President Nathan Heilman and his wife, Amanda, wish to extend a warm MICA invitation to you to join them as our association engages in “Think Safety”. One of the key benefits of belonging to MICA is your ability to work with fellow members to improve your business acumen and to better your industry. Come and participate as we share ideas at our annual convention this June 20 – 23, 2016, at one of Missouri’s finest resorts and conference centers; the Chateau on the Lake Resort & Spa. Located just outside of Branson, Missouri, in the midst of the Ozark Mountains and on the shore of Table Rock Lake, this picturesque and stately home-away-from-home presents a stunning view all unto itself. With 301 newly refurbished guestrooms that feature upscale amenities like Gilchrist & Soames toiletries, free Wi-Fi, 37” flat-screen HDTVs with satellite programming, coffeemakers, room service, granite countertops and plush bedding, the resort offers accommodations perfect for our annual convention.

Our 59th Annual Spring Convention will be a special event, and one that you do not want to miss! The convention will follow a Monday to Thursday pattern that we have used the past three years. Based on feedback from our members, we have moved the arrival date from Sunday of Father’s Day to Monday. This will allow our members to possibly spend Father’s Day at home with family and friends.

The location of this year’s meeting is designed to allow those of you who would like to extend the meeting into a vacation time for the entire family to do so. At the Chateau, you have both Table Rock Lake and the city of Branson, Missouri, with its many attractions in your back yard. Recreation activities are diverse. Branson is an Ozark town in southwest Missouri known as a family vacation destination. Its 76 Country Boulevard is famously lined with theaters, which once hosted mostly country music performers but today present diverse entertainment. Also along the strip are Silver Dollar City, an 1800s-themed amusement park with live music, the landmark Marvel Cave and Dolly Parton’s Wild West-style Dixie Stampede dinner theater.

With tree-lined shores, crystal clear water and hidden beaches, it’s little wonder Table Rock Lake is one of the Ozark’s top destinations. Enjoy boating, fishing, sailing, waterskiing, wakeboarding, camping, hiking and sightseeing in this beautiful vacation spot. With almost 800 miles of shoreline, Table Rock Lake has many beautiful spots for taking a dip in its crystal clear water. Moonshine Beach, adjacent to the Dewey Short Visitor Center Recreation Area, is the most popular and offers a spacious, sandy beach where you can swim, dive, sunbathe, picnic, hike, play volleyball or just view the wildlife. If you want to escape larger crowds and boat traffic, the Beaver area located on the southwest corner of the lake is a favorite swimming spot. Cape Fair, just off Highway 75, offers wide-open water for plenty of swimming.

Table Rock Lake is nationally renowned as a top fishing spot. Large numbers of Kentucky spotted bass and white bass thrive in its diverse underwater structure and immense forage base. Crappie and large bluegill are caught in abundance. Catfish of all sizes also roam the lake bottom.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the resort. Our convention rate for resort rooms is $159 per night plus tax, single or double occupancy. It is highly suggested that you book your resort reservations now! Call the reservations office at 888-333-5253 and reference the Midwest Insulation Contractors Association Meeting. Please note that we have blocked a lim-
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

TO: THE MICA MEMBERSHIP

Hello MICA!!!

Rejoice – Spring is finally here.

The first full day of Spring was March 20th, and the weather in Sioux City, Iowa, was perfect. Temperatures were close to 70°F, the grass was turning green and the trees were starting to bud. But just 3 days later, we got 14 inches of snow that really caused a lot of problems. Hopefully, that will be the last of the snow until next fall.

Did you know that April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month? Some of the most common types of distracted driving include: talking on a cell phone, texting and driving, eating while driving, grooming and driving, talking to passengers, GPS, sleepiness and using the radio. The following links are just a few places that employers, parents and teens can go for more information:

- The National Safety Council at www.nsc.org
- The Official Government Website for Distracted Driving at www.distraction.gov/
- Distracted Driving at distracteddriveraccidents.com/

At our fall business meeting in 2014, Gary Auman gave us a presentation on distracted driving and the importance of having a “distracted driving policy” as part of a company’s safety program. He provided us with a template policy that we all could modify for our own companies. If you do not have such a policy as part of your safety program, please contact the MICA office, and Tom will send you a copy of the template.

Now would be an excellent time to have your safety program reviewed as part of MICA’s Best Practices in Safety Award application process. You received the application form from the MICA office earlier this month. Take advantage of this excellent benefit of your membership in MICA.

The 59th annual MICA Spring Convention is only 3 months away. This year, it will held at the Chateau on the Lake Resort & Spa in Branson, MO. The MICA Board of Directors, along with Tom & Cindy Shimerda, have worked diligently to put together a great program. I just want to say “Thank you!”

Go Hawkeyes!!!!!

Nathan Heilman
MICA President
FUTURE MICA MEETING DATES

59th Annual Spring Convention — June 20 — 23, 2016, Chateau on the Lake, Branson, Missouri.

Fall 2016 Annual Fall Business Meeting — October 19 & 20, 2016, Embassy Suites Downtown, Omaha, NE.

60th Annual Spring Convention — June 19 — 22, 2017, Kona Kai Resort, San Diego, CA.

Fall 2017 Annual Fall Business Meeting — October 18 & 19, 2017, Omaha, NE.

61st Annual Spring Convention — June 18 — 21, 2018, In region. The Board of Directors is open to suggestions.

MICA MEMBER ADDRESS/INFO. UPDATES

Be sure to inform the MICA office of any changes or corrections to your listing for either the MICA Directory, e-mail correspondence or mailing address. Even if you update your company listing on the MICA website, please inform the MICA office of the changes. We try to be as current as possible with your help.

(Continued from page 1)
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efforts in safety and safety practices. This year, we again will use the grading system that recognizes each applicant’s achievement in developing a quality safety program. With this system, companies are not competing against each other for awards. Instead, each applicant will try to achieve the highest award level where multiple applicants can receive the same award level. On our second day of meetings, representatives of the participating firms will meet in a roundtable discussion on safety. They will share with us their efforts in promoting safety and establishing best practices in safety.

The Board of Directors feels that each presentation will add value to your understanding of the technical topics discussed. You will come away from the convention more informed and better prepared to successfully manage your business. It is the Board’s intent to make this convention attractive to our membership in its location, cost and program content. In this light, our registration fee has been adjusted to encourage additional member participation. The registration fee is $515.00 for the first attendee from a member company. Registration for all additional attendees from a given company is reduced to $490. The registration fee is $925.00 for the first member and spouse registered from a member company. Registration for all additional registered couples from a given company is reduced to $900. This year we have included a children’s registration for the Welcome Reception and Farewell Brunch events only. The fee is $50.00 to $100.00 per child. The Board is delighted to offer this incentive for multiple attendees from member companies. The benefit of joining an association comes from participating in association activities.

The eighteenth annual “Mick Van Horn Memorial Golf Tournament” is set for Tuesday afternoon, June 21, 2016, at The LedgeStone Golf Course in Branson West. We have a shotgun start set for 1:00 p.m. Described by Golf Digest as a “masterpiece of mountain golf architecture,” LedgeStone’s 18-hole championship layout offers the kind of golfing experience where “players don’t want the round to end.” With panoramic vistas of the ancient Ozark Mountains and the spectacular natural beauty of serene water, faultless Bent Grass greens and tree-lined Zoysia fairways, LedgeStone inspires golfers and non-golfers alike. The course is about a 15 minute drive from our host hotel, and a shuttle will be provided. This year’s fee is $125.00 per golfer, which includes a shuttle to and from the course, a burger buffet, cart, green fees, complimentary use of practice and range area, and of course, prizes.

The program also affords you ample time for fun and relaxation and to interact with your fellow contractors and distributors. We have the traditional opening evening Welcome Reception. This year’s reception is sponsored in part by the contributing associate members. We will feast on hors d’oeuvres, libations, and renew friendships. Our gala dinner and dance will be on Wednesday evening. This year’s gala is Ozark casual, but no shorts please.

A packet of registration material was mailed out to you in early March. Make plans to bring your family to the MICA convention and extend your business to include some quality family time. Now is the time to plan for your participation at MICA’s 59th annual spring convention. Make your hotel reservations today by calling The Chateau on the Lake Resort reservation line at 888-333-5253. Please join Nathan, Amanda, the entire Board of Directors and fellow MICA members in Branson, June 20 – 23, 2016, for our annual spring convention and be a part of “Think Safety”.

**MICA SAFETY PROGRAM REVIEW AND AWARD**

*This article was written by Gary Auman, MICA Legal Counsel, Dunlevey, Mahan & Furry*

MICA has always understood the importance of safety on the job site. As a result of this, MICA implemented a safety award program seven years ago. The MICA Board asked me again to prepare some comments for your consideration as to the value of participating in our safety award program. If you don’t have a good plan for getting a job done, the outcome is going to be less than satisfactory. I believe, as you should that this applies to safety - good safety performance starts with a good safety program.

I titled this article as I did because this is more than a safety award program; it is a safety program review. Try to analogize having your safety program reviewed annually to other things that you do in your life to ensure that your company’s equipment operates as intended. For those of you who passed your fiftieth birthday, I am sure that you have been advised by your family physician to have an annual or bi-annual physical. Your doctor recommends this, because he is aware that as you get older you become more prone to some of the physical problems that are connected with aging. You take a physical to make sure you have an early warning of anything that needs to be addressed before it becomes a significant problem.

In your business, I would be surprised if any of you do not perform preventive maintenance on the equipment that you depend on to be successful as a contractor. In addition, you most likely perform other preventive maintenance such as tire rotation, etc., in order that you can avoid any significant problems.

Well, your safety program is also an integral part of your business. It too can deteriorate with age and lack of use. It too needs preventive maintenance to avoid catastrophic failure. When a safety program fails you, someone can get seriously injured or killed. Or, you can be confronted with an OSHA inspection and find out through the citations issued that your safety program is not what you thought it was and is not as effective as it needs to be.

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U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES FINAL RULE TO IMPROVE U.S. WORKERS’ PROTECTION FROM THE DANGERS OF ‘RESPIRABLE’ SILICA DUST

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced a final rule to improve protections for workers exposed to respirable silica dust. The rule will curb lung cancer, silicosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and kidney disease in America’s workers by limiting their exposure to respirable crystalline silica.

“More than 80 years ago, Labor Secretary Frances Perkins identified silica dust as a deadly hazard and called on employers to fully protect workers,” said U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez. “This rule will save lives. It will enable workers to earn a living without sacrificing their health. It builds upon decades of research and a lengthy stakeholder engagement process – including the consideration of thousands of public comments – to finally give workers the kind of protection they deserve and that Frances Perkins had hoped for them.”

OSHA estimates that when the final rule on Occupational Ex-

(Continued from page 9)

have portions of your safety program reviewed, and receive written comments from individuals who have a wealth of experience in dealing with safety issues. You will receive valuable feedback from the reviewing panel with regard to those aspects of your program which are in the competition, and you will receive recognition from MICA for your achievement in developing a quality safety program.

When you look at the MICA safety program review and awards opportunity, you have to agree that there is absolutely no reason why you should sit on the sidelines while other members of MICA, some of whom are your competitors, take advantage of this MICA member benefit. Take a few minutes, pull out the application, complete it, and send it in to MICA’s general counsel along with your check for $50.00 made payable to MICA. Be sure that it is received in time for the review committee to take a look at it and provide you with their valuable comments concerning the effectiveness of your safety program.

REMEMBER — The application submittal deadline is April 15, 2016. Your completed application form must be received by the end of the business day on April 15th. The application form is available from the MICA office. Just call or e-mail us, and we will send you a copy of the application form.

(Continued on page 18)
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Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica becomes fully effective, it will save more than 600 lives annually and prevent more than 900 new cases of silicosis – an incurable and progressive disease – each year. The agency also estimates the final rule will provide net benefits of about $7.7 billion per year.

“The previous exposure limits were outdated and did not adequately protect workers,” said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. “Limiting exposure to silica dust is essential. Every year, many exposed workers not only lose their ability to work, but also to breathe. Today, we are taking action to bring worker protections into the 21st century in ways that are feasible and economical for employers to implement.”

About 2.3 million men and women face exposure to respirable crystalline silica in their workplaces, including two million construction workers who drill and cut silica-containing materials such as concrete and stone, and 300,000 workers in operations such as brick manufacturing, foundries and hydraulic fracturing. Most employers can limit harmful dust exposure by using equipment that is widely available – generally using water to keep dust from getting into the air or a ventilation system to capture dust where it is created.

The final rule will improve worker protection by:

- Requiring employers to use engineering controls (such as water or ventilation) and work practices to limit worker exposure; provide respiratory protection when controls are not able to limit exposures to the permissible level; limit access to high exposure areas; train workers; and provide medical exams to highly exposed workers.
- Providing greater certainty and ease of compliance to construction employers – including many small employers – by including a table of specified controls they can follow to be in compliance, without having to monitor exposures.
- Staggering compliance dates to ensure employers have sufficient time to meet the requirements, e.g., extra time for the hydraulic fracturing (fracking) industry to install new engineering controls and for all general industry employers to offer medical surveillance to employees exposed between the PEL and 50 micrograms per cubic meter and the action level of 25 micrograms per cubic meter.

The final rule is written as two standards, one for construction and one for general industry and maritime.

Employers covered by the construction standard have until June 23, 2017, to comply with most requirements. Employers covered by the general industry and maritime standard have until June 23, 2018, to comply with most requirements; additional time is provided to offer medical exams to some workers and for hydraulic fracturing employers to install dust controls to meet the new exposure limit.
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OSHA UPDATES EYE AND FACE PROTECTION STANDARDS IN FINAL RULE

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has published a final rule that updates requirements for personal protective equipment (PPE) for workers in general industry, shipyards, longshoring, marine terminals and construction.

The final rule reflects current national consensus standards, and ensures that workers can use up-to-date eye and face protection.

The rule updates references in OSHA’s Eye and Face Protection Standards to recognize the ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2010, Occupational and Educational Personal Eye and Face Protection Devices, while deleting the outdated 1986 edition of that same national consensus standard. OSHA is also retaining the 2003 and 1989 (R-1998) versions of the ANSI standard already referenced in its standard.

In addition, the final rule updates the construction standard by deleting the 1968 version of the ANSI standard that was referenced and now includes the same three ANSI standards referenced above to ensure consistency among the agency’s standards.

OSHA’s final rule becomes effective on April 25, 2016.
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NIA’s 61st ANNUAL CONVENTION AND WIACO

The National Insulation Association (NIA) invites you to join your industry colleagues from around the world April 20–23, 2016, in the beautiful city of Boca Raton on Florida’s Atlantic coast. During this year’s Annual Convention, NIA is excited to host WIACO and welcome members of the European Federation of Associations of Insulation Contractors (FESI) to this event.

NIA’s 61st Annual Convention and WIACO will include the networking, educational, and entertainment events that you look forward to—incorporating the casual and festive influences of Coastal Florida. Back for 2016 is the biennial Silent Auction, an evening of friendly bidding and fundraising for all Convention attendees.

The Convention theme, Thermal Insulation: Making a Global Difference, will demonstrate that through education and the collective participation of individuals, member companies, and industry associations, we can make a difference in our industry worldwide. NIA looks forward to welcoming attendees from all segments of the mechanical insulation industry to Boca Raton!

In 2016, NIA is hosting WIACO as part of our 61st Annual Convention. This global event is held every 4 years and alternates between Europe and the United States. The European Federation of Associations of Insulation Contractors (FESI) represents insulation associations from 16 European countries whose members are active in the field of technical insulation for the industrial and commercial building sector, ship insulation, soundproofing, and fire protection. NIA is looking forward to welcoming attendees from all segments of the mechanical insulation industry to Boca Raton, Florida, USA!

Please visit the NIA website at www.insulation.org for all of the convention details and dates.

DISTRIBUTION INTERNATIONAL ACQUIRES 3i SUPPLY COMPANY

Distribution International, Inc. (“DI”), a leading distributor and fabricator in the mechanical insulation market, this month announced it has acquired 3i Supply Company (“3i Supply”). Headquartered in Midland, Michigan, 3i Supply is a distributor of mechanical and industrial insulation, fabricated products, refractory, and removable insulation pads. Houston-based DI, a portfolio company of global private equity firm Advent International, is pursuing a growth strategy centered on acquisitions that expand DI’s geographic presence and further its capabilities.

“In acquiring 3i Supply, we will be expanding our fabrication capabilities into Michigan,” said Robert Hlavenka, Vice President and General Manager of Distribution International. “This acquisition is consistent with our strategy of providing unrivaled customer service throughout North America. Current 3i operations will become part of DI’s Midwest region.”

John Brooks, Regional Manager of DI in the Midwest said: “We are excited to further expand our fabrication operations in the Midwest territory. We are proud to be strengthening our ability to service our customers, and we welcome the 3i Supply team to DI.”

DODGE MOMENTUM INDEX INCREASES IN FEBRUARY

The Dodge Momentum Index climbed 0.5% in February to 126.1 (2000=100) from its revised January reading of 125.5. The Momentum Index is a monthly measure of the first (or initial) report for nonresidential building projects in planning, which have been shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential buildings by a full year. February’s increase was the third consecutive month-to-month gain for the Index, as a 1.0% pickup by commercial planning reports overcame a slight 0.1% decline by institutional planning. While commercial planning activity is still below the levels present throughout much of 2015, it has made a moderate recovery following the decline witnessed in late-2015. Institutional planning, despite easing back in February, continues to be above last year’s levels due to the generally upward trend registered over the course of 2015.

In February, seven projects entered planning with a value that exceeded $100 million. For the commercial building sector, the leading projects were a $190 million office renovation in New York, NY; a $140 million hotel and casino in Gulfport, MS; and a $129 million mixed-use project in Long Island City, NY. For the institutional building sector, the leading projects were a $500 million medical complex in Indianapolis, IN and a $180 million hospital in Valhalla, NY.
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