Funding) – Will provide the last bond authorization needed to finish the Capital Bill’s remaining projects and provide the grants to clear the FY13 school list. (Public Act 98-0094)

SB2266 (Natural Gas Consumer Safety and Reliability Act) – Allows for gas utilities to make necessary upgrades. Job creation and injection of billions of dollars into Illinois economy is important to union trades and contractors. (PA 98-0057)

HB1379 (Illinois Water Systems Viability Act) – Provides needed alternatives to communities that desperately need to upgrade their water and/or wastewater systems. An estimated 28,500 jobs to be supported and $190 billion in current private capital available for infrastructure improvements as a result of this bill. (PA 98-0213)

HB922 (Amends Prevailing Wage Act) – Requires that contractors keep hard copy of electronic versions of certified payroll records for 5 years. (PA 98-0328)

HB923 – Requires contractors for which construction services are performed by an individual, sole proprietor, or partnership to report to the Department of Labor all payments made to those entities if the recipient of the payments is not classified as an employee. (PA98-0105)

HB2649 (Employee Classification Amendment) – Lowers the civil penalties for violating the Act from $1,500 to $1,000 per violation in the first audit, and from $2,500 to $2,000 per violation in subsequent audits. Passed the Senate. (PA 98-0106)

HB3223 – Amends the Prevailing Wage Act to improve compliant investigation and enforcement. Expedites the payment of back wages to workers who are underpaid by contractors. Requires contractors to file the hourly overtime wage rate and the annualized hourly benefit rates; the name and address of the fringe benefit funds; and the fringe benefit fund sponsor and administrator. (PA 98-0482)

In addition, A Workers Compensation Clean Up bill (HB 3390) was signed as Public Act 98-0040 and a Design Build Extension for the Capital Development Board (SB 2233) was also signed by the Governor as Public Act 98-0299.
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

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