President Rich Huseman and his wife, Judy, wish to extend a warm MICA invitation to you to join them as our association engages in “Growth Through Participation”. 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 17 – 20, 2013, at the four-star, four-diamond Waldorf Astoria Naples in Naples, Florida. Set on 23 waterfront acres, this eco-smart beach resort offers a Golden Door spa, championship golf and tennis, three pools, and modern accommodations. Flawless service is woven intricately with eco-modern design and premium facilities to create a unique luxury experience at a price you can’t imagine! The hotel is also a 2012 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence Award recipient.

Naples’ elegant surrounds is made up of prestigious neighborhoods including Pelican Bay and Park Shore. Downtown Naples holds on to its historical roots while looking to the future with luxury stores and fine dining establishments. There is an eclectic mix of activities and attractions in Naples, providing something to keep everyone in the family entertained. Dining is varied, with everything from beachside restaurants to fine dining in the city. Sporting activities range from world-class golf courses to some of the best fishing in Florida. Naples is renowned for its art and culture with many galleries, quaint antique shops and exhibitions in the city.

Indulge yourself in luxury at the Waldorf Astoria, Naples. Come prepared for some special pampering during your stay. We have reserved a block of rooms at the hotel. Our convention rate is $135 per night plus tax, single or double occupancy. It is highly suggested that you book your hotel reservations now! Call the reservations office at 888-722-1270 and ask for the Midwest Insulation Contractors Block, Reference Number MICA13. Please note that we have blocked a limited number of rooms. If you wait until the last minute to reserve your room, you run the risk that our block will be filled, and the hotel will not have any additional rooms available. As we have stated in the past, if you reserve your hotel room now, you can always cancel it later, but you may not be able to reserve a room if you wait too long. We will be monitoring our block and making room adjustments accordingly. Our block of rooms will be released on May 15, 2013, but if you wait until May 15th, the block of rooms will be filled, and we may not be able to accommodate your needs.

The Board of Directors is most excited about the technical topics and speakers for the spring convention. The topics and
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

TO: THE MICA MEMBERSHIP

HELLO MICA FAMILY,

I would like to start off by thanking ALL of the MICA Family that joined Judy and I at the recent MICA planning meeting in Naples Florida. For those of you that may not know, the MICA Board of Directors and Committee members meet every January to plan the June Spring convention. We typically meet in the same city and hotel as where the June meeting will be held.

Unfortunately, we could not get any rooms at the Waldorf Astoria for the recent meeting since the hotel was completely sold out during our meeting dates. But the wonderful staff at the Waldorf Astoria invited all of our Board and Committee members for a tour of the property, and honestly, it is really a gorgeous place.

I would really encourage you all to consider attending this June meeting. This Waldorf Astoria is a $350.00 a night hotel that MICA has negotiated for just a $135.00 per night and the rooms are huge (Nice job Tom and Cindy). We also took a tour of the pool areas. How can you go wrong, a large pool with a zero entry area and a large waterslide for the kids? If you want some quiet time, you can go to the adult only pool that has cabanas, loungers, sun or shade available. The pool area has a very Caribbean theme with bar and grill serving all the island favorite slush type cocktails and your favorite pool type foods for the kids and adults.

The Waldorf staff also arranged a tour of the beach area. The beach is located about 6/10 of a mile away, and the Waldorf has trams that leave from the pool area and shuttle you to and from the beach area all day and evening long. Yes, you can see the sunset from the beach......The tram travels on the boardwalk which is an elevated deck that protects the rare mangrove trees and vegetation underneath the deck down to the beach area. The beach area has a very nice café setting, restrooms, and all kinds of beach accessories available to the Waldorf Astoria guests.

I can go on and on about this Naples property, but I would just as soon leave some of the amenities as a surprise. No doubt about this place. I really think that this is a great family venue that you can plan a work related vacation around.

Now on to another subject, how are those New Year’s resolutions going for you? I hope well and don’t forget about trying to encourage a new member to join MICA. Our goal is just 10 new members and honestly, with as much as MICA has to offer, this should be a cake walk!

Thanks for reading, and I will talk at you all next month.

Regards,

Rich Huseman
President of MICA
speakers were selected to help educate and inform you on a variety of industry topics pertinent to our current business climate. We are going to have presentations that cover a wide array of topics that will help you grow your knowledge as a business professional. We will hear a presentation on how to effectively use social media channels in your business and at home. We will be updated on all of the important decision dates in the Affordable Care Act that will affect you in 2013. We will hear from Angus Crane with NAIMA discuss the current Administration’s viewpoint on the EPA’s vast power, agenda, and the impact on both solar alternate energy sources and on coal fired power plants. Gary Auman will update us on OSHA requirements and the potential impact on your business that will be coming from the Mine Safety and Health Administration’s (MSHA) rulings. You will be updated on the new MICA plates that have been added to the manual in 2013.

We will have a union contractor forum, an open shop contractor forum, and an associate member forum all running simultaneously. This approach allows more of the members to participate in craft issues without being part of a formal committee. This spring, neither the labor committee nor the merit shop committee will formally meet during the convention. This format will give each of you the opportunity to interact with other MICA members with similar business concerns. The associate member forum will discuss several issues of interest to our associate members regarding their membership status in MICA.

In June, we will recognize those companies that participated in our eighth annual “Best Practices in Safety” Award. This award was established to formally recognize our member firms’ efforts in safety and safety practices. This year, we again use the changes that we made to the “Best Practices in Safety” Award program last year. We 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 $525.00 for the first attendee from a member company. Registration for all additional attendees from a given company is reduced to $500. The registration fee is $900.00 for the first member and spouse registered from a member company. Registration for all additional registered couples from a given company is re-
duced to $875. This year we have included a children’s registration for the Welcome Reception and Farewell Brunch events only. The fee is $100.00 per child. The Board is delighted to offer this new incentive for multiple attendees from member companies. The benefit of joining an association comes from participating in association activities.

The fourteenth annual “Mick Van Horn Memorial Golf Tournament” is set for Tuesday afternoon, June 18, 2013, at the Naples Grande Golf Club. We have a lunch cookout beginning at 12:00 p.m. followed by a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. The course is about a 20 minute drive from our hotel, and a shuttle to the course will be provided for those who do not want to drive to the course. We still have the four-person scramble format for you to enjoy. This year’s fee is $150.00 per golfer, which includes a lunch, 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. Our gala dinner will be on Wednesday evening.

You will be receiving a formal spring convention registration packet in March. Your cooperation in completing the pre-registration material early and making your hotel reservations early is most appreciated. Your promptness helps us to plan a better, more efficient and effective convention for you.

(Continued from page 4)

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT BENEFITS
WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, EMPLOYERS

WASHINGTON — To mark the 20th anniversary of the signing of the landmark Family and Medical Leave Act, the U.S. Department of Labor today released the results of a survey on its use and impact. Titled "Family and Medical Leave Act in 2012: Final Report," the survey shows that the law has had a positive effect on the lives of millions of workers and their families without imposing an undue burden on employers.

"The Family and Medical Leave Act codified a simple and fundamental principle: Workers should not have to choose between the job they need and the family members they love and who need their care," said acting Secretary of Labor Seth D. Harris. "The FMLA has helped millions upon millions of working families manage challenging personal circumstances at very little cost to their employers and with very little disruption in the workplace."

Acting Deputy Administrator for the Labor Department's Wage and Hour Division Mary Beth Maxwell said, "The significance of the FMLA is in its recognition that workers aren't just contributing to the success of a business, but away from their jobs they are contributing to the health and well-being of their families. Our survey results show that, for two decades, granting job-protected leave has been good for employers and good for millions of workers and their loved ones. The FMLA is working."

(Continued on page 6)
The study shows that employers generally find it easy to comply with the law, and misuse of the FMLA by workers is rare. The vast majority of employers, 91 percent, report that complying with the FMLA has either no noticeable effect or a positive effect on business operations such as employee absenteeism, turnover and morale. Finally, 90 percent of workers return to their employer after FMLA leave, showing little risk to businesses that investment in a worker will be lost as a result of leave granted under the act.

The FMLA was signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 1993. It allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to bond with a newborn, newly adopted or newly placed child; care for a seriously ill child, spouse or parent; or care for their own serious health condition without fear of losing their jobs. Amendments to the act have extended the protections to allow workers with family in the military to take time away from work to attend to situations arising from a parent, spouse, son or daughter's foreign deployment and up to 26 weeks of leave to care for a service member with a serious injury or illness.

The Wage and Hour Division continues to advance the knowledge of the employer and employee communities in the administration and usage of the FMLA. As education continues, the positive impacts of the FMLA will continue to benefit the workplace nationwide. For more information, call 866-4US-WAGE (487-9243).
OSHA REMINDS EMPLOYERS TO POST INJURY AND ILLNESS SUMMARIES

WASHINGTON – The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is reminding employers to post OSHA Form 300A, which lists a summary of the total number of job-related injuries and illnesses that occurred during 2012. The form must be posted between Feb. 1 and April 30, 2013.

The summary must include the total number of job-related injuries and illnesses that occurred in 2012 and were logged on OSHA Form 300, Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses. To assist in calculating incidence rates, information about the annual average number of employees and total hours worked during the calendar year is also required. If a company recorded no injuries or illnesses in 2012, the employer must enter “zero” on the total line. The form must be signed and certified by a company executive. Form 300A should be displayed in a common area where notices to employees are usually posted.

Employers with 10 or fewer employees and employers in certain industries are normally exempt from federal OSHA injury and illness recordkeeping and posting requirements. A complete list of exempt industries in the retail, services, finance, insurance and real estate sectors can be found at http://s.dol.gov/YP.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics may still select exempted employers to participate in an annual statistical survey. All employers covered by OSHA need to comply with safety and health standards. All accidents that result in one or more fatalities or in the hospitalization of three or more employees must be reported verbally within eight hours to the nearest OSHA office.

Copies of OSHA Forms 300 and 300A are available at http://s.dol.gov/YQ in either Adobe PDF or Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet format. For more information on recordkeeping requirements, visit the OSHA Injury and Illness Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements Web page.

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FMLA) POSTER

All covered employers are required to display and keep displayed a poster prepared by the Department of Labor summarizing the major provisions of The Family and Medical Leave
Act (FMLA) and telling employees how to file a complaint. The poster must be displayed in a conspicuous place where employees and applicants for employment can see it. A poster must be displayed at all locations even if there are no eligible employees.

A copy of the poster prepared by the Department (WH 1420) is available for your information or for posting in the workplace. The poster is available on the DOL’s website, www.dol.gov.

Several of the changes to the FMLA regulations made in its Final Rule, including military caregiver leave for a veteran, qualifying exigency leave for parental care, and the special leave calculation method for flight crew employees, will not be effective until the effective date of the Final Rule on March 8, 2013. As the Department noted in the preamble to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, however, some of the provisions of the FY 2010 NDAA and the Airline Flight Crew Technical Corrections Act, such as the expansion of qualifying exigency leave to families of members of the Regular Armed Forces and the special eligibility hours of service requirement for flight crew employees, were effective as of the enactment date of those statutes. 77 FR 8962 (Feb. 15, 2012).

You may start using the new poster provided by the DOL immediately, or you may still use the old FMLA poster through March 7, 2013.

U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT'S OSHA ANNOUNCES INTERIM FINAL RULE, INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT ON WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS FOR REPORTING VIOLATIONS OF AFFORDABLE CARE ACT'S HEALTH INSURANCE REFORMS

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has published an interim final rule in the Federal Register that governs whistleblower complaints filed under Section 1558 of the Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act contains various provisions to make health insurance more affordable and accountable to consumers. Among the policies to achieve its goals, the Affordable Care Act's Section 1558 provides protection to employees against retaliation by an employer for reporting alleged violations
of Title I of the act or for receiving a tax credit or cost-sharing reduction as a result of participating in a Health Insurance Exchange or Marketplace.

Title I includes a range of insurance company accountability policies, such as the prohibition of lifetime limits on coverage and exclusions due to pre-existing conditions. If an employee reports a violation of one of these policies or requirements, the act's whistleblower provision prohibits employers from retaliating against the employee. If an employee is retaliated against in violation of the whistleblower provision, he or she may file a complaint with, and ultimately receive relief from, OSHA or the courts.

The Affordable Care Act authorizes the secretary of labor to conduct investigations into complaints and issue determinations, which are functions delegated to OSHA. OSHA's interim final rule establishes the procedures and time frames for the filing and handling of such complaints, including investigations by OSHA, appeals of OSHA determinations to an administrative law judge for a hearing, review of such decisions by the Administrative Review Board and judicial review of the secretary's final decision.

The interim final rule can be viewed at www.dol.gov/finding/20130222/. Comments, which will be accepted for 60 days, may be submitted electronically via the federal e-rulemaking portal at http://www.regulations.gov, or by mail or fax. Faxed submissions, including attachments, must not exceed 10 pages and should be sent to the OSHA Docket Office at 202-693-1648. Comments submitted by mail should be addressed to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA-2011-0193, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20210.

A fact sheet about filing whistleblower complaints under the Affordable Care Act is available at http://www.osha.gov/Publications/whistleblower/OSHAFS-3641.pdf.

OSHA enforces the whistleblower provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and 21 other statutes protecting employees who report reasonably perceived violations of various workplace, commercial motor vehicle, airline, nuclear, pipeline, environmental, railroad, public transportation, maritime, consumer product, motor vehicle safety, health care reform, corporate securities, food safety, and consumer financial reform laws and reg-
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services also issued a final rule that implements five key consumer protections from the Affordable Care Act and makes the health insurance market work better for individuals, families and small businesses. For more information, visit: http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2013pres/02/20130222a.html.


The Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Celeste Beeks Mastin has joined Distribution International as Chief Executive Officer effective February 11, 2013. Celeste is an experienced building products executive, most recently serving as CEO of MMI Products, Inc., a market leading manufacturer and distributor of steel-based concrete accessories, concrete reinforcement, and fencing systems.

Prior to joining MMI, Celeste spent 17 years in the chemical industry. Celeste began her career in sales at Shell Chemical. She later held global sales roles of increasing responsibility at Bostik, a custom formulator and solution provider to its customers; she ultimately led the global nonwovens division there. After 7 years at Bostik, Celeste joined Ferro Corp. to lead a global glass and pigments based business that she and her team grew through global expansion and service enhancement, specifically increased delivery timeliness and reduced lead time. In her final role at Ferro, she was responsible for creating a corporate purchasing function, consolidating the corporation’s $1.3 billion in spend into a centralized operating group.

The Board was impressed not only with Celeste’s business acumen and successful track record, but also by her energy, leadership abilities, and focus on customer, vendor and employee relationships. Celeste shares the Board’s enthusiasm for DI’s growth opportunities. Among her first priorities will be heightening our customers’ experience with DI and strengthening DI’s partnerships with its vendors.
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FUTURE MICA MEETING DATES

56th Annual Spring Convention — June, 17 — 20, 2013, Waldorf Astoria Naples, Naples, Florida. [Please note that the convention will begin on the Monday after Father’s Day. This slight change in the schedule is the direct result of member feedback to the Board].

Fall 2013 Annual Fall Business Meeting — October 16 & 17, 2013, Embassy Suites Downtown, Omaha, NE.

57th Annual Spring Convention — June, 16 — 19, 2014, Eagle Ridge Resort, Galena, Illinois. [Please note that the convention will begin on the Monday after Father’s Day. This slight change in the schedule is the direct result of member feedback to the Board].

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.
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NONRESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION INDEX CONTINUES TO RISE

FMI (www.fminet.com), the largest provider of management consulting and investment banking to the engineering and construction industry, announces the release of The 2013 First Quarter Nonresidential Construction Index report. The NRCI of 58.1 is a 2.6-point improvement over the fourth quarter of 2012.

NRCI = 58.1

The improvement reflects fundamental bright spots in the economy. "Optimistic but not bullish" is the way one panelist described his outlook on hiring for his company in 2013. Reflective of this is that 45 percent of NRCI panelists expect to increase full-time direct employees by as much as 5 percent. Most noting that hiring will be based on current staff reaching a level of consistently over full work capacity. Only 9 percent report that they expect to decrease the number of full-time direct employees.

In addition, NRCI panelists are slightly more optimistic than last year at this time for growth in nonresidential construction. Nearly 50 percent expect modest growth for 2013; with 18.4 percent predicting that industry growth for the year could reach as high as five percent. However, backlogs for NRCI panelists are unchanged, holding steady at a median of 9 months.

ENERGY DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES $20 MILLION FOR NEW TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGY TO STRENGTHEN ENERGY SECTOR CYBERSECURITY PROTECTIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As part of the Obama Administration’s efforts to strengthen the United States’ cybersecurity defenses, Energy Secretary Steven Chu recently announced the availability of up to $20 million for the development of tools and technologies to enhance the cybersecurity of the nation’s energy delivery control systems for electricity, oil, and gas. As part of this funding, the Department of Energy (DOE) will require that award recipients collaborate with the energy sector to test the developed technologies so that they are best designed to meet the unique requirements of energy delivery systems.

"As the President clearly stated in his State of the Union address, it is critically important for us to protect our nation’s infrastructure from cyber threats,” said Secretary Chu. “By developing new cybersecurity tools and technologies specifically designed for the needs of the energy sector, utilities and industry will be better equipped to protect against and respond to cyber threats.”

DOE has a unique role in protecting and enhancing the cybersecurity of our Nation’s infrastructure. As the designated energy sector specific agency for the federal government, DOE has the responsibility to promote a resilient energy infrastructure in which continuity of business and services are maintained.
Celeste has an MBA from the University of Houston and a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from Washington State University.

The board would like to thank Doug Waugaman for his leadership during the integration of Distribution International and Thorpe. We are pleased to announce that Doug will take the role of Chief Financial Officer of DI effective immediately.

**ACTING GENERAL COUNSEL RELEASES SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012**

Acting General Counsel for the National Labor Relations Board, Lafe Solomon, has released a summary of activities for the Fiscal Year 2012. Of special note:

- 93.9% of all initial elections were conducted within 56 days of the filing of the petition.
- Initial elections in union representation elections were conducted in a median of 38 days from the filing of the petition.
- A 91.0% settlement rate was achieved in the Regional Offices in meritorious unfair labor practice cases.
- 97% of the 37 10(j) petitions litigated in federal district court resulted in a satisfactory settlement or substantial victory.
- The Regional Offices won 90.1% of Board and Administrative Law Judge unfair labor practice and compliance decisions in whole or in part in FY 2012.
- 94.5% of the 73 Board decisions under review by the US Courts of Appeals were enforced or affirmed in whole or in part.
- A total of $44,316,059 was recovered on behalf of employees as backpay or reimbursement of fees, dues, and fines. 1,241 employees were offered reinstatement.
- The Agency exceeded two of its three ambitious overarching goals and came close to achieving the third, closing 84.5% of all representation cases within 100 days (target 85.2%), 72.7% of all unfair labor practice cases within 120 days (target 72.0%), and 83.8% of all meritorious unfair labor practice cases within 365 days (target 80.3%). The target for each 2012 overarching goal was higher than in FY 2011 and the goal for the percentage of meritorious unfair labor practice cases closed within 365 days of the filing of the charge has been increased for FY 2013.

In addition, the Agency’s total case intake during FY 2012 was 24,275 compared to 25,004 cases in FY 2011.
TAX DEDUCTION FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS EXTENDED THROUGH 2013

The federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 established a tax deduction for energy-efficient commercial buildings applicable to qualifying systems and buildings placed in service from January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2007. This deduction was subsequently extended through 2008, and then again through 2013 by Section 303 of the Federal Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008 enacted in October 2008. A tax deduction of $1.80 per square foot is available to owners of new or existing buildings who install (1) interior lighting; (2) building envelope, or (3) heating, cooling, ventilation, or hot water systems that reduce the building’s total energy and power cost by 50% or more in comparison to a building meeting minimum requirements set by ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2001. Energy savings must be calculated using qualified computer software approved by the IRS.

Deductions of $0.60 per square foot are available to owners of buildings in which individual lighting, building envelope, or heating and cooling systems meet target levels that would reasonably contribute to an overall building savings of 50% if additional systems were installed. The deductions are available primarily to building owners, although tenants may be eligible if they make construction expenditures. In the case of energy efficient systems installed on or in government property, tax deductions will be awarded to the person primarily responsible for the system's design. Deductions are taken in the year when construction is completed.

The IRS released interim guidance ([http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/n-06-52.pdf IRS Notice 2006-52]) in June 2006 to establish a process to allow taxpayers to obtain a certification that the property satisfies the energy efficiency requirements contained in the statute.


Not specified, but building must be certified as meeting specific energy reduction targets as a result of improvements in interior lighting; building envelope; or heating, cooling, ventilation, or hot water systems.
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representing a 3% decrease in overall intake. Unfair labor practice case intake was 21,629, a 2.5% decrease from the previous year, and total representation case intake was 2,646, a 6.5% decrease from the FY 2011 total.

“I extend my sincere appreciation to all staff members for their continued hard work and dedication to public service and for the cooperative manner in which they have responded to the priorities in casehandling,” the Acting General Counsel said in releasing the report. “My thanks also to those who practice before us for the cooperation and assistance extended to us in our efforts to administer the Act effectively and efficiently.”

GARY AUMAN, ATTORNEY AT DUNLEVEY, MAHAN & FURRY, WINS THE NFBA BERNON G. PERKINS AWARD

The National Frame Building Association (NFBA) held its annual convention and trade show, Frame Building Expo, February 20 - February 22, 2013, at the Memphis Cook Convention Center in Memphis, Tennessee.

During the NFBA Awards Luncheon on February 21, the 2012 Building of the Year winners, Crew Foreman of the Year, and 2013 Rural Builder Hall of Fame inductees were honored. NFBA also presented the prestigious Bernon G. Perkins award to an outstanding industry professional. The 2012 NFBA Bernon G. Perkins award went to Gary Auman, attorney at Dunlevey, Mahan & Furry, located in Dayton, OH. Auman also serves as Legal Counsel for the NFBA as well as several other construction associations.

The Bernon G. Perkins award was named after a man who pioneered the modern post building design and helped turn the modern pole building from a temporary to long-lasting structure. It is among NFBA’s highest honors.

Auman qualified for this award due, in part, to his tireless efforts to educate business owners on workplace integrity and compliance. He helps business owners stay current on the latest OSHA standards, and takes extra measures to ensure best worksite safety practices.

NFBA Board Chair (2011-2012) Larry Edema, Wick Buildings, states “Gary has worked diligently to ensure NFBA members are safe in the workplace by keeping them abreast of OSHA’s new and ever changing regulations. Gary has written hundreds of articles on safety for
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our members and has held numerous breakout sessions on this topic for Frame Building Expos.”

Some of Gary’s accomplishments include:

- Providing NFBA member companies with legal advice they need to run their businesses compliantly.
- Writing the NFBA 2013 OSHA Compliance Guide to be released in full March 2013.
- Presenting seminars on workplace safety for the purpose of protecting post-frame businesses and improving workplace standards.

NEW CONGRESS, NEW LEGISLATION

The following is taken from the Insulation Advocate, published by the National Insulation Association

On January 3, 2013, the 113th Congress (2013-2014) was officially gavelled into session as all 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the new members of the U.S. Senate were sworn into office.

In the following 28 days of January, action in Washington, DC centered on the second inauguration of President Obama; the high-profile hearings and response to the tragic shooting in Newtown, Connecticut; and the news that a bipartisan group of Senators reached a broad framework for overall immigration reform. While these issues, along with noted departures and nominations to the President’s cabinet, seemed to dominate Congress, there still has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes.

With the naming of Representative Tom Reed (R-NY) to replace Representative Donald Manzullo (R-IL) as the Republican co-chair of the House Manufacturing Caucus, the naming of Representative David McKinley (R-WV) to replace Representative Judy Biggert as the Republican co-chairman of the High Performance Building Caucus, and the reintroduction of the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act, the National Insulation Association (NIA) and our members have a lot to be excited about.

Major, broad-based tax reform continues to be a hot topic and will surely be a part of ongoing fiscal discussions within Congress over the next 4 months. As a result, we were surprised and excited to see that on January 4, 2013, Representative Michael Grimm (R-NY) and Representative Timothy Bishop (D-NY) introduced H.R. 184, the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act. Rep. Grimm and Rep. Bishop were both co-sponsors of H.R. 2866 in the 112th Congress and have partnered to reintroduce the bill with the identical language to that in last Congress’ bill. NIA and our partners in Washington, DC will again make this bill a top priority, along with high-

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lighting the overall impact that mechanical insulation can have on our economy, our energy usage, and emissions reductions.

With tax reform and energy efficiency continuing to be highlighted for potential inclusion in the overall fiscal reforms to control our nation’s debt and deficit, we will have plenty of opportunities to push the use of mechanical insulation. We continue to work with members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to educate them on the mechanical insulation industry, the need for tax incentives to highlight the great impact mechanical insulation has, and how our government and nation can take advantage of this ready-to-use technology.

We are carefully considering all of the opportunities before us and look forward to communicating what we are working on, our successes and challenges, what the remainder of 2013 has in store, and how you can help. If you haven't done so already, please register to attend NIA’s 58th Annual Convention, April 17-20, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs, Florida. We plan to hold the second annual Foundation Stakeholder’s Luncheon to update all of our Foundation contributors on the initiatives their contributions are helping to advance. In addition, we'll be updating the NIA membership on our progress. For a full schedule of events, and to register, please visit www.insulation.org/convention/13/.

Regards,
Michele M. Jones
Executive Vice President/CEO

NEW MEMBER COMPANIES

The MICA office has received the application for membership from our newest associate member firm FIT TIGHT COVERS in Evansville, Indiana. Megan Knoll, Director of Marketing, is excited about her company joining MICA and becoming involved in the association. The company has been in business for 5 years and is heavily involved in the industrial insulation market with some commercial work.

Fit Tight Covers designs and fabricates removable insulation covers in Evansville, Indiana. These high quality covers help reduce energy costs and maintain process temperatures while simplifying access to critical components for maintenance and inspection. Custom-designed to fit any type of mechanical system or equipment, Fit Tight Covers can be measured, fabricated, and shipped globally. FIT TIGHT fits right!

Please welcome Fit Tight Covers into MICA and add the following contact information to your MICA Directory:

Fit Tight Covers
1401 E. Maryland Street
Evansville, IN 47711
812-492-3370
E-mail: mknoll@fittightcovers.com
Website: www.fittightcovers.com
Calvin Brasel, Design Specialist
Brian Willett, Vice President
Megan Knoll, Director of Marketing

Our newest contractor member firm is MIDWEST MECHANICAL INSULATION, INC. in Sullivan, Missouri. Midwest Mechanical has been in business for over 20 years and is heavily involved in the commercial insulation market with some industrial and firestop work. The company is affiliated with Local #1 of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers. Brad Rohrer has been involved with MICA in the past and is looking forward to reacquainting his company with MICA and to become actively involved in keeping up to date with MICA and our activities.

Please give a welcome back hello to Brad and add the following contact information to your MICA Directory:

Midwest Mechanical Insulation Inc.
P.O. Box 864
Sullivan, MO 63080
573-860-2032
Fax: 573-860-3339
E-mail: brad@midmechanical.com
Brad Rohrer

MICA MANUAL — 7TH EDITION

Remember, as a MICA membership benefit, you are entitled to a “member discount” on both the hard copy and online electronic version of this new edition. Visit the “Members Only” portion of the MICA website, www.micainsulation.org.

The Manual Committee made up of Chairman Ray Stuckenschmidt, Jeff DeGraaf, Rob English, Ricardo Gamboa, Peter Gauchel, and Alec Rexroat are finishing the first annual revision to the online manual. They are adding 4 new plates to the electronic version. These new plates will be available to those who are annual subscribers to the electronic version. We will highlight the new plates at the June convention. Be sure to attend.

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