

Merit Shop *Reporter*

The Resource for Missouri and Kansas Merit Shop Construction

Issue

03

Fall

2017

EXCELLENCE IN
CONSTRUCAITON
AWARDS

ABC HOA EDUCATION
& WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

OSHA'S NEW RESPIRABLE
CRYSTALLINE SILICA STANDARD



Heart of America
Chapter

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Merit Shop Reporter Issue 03 Fall 2017

ABC's Holiday Receptions - *Save the Date*

Mark your calendars and join us at our holiday receptions as we celebrate a great year together! Our annual meeting will be held before our holiday reception at our Kansas City office and we will be voting on our 2018 slate of directors and officers for our Board of Directors. We will also be celebrating our paid off mortgage in our soon to be new office admin space upstairs!

Thursday, December 7 • 4:30 – 6:30 PM

Eastern Missouri Training Facility

Thursday, December 14 • 4:3 – 6:30 PM

Kansas City Training Facility

Craft Championships – *Save the Date*

Friday, December 1, 2017 • 8 AM – 5 PM

54 Country in Fulton, MO



Message from the President

Michele Roberts-Bauer



It's exciting times at ABC Heart of America. With the school year underway, we are preparing now for our craft championships competition in December in Fulton, MO. An opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our apprentices, we also invite students from around the Heart of America to come experience the event. This is an incredible opportunity to expose individuals to the awesome opportunities available through careers in construction. ABC members will host booths to give students hands on experiences with the construction trades. Our team of volunteers and staff are also traveling the Heart of America to participate in career fairs. If you are interested in participating in our outreach efforts, please contact training@abcksmo.org.

In addition to celebrating our students, we celebrated the work of our members on November 3 at our annual awards banquet. Each year we welcome the opportunity to celebrate accomplishments in safety and the construction projects of our members. Enjoy some of the highlights of the event in these pages.

In addition to wonderful successes and accomplishments among our members and students, ABC Heart of America as an organization has much to celebrate. Through the careful management of the time, talent, and financial contributions so graciously given by its members over the years, the chapter is now debt free. Come join us at our Annual Meeting at the Kansas City Training Facility as we celebrate our accomplishments, burn the mortgage from the building, vote on our leadership for 2018, and lay out the path we will take as we remodel the administrative offices of the building.

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The Merit Shop Reporter newsletter is published quarterly for all members of ABC Heart of America. Its purpose is to inform, recognize and educate readers by providing information relating to Missouri and Kansas Merit Shop construction. Readers are encouraged to submit article ideas to: Editor, Merit Shop Reporter c/o Whitney Butler, whitney@abcksmo.org.



Heart of America Chapter

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Tuesday & Wednesday,
November 28 & 29**

ARC Flash

8 AM - 4:30 PM
Kansas City Training Facility

**Friday,
December 1**

ABC HOA Craft Championships Competition

8 AM - 6 PM
54 Country - Fulton, MO

**Monday & Wednesday,
December 4 & 6**

Stepping Up to Supervisor

4 PM - 8 PM
Eastern Missouri Training Facility

**Tuesday & Wednesday,
December 5 & 6**

Stepping Up to Supervisor

4 PM - 8 PM
Kansas City Training Facility

**Thursday,
December 7**

Eastern Missouri Holiday Reception

4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Eastern Missouri Training Facility

**Tuesday & Wednesday
December 12 & 13**

OSHA 10 Hour

7:30 AM - 1 PM
Eastern Missouri Training Facility

Instructor Certification Training Program (ICTP)

8 AM - 4 PM
Kansas City Training Facility

**Thursday,
December 14**

Annual Meeting & Holiday Reception

4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Kansas City Training Facility

**Tuesday & Wednesday
December 19 & 20**

OSHA 10 Hour

3:30 PM - 9 PM
Kansas City Training Facility

Please email whitney@abcksmo.org or visit abcksmo.org for more information or to register for any event.

***BUILDING PEOPLE. BUILDING COMMUNITIES.
BUILDING CAREERS. BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS.***

Workforce Development

The workforce shortage is evident and continues to be a challenge facing many companies today. Your ABC Heart of America is in the game to help alleviate this crisis by participating in school-to-career fairs, school advisory committee meetings, counselor presentations and construction-based career opportunity events. Unfortunately, these efforts may not produce immediate results, but continued practice and education of the dire need of individuals to join the workforce are critical and the small numbers that are influenced to make a change will help the wheels start to turn.

We are looking for volunteers to share the message on the positivities of careers in construction as well as members to serve on ABC committees to develop curriculum and implement our training programs.

We are preparing for another Heart of America Craft Championships Hands-On Competition to be held Friday, December 1, 2017 in Fulton, Missouri, and we anticipate a record number of students from nearby trade schools and high schools who will be exposed to a controlled, safe environment of construction that can help peak their interest and confirm a career path in the construction world. We hope you will join us in support of this event with donations or participation to see the competitors who are the best of the best in the Heart of America to compete to be selected to represent the area at the ABC National Craft Championships Competition in California in May 2018. For more information, just call the ABC Office or email training@abcksmo.org.




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SAVE THE DATE

Get involved in supporting workforce development and careers in construction.

FRIDAY **DECEMBER 1** 8 AM - 6 PM **FULTON, MO**



PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

Contact training@abcksmo.org to sponsor, donate materials, or present a trade station to visiting students!
816.994.5990 www.abcksmo.org

ABC Heart of America Apprenticeship & Training Trust will be **showcasing the skills of top apprentices in Electrical, Carpentry, Pipefitting and Plumbing** with the 2017 ABC Heart of America Craft Championships. These apprentices will be participating in a 6-hour hands-on practical exam. Winners of this competition will go on to represent Kansas and Missouri at the ABC National Craft Championships in California in March.

Watch the hands-on competition at no charge; have lunch with the competitors; participate in training; talk with our sponsors and attend the **awards ceremony** dinner!

Hundreds of local high school and technical school students will be participating in this year's event. Each group of students will have the opportunity to go through the contractor-

led hands-on **trade fair** and watch the live craft competition. If your company is interested in presenting your trade, sponsoring, or donating material let us know!

*Registration required - ABC members and invited guests only.

BUILDING PEOPLE. BUILDING CAREERS. BUILDING COMMUNITIES.

Excellence in Construction Awards

ABC Heart of America's Excellence in Construction (EIC) Awards Banquet is designed to publicly recognize the outstanding performances in merit shop construction, top-ranking safety and quality programs, and the teams building some of the most notable & groundbreaking projects in the region.

This year's ABC Heart of America Excellence in Construction Awards Banquet was held on Friday, November 3, 2017 at Arrowhead Stadium's North Club in Kansas City, MO. We honored 32 STEP award recipients, 37 ABC HOA Anniversaries, 18 Excellence in Construction Project Award Winners, the Subcontractor and General Contractor Projects of the Year, the Arthur C. Waugh Keystone Award Winner, and the Freedom Fighter Award Winner.



Arthur C. Waugh Keystone Award Winner - Tim Paulson



Subcontractor Project of the Year - hth companies, inc., Owens Corning Thermafiber Project



Excel Constructors, Inc. celebrated their Silver STEP Award and two General Contractor project awards.



Freedom Fighter Award Winner - Kelly Waymon



Teague Electric Construction, Inc. celebrated their 35 year anniversary, Subcontractor Project Award and Gold STEP award.



2017 Chair of the Board - Dusty Brown



Lee Mechanical celebrated their 25 year anniversary, General Contractor Project Award and Kelly Waymon's Freedom Fighter Award.



General Contractor Project of the Year - Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc., South Lawrence Trafficway



The EIC committee worked hard to make this event possible: Laura Tyson, Sara Freetly, Kelsey Eckelberry, Caitlyn Cook (chair), Laura Sanford and Whitney Butler.



Ted Anderson Superior Safety Award, Wachter, Inc.

Safety and Excellence in Construction Award Winners

Subcontractor Chapter Safety Award

Shawhan Sheet Metal, LLC

General Contractor Chapter Safety Award

Herzog Contracting Corp.

Ted Anderson Superior Safety Award

Wachter, Inc.

Subcontractor Award Winners

Electrical Commercial/Institutional Under \$250,000

Teague Electric Construction, Inc.
Veterans Outreach Center

Electrical Commercial/Institutional Over \$750,000

Westhues Electric, Inc.
Lenexa Civic Center

Electrical Industrial Over \$750,000

Wachter, Inc.
Midwest Farmers Coop Rail Shuttle Facility

Interior/Exterior

JPI Glass
KU Health Education Center

Mechanical Commercial/Institutional Under \$250,000

Thermaltech, Inc.
University of Missouri Columbia - Softball Stadium

Mechanical Industrial Under \$750,000

American Boiler & Mechanical
Center Ethanol, 9 Cooling Tower Install

Mechanical Industrial Over \$750,000

hth companies, inc.
Owens Corning Thermafiber Project

Specialty

Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc.
Turner Commerce Center & Amazon Fulfillment Center

General Contractor Award Winners

Commercial \$5-\$10 Million

Fogel-Anderson Construction Co.
Cosentinos Market at Bluhawk

Commercial Over \$10 Million

Neighbors Construction Co., Inc.
Kansas City Power & Light - North Building

Healthcare

Excel Constructors, Inc.
The Sheridan at Overland Park

Historical Renovation/Restoration

Neighbors Construction Co., Inc.
Kansas City Power & Light - Tower Building

Industrial Under \$5 Million

Lee Mechanical Contractors, Inc.
Argos Harleyville - Clinker Cooler Bag Filter

Infrastructure: Heavy

Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc.
South Lawrence Trafficway

Institutional Under \$5 Million

Fogel-Anderson Construction Co.
Journey Church International

Institutional Over \$5 Million

Crossland Construction Company, Inc.
Raymore-Peculiar High School Addition and Renovation

Public Works/Environmental

Mega Industries Corporation
Nelson Complex WWTP Handling Improvements

Specialty

Excel Constructors, Inc.
Vista 154 at Ironhorse

Specialty Awards

Arthur C. Waugh Keystone Award

Tim Paulson, *Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc.*

Freedom Fighter Award

Kelly Waymon, *Lee Mechanical Contractors, Inc.*

General Contractor Project of the Year Award

Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc.
South Lawrence Trafficway

Subcontractor Project of the Year Award

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Owens Corning Thermafiber Project



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MEMBERS IN ACTION

After Hours Hosted By Nahbolz Construction August 17, 2017



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New ABC Members

July–October 2017

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Endeavor Electrical Construction LLP	Marty Popejoy	816.591.5867	endeavorelectrical.com	mpopejoy@endeavorelectrical.com
CSA Construction, LLC	Anthony Caponetto	816.217.9141		CSAConstructionllc@gmail.com
Hudson Plumbing	Justin Hudson	314.435.0945		StLHudsonPlumbing@gmail.com
Matai Services	Nick Lewman	813.784.4543	mataiservices.com	nick@mataiservices.com
River Oak Mechanical, LLC	Landon Cummins	573.353.9001		landon.cummins@riveroak.us
ThinkViral	Anne Cull	816.479.5498	thinkviral.com	anne@thinkviralkc.com
United Rentals	Chris Hann	913.338.3363	unitedrentals.com	chann@ur.com
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Are You Ready for OSHA's New Respirable Crystalline Silica Standard?



On March 25, 2016, OSHA published the long-awaited respirable crystalline silica rule, which the agency says will affect 2 million construction workers who drill, cut, crush or grind silica-containing materials such as concrete and stone, and 300,000 workers in general industry operations such as brick manufacturing, foundries and hydraulic fracturing.

This rule took effect on June 23, 2016, after which industries have one to five years to comply: Construction – June 23, 2017, one year after the effective date.

General Industry and Maritime – June 23, 2018, two years after the effective date.

Hydraulic Fracturing – June 23, 2018, two years after the effective date for all provisions except Engineering Controls, which have a compliance date of June 23, 2021. It should be noted that the rule is being legally challenged through the courts and it is possible it may be quite different after these legal processes.

OSHA published two standards for respirable crystalline silica; one for the general and maritime industries and the other applicable to the construction industry. In this article we will address the current provisions of the new standard applicable to the general and maritime industries. This is not meant to be the complete regulatory text of the standard, but rather a superficial summary. Employers should review the standard from the OSHA website.

The Hazard and the Old PEL

Silica is a mineral that can be found in the amorphous and crystalline state, the main difference is the crystalline state has atoms arranged in a repeating pattern. Crystalline silica mainly is found in the forms of quartz, cristobalite and tridymite and is known to cause health effects such as silicosis, lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and kidney disease.

Currently, OSHA's permissible exposure limit (PEL) for respirable crystalline silica is not a value but rather a formula (contained in 29 CFR 1910.1000 Table Z-2), used to estimate the employee's exposure based on the silica percentage found in an air monitoring sample. This exposure limit was adopted from the 1968 Threshold Limit Values recommended by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH).

For example, if dust collected in the working atmosphere is 100 percent quartz, OSHA's permissible exposure limit would be 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (100 micrograms per cubic meter of air). The value will be lower if crystalline silica in the

cristobalite and/or tridymite form also are present. If 0 percent is found in the sample, the exposure limit is 5 mg/m^3 , which is the same as the PEL for particulates not otherwise classified in the respirable range. These values are based on an 8-hour time weighted average.

In 1974, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommended that employees should not be exposed to respirable crystalline silica levels above 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ without any kind of protection. Under the new standard, the PEL will not be based on a formula but rather a specific number.

New Permissible Exposure Limit

The new PEL is 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ with an action level of 25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. These values will take in consideration all forms of crystalline silica (the sum of all types of crystalline silica present in the work atmosphere collected in the air sample). Does that mean employers need to do air monitoring, even if prior testing were done? The short answer is... it depends.

Using a hypothetical example, let's say that one of the tasks at ABC Company involves the use of silica sand that is 100 percent quartz (documentation is available showing that only the quartz form is present). The safety manager of the company hired an industrial hygienist three years ago to do a series of assessments to determine the employee's personal exposures to crystalline silica. The production process, controls and production volume are the same as during the assessments.

If the safety manager has the knowledge, she/he could review the report and re-interpret the laboratory results (if they were included in the report) or ask the industrial hygienist to review the assessment and compare the results to the new limits. If the company has never done any kind of assessment in the past, the new standard requires employers to perform an initial assessment or a performance based option (this will be covered in our next blog).

How about if ABC Company only has industrial hygiene data related to quartz but not the other forms of crystalline silica; and the company does not have any objective data indicating otherwise? In this case, re-assessment of the work areas would be recommended.

-Luis Pieretti, PhD, CIH, CSP

DC POLITICS AND HEART OF AMERICA MEMBERS

ABC members attended an invite only speech by President Trump in August to learn more about the President's Tax-Reform policies. The speech outlined his plan to fundamentally reform the tax code to create a pro-growth, pro-jobs, pro-worker, and pro-America plan. ABC members were excited about the opportunity to learn more about the President's plan. Team members at the ABC National office are working to ensure that ABC members are kept informed as the tax-reform proposals proceed.

In other National news, a task force has been appointed to implement the Executive Order that President Trump signed in June calling for the modernization and improvement of apprenticeship programs as a means to build upon the successful existing programs and empower industries to close the skilled trades gap. ABC is honored to have National President / CEO Mike Bellaman serving on that Task Force.



ABC members at President Trump's Tax-Reform policy speech in Springfield, MO.



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