

Airconditioning, Refrigeration and Mechanical Contractors Association of Southern California, Inc.

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ALERT

Second Quarter 2010



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Mesa Energy Systems, Inc.

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Robert T. Armistead

2010 - 2011 President of MCAA

ROCKVILLE, MD—Robert T. Armistead, P.E., assumed the office of President of the Mechanical Contractors Association of America, Inc. (MCAA) during the association's annual convention in San Francisco, California. The presidential gavel was passed from 2009 President Lonnie Coleman to the new MCAA president during the convention's closing session. Mr. Armistead is President of Armistead Mechanical, Inc., a fourth-generation mechanical contracting and engineering firm with offices in Waldwick, NJ and Newburgh, NY. Appointed to the Board of Directors in 2003, Mr. Armistead is active in the association on both the national and local levels. At the national level, he serves on the Mechanical Contracting Education and Research Foundation Board of Trustees. He also has served on the Career Development Committee and on the Audit Committee. He currently serves on the ACE Mentoring National Board of Directors and as a Trustee on the International Training Fund. At the local level, he has served two years each as MCA of New Jersey (MCANJ) president, vice president, treasurer, and MCICNJ treasurer. He is an MCANJ board member, a position he has held for more than 15 years. He also served as chairman of the Education and Marketing Committees and as a member of the ACE/MCICNJ Mentoring Committee. Mr. Armistead is very active in numerous trade organizations and is a trustee for Local 274 and Local 373's Pension, Welfare, and Annuity Funds. The Mechanical Contractors Association of America, Inc. (MCAA) serves the unique needs of approximately 2,500 firms involved in heating, air conditioning, refrigeration, plumbing, piping, and mechanical service. MCAA provides their members with high-quality educational materials and programs to help them attain the highest level of managerial and technical expertise. MCAA includes the Mechanical Service Contractors of America, the Plumbing Contractors of America, the Manufacturer/Supplier Council, the Mechanical Contracting Education and Research Foundation and the National Certified Pipe Welding Bureau.



President's Message...

The **ARCA/MCA Southern California** Board of Directors, at their April meeting, authorized two scholarships for attendance at the 2010 MCAA Advanced Leadership Institute (ALI). This decision is consistent with the Association's commitment to training and education. As an organization, we understand that training and education are what separates our member contractors from the competition.

In keeping with this tradition, the Board also approved another year of grant money for those companies participating in the high school student summer intern program. This program has provided contractors the opportunity to hire new employees who have graduated with entry level skills and the educational requirements necessary to enter the apprenticeship training program.

The Journeyman Training Committee has been meeting for the past year developing a new approach to journeyman training. In addition to the numerous classes which are offered to journeyman each year, there will be an opportunity for journeyman to select individual classes which offer specific training. These mini-courses can be completed within one or two classes. It is the intention of the Training Center to offer a more diversified approach to class selection, thereby increasing the level of journeyman participation.

We as an industry have always recognized the important role training plays in our success. We continue to expand on this mission, and ask each contractor to support these new training opportunities by encouraging their employees to participate.

Robert Lake, president

Provided by Seyfarth Shaw LLP

Employers Should Expect Increased Enforcement Following Appointment of New OSHA Head

As David Michaels takes over as the new Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health what should employers expect? The new head of OSHA has a long history in the safety and health field that is instructive. He has a Master of Public Health and has been working as a research professor at George Washington University School of Public Health and Safety. Consequently, he has technical expertise regarding health issues that include exposure to airborne chemicals and contaminants such as asbestos, lead, and volatile organic compounds.



David Michaels

Employers Should Expect Increased Enforcement From OSHA

As the head of OSHA, Mr. Michaels will report to Hilda Solis, the Secretary of Labor. In June 2009, Solis went on record stating that under her oversight OSHA was going to be "back in the enforcement business." In September 2009, Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, Jordan Barab, echoed these comments when he stated: "Under the new administration, OSHA is heading back to the original intent of the OSH Act. We're back in the enforcement business and we're back in the standards-writing business." Based on our observations, OSHA has in fact become much more aggressive in issuing citations, increasing the characterization of the citations issued, and proposing higher penalties.

California Announces First-in-the-Nation, Statewide **Green Building** Standards Code



Recently, the California Building Standards Commission unanimously adopted the first-in-the-nation mandatory Green Building Standards Code (CALGREEN) requiring all new buildings in the state to be more energy efficient and environmentally responsible.

Taking effect on January 1, 2011, these comprehensive regulations are designed to achieve major reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption and water use to create a greener California.

CALGREEN will require that every new building constructed in California reduce water consumption by 20 percent, divert 50 percent of construction waste from landfills and install low pollutant-emitting materials. It also requires separate water meters for nonresidential buildings' indoor and outdoor water use, with a requirement for moisture-sensing irrigation systems for larger landscape projects and mandatory inspections of energy systems (e.g., heat furnace, air conditioner and mechanical equipment) for nonresidential buildings over 10,000 square feet to ensure that all are working at their maximum capacity and according to their design efficiencies.

Upon passing state building inspection, California's property owners will have the ability to label their facilities as CALGREEN compliant without any additional third-party certification programs.

In addition to the mandatory regulations, CALGREEN also includes more stringent voluntary provisions to encourage local communities to take further action to green their buildings to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency and conserve water. Like California's existing building code provisions that regulate all construction projects throughout the state, the mandatory CALGREEN provisions will be inspected and verified by local and state building departments.

Also, The California Building Standards Commission, Department of Housing and Community Development, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, and the Division of the State Architect are holding a Summit and Exposition to provide builders and contractors information on the voluntary and mandatory provisions of the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen).





Final OSHA Public Hearing Held Regarding Proposed Changes To the Hazard Communication Standard

OSHA held its last scheduled informal public hearing on March 31, 2010, regarding a proposed rule to align the agency's Hazard Communication Standard with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals in Pittsburgh.

In September 2009, OSHA announced proposed changes to its Hazard Communication Standard, 29 C.F.R. 1910.1200. The current standard is intended to ensure that the hazards of all chemicals are evaluated, and that information concerning their hazards is transmitted to employers and employees. For most employers, obligations under this standard include establishing a hazard communication program, and training employees regarding the hazards and proper handling of chemicals in the workplace and proper labeling of secondary containers. For manufacturers and distributors, the standard sets forth hazard classification and labeling requirements and requires that material safety data sheets (MSDS) are provided to consumers.

OSHA's proposed changes are not a radical departure from existing requirements; however, once finalized the changes will require manufacturers, distributors, and employers to alter their hazard communication programs to conform with the new rules. In short, new labels, safety data sheets, revised written hazard communication programs and additional training will be needed. The public comment period for the proposed rule closed in December 2009; however, OSHA has scheduled informal public hearings on the proposed rule.

The proposed changes are intended to align OSHA's existing hazard communication regulations with GHS classification and labeling provisions in order to improve the quality and consistency of information provided to chemical users, employers, and workers regarding chemical hazards. Many chemical manufacturers and distributors in international trade are complying with OSHA's hazard communication rules domestically, and the GHS internationally. For these companies, OSHA's proposed changes may provide relief from their current practice of creating two sets of data sheets and labels for each product. For other manufacturers, distributors, and employers, these changes will require a significant investment of money and time in order to bring their hazard communication programs into compliance.

Provided by Seyfarth Shaw LLP



Let the Airconditioning and Refrigeration Trust Help You Save



In times of economic stress, improving efficiency is one of the few things you can do to lessen the financial downturn. One way to improve efficiency is to file your remittance reports on-line.

* Provided by the ACR Trust

If you are still submitting paper reports, the process is:

1. Employee submits paper timesheet
2. Payroll personnel enters information from timesheet into payroll system
3. Time is taken from payroll system at end of month to prepare paper remittance report
4. Paper remittance report and check is sent to the Trust Office and entered into our system

As you can see, the result is paper to computer to paper to computer. Why not eliminate steps 3 and 4 by downloading your payroll data directly into the on-line system for remittance reporting? If you do not have the ability to download your payroll data directly, you can still enter the hours into the on-line system faster than you can prepare a paper report.

You can also pay your contribution on-line via an ACH transfer. Not only does this reduce the chance of theft, it eliminates the cost of printing checks and postage.

As you can see, electronic reporting will improve your efficiency, and reduce errors. In addition, it will save money for the Trust Office, which ultimately saves you money as well.

The on-line system is very simple. Please call Jack Wilkerson or Kristi Wagner at (714) 917-6100. They will give you more information and even offer to come to your office to demonstrate and train your staff on the system.



History of ARCA/MCA Southern California..... DID YOU KNOW?

On October 16, 1939, the Airconditioning and Refrigeration Contractors Association of Southern California (**ARCA**) was established. The first Executive Director of **ARCA** was Henry Ely, a Los Angeles Attorney specializing in the construction industry. Shortly thereafter, on January 1, 1940, the first collective bargaining agreement between United Association Local 508 and **ARCA** was signed. This Agreement provided for a work jurisdiction of all aspects of heating, ventilation, airconditioning, and refrigeration. This scope of work included all HVACR work: service, remodel, construction, and all other related type work. Today's Southern California **ARCA** contract with the United Association can be traced back to this 1940 collective bargaining agreement. Presently, **ARCA/MCA Southern California** has several collective bargaining agreements throughout Southern California with the United Association. In the late 1970's, **ARCA** became associated with the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA and MSCA), hence today's **ARCA/MCA Southern California**. During its long history, ARCA has had three Executives, Henry Ely, James Burge, and the current Executive Vice President, Richard J. Sawhill.

2010 Events Calendar

April

1	MCAA 2010 Annual Convention (San Francisco, CA)
7 8:30 am	JJATT Meeting (Los Angeles Training Center)
8 10:00 am	ARCA/MCA Board of Directors
13 8:00 am	PIPE Board of Trustees
14 7:00 am	SCPT Administrative and Delinquency Committees
19 8:00 am	ACRT Appeals Committee
19 9:00 am	ACRT Delinquency and Benefits Committees
27 9:00 am	Inland Refrigeration Benefit Funds Board of Trustees
28 8:30 am	SCPT Board of Trustees

May

3-5	MCAA Legislative Conference (Washington, DC)
11 8:30 am	ACRT Investment Committee
12 10:00 am	ACRT Board of Trustees
31	ARCA/MCA Office Closed

June

2 11:30 am	Service Managers Roundtable
10 10:00 am	ARCA/MCA Board of Directors
23 7:00 am	SCPT Finance Committee

Looking Ahead in 2010

October 17-20	MSCA Annual Educational Conference, Scottsdale, AZ
November 14-17	International Foundation Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI



ACCO Engineered Systems
Glendale, CA

Air-Ex Air Conditioning, Inc.
Pomona, CA

Barr Engineering
Santa Fe Springs, CA

Control Air Conditioning Service Corporation
Anaheim, CA

Thermalair, Inc.
Anaheim, CA

United A/C Service Co., Inc.
Yorba Linda, CA

Wittler-Young Service Company
Los Angeles, CA



Allison Mechanical
Redlands, CA

Emcor Service/Mesa Energy Systems
Irvine, CA

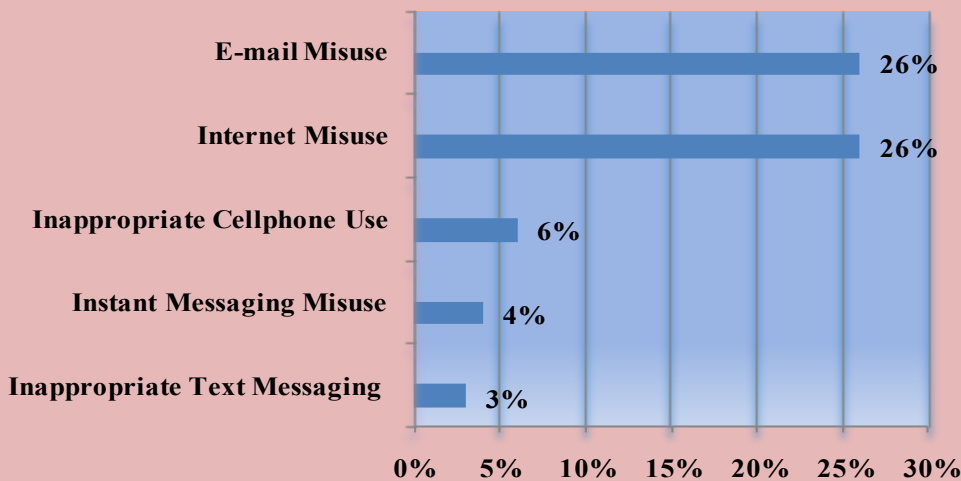
Mission Statement

ARCA/MCA
Southern California

The Mission of the Airconditioning, Refrigeration and Mechanical Contractors Association of Southern California, Inc. (ARCA/MCA Southern California) is to exceed the expectations of the Association's member companies. The Association will provide a link of communication that will address, advance, and inform the Association membership of the latest updates on legislation, technology, and issues pertinent to the Airconditioning, Refrigeration and Mechanical Contracting Industry. The success of the Association in achieving this Mission is to be based on integrity and loyalty to its members. We will strive to be diligent and flexible by supplying services the membership needs to be competitive in an ever-changing business environment.

On the firing line... Are your policies in place?

Has your organization ever fired an employee for any of the following reasons?



Source: The 2009 Electronic Business Communication Policies & Procedures Survey of 586 companies, conducted online in April and May. Margin of error: 4 percentage points (+ or -) USA TODAY March 2010