President Jim Markham and his wife, Constance, wish to extend a warm MICA invitation to you to join them as our association engages in “Conserving Energy Through Insulation”. One of the key benefits of belonging to MICA is your ability to promote our industry as a key component in energy conservation. Come and participate as we share ideas at our annual convention this June 19 - 22, 2011, at The Four Seasons Hotel in downtown St. Louis, Missouri. Our 54th Annual Spring Convention will be a special event, and one that you do not want to miss! The convention will follow a Sunday to Wednesday pattern. The timing and 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. St. Louis, the Gateway City, is home to the St. Louis Cardinals and their new Busch Stadium home. The famous Gateway Arch is within walking distance of our host hotel. Over $4 billion has been spent in the redevelopment of downtown St. Louis. The city offers countless unique attractions, historic sites, charming neighborhoods and entertainment options. Washington Avenue – the rejuvenated downtown core features clubs, restaurants, bars and shops. Lumiere Place and Laclede’s Landing is home to two casinos, clubs, restaurants, and live entertainment on the riverfront. A short distance from downtown is Forest Park. In addition to 1,300 acres of lush greenery, Forest Park is home to the St. Louis Zoo, Missouri History Museum, Saint Louis Art Museum, and the Saint Louis Science Center. Plus, they are all free! June is the time to reacquaint yourself with St. Louis.

Indulge yourself in luxury at the Four Seasons Hotel, St. Louis’ only five diamond hotel. Come prepared for some special pampering during your stay. We have reserved a block of rooms at the Four Seasons Hotel. Our convention rate is $165 per night plus tax, single or double occupancy. It is highly suggested that you book your hotel reservations now! Call the reservations office at 314-881-5757 to reserve your room. Be sure to refer to our group “Midwest Insulation Contractors Association”. 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, especially at this rate. 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 16, 2011, but if you wait until May 16th, 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 speakers were selected to help educate and inform you on a variety of industry topics pertinent to our current business climate. As the cost of crude oil reaches $100 a barrel and more, energy conservation is no longer an option, it is a necessity. Energy initiatives at the federal level have caused an awareness of the importance of energy conservation in buildings and industrial facilities. End users and consumers are more energy conscientious. (Continued on page 4)
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

TO: THE MICA MEMBERSHIP

What an Industry! What opportunities we have!

When I settle in to write this message, I simply marvel at the career that has sustained me and my family. The Industry that we all share, in some form or fashion, is really quite something. We at Luse Thermal Technologies are both a Commercial/Industrial Insulation Contractor. Along with keeping those “plates spinning”, we remove Asbestos, Distribute Materials, consult on Safety in Construction and teach classes for OSHA/ accreditation needs. As a matter of fact, when I look back to March of 1981, the month I started with the Luse Family, we employed 12 people and that included the Truck Driver. Today, we have over 60 people on overhead! Talk about growth and opportunity!

This Industry has “kept my interest and attention” for almost 3 Decades. I know many of you have similar stories and testimonies. Isn’t that wild? A friend of mine from years back, George Scully, (some of you remember that name) once said, “Wow, we make a living selling itchy stuff and tin!” While this is essentially true, we certainly do much more than that. This Industry gets into our Blood. It keeps us engaged as we press on to make a difference and feed our families. True for you?

From commercial to industrial, chemical to refining, steel to soap companies – never a dull moment!

In Chicago, the vast majority of the work performed is by Union Craft workers. As Luse has been a Union Shop since 1923, we have had a partnership with LU 17 Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers from the start. That relationship has become really a partnership over the years. The need for our Customers in the Chicagoland area to become competitive on not just a National level, but on the world wide stage, has caused us to take stock in how we operate and perform. There is visionary leadership within the Local Union, our Contractor Association (IRIC), our member contractors and supply/manufacturers to step up and serve the needs for our clients to remain competitive and in the Chicago area. My predecessor, Duke Sourile, would never believe the strides made in our Contractor/Local Union partnership.

Please be certain to attend our Spring Convention in St. Louis. Your Board is extremely excited to present a speaker we have attempted to get for 4 years now. Mr. Greg Sizemore, of the Construction User’s Round Table (CURT), will paint a fascinating picture of the need for American Industry, and our need in construction to support our clients on the world stage.

The Best to you all!

Sincerely,

James Markham,
MICA President

Contact:
sales@tepinc.com

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Our keynote speaker will address this topic from a federal perspective. Through his work in Congress, U.S. Representative Russ Carnahan has become a leading advocate for reducing energy consumption and growing the new clean energy economy by investing in technology that will reduce our reliance on foreign oil and save money for families, businesses and taxpayers.

Recognizing that Buildings consume 70% of all electricity from the grid and represent 40% of all primary energy, Carnahan has worked to encourage policies that increase energy efficiency in buildings, and saving money for families, businesses, and taxpayers. Carnahan founded and co-chairs the bi-partisan Congressional High-Performance Building Caucus; and he authored the bi-partisan Federal Buildings and Personnel Training Act – signed into law in 2010 – to reduce the amount of energy used by the federal government and save taxpayer money. For his leadership on encouraging energy innovation in the built environment, Carnahan received an award for “Outstanding Commitment” from the Sustainable Buildings Industry Council in 2010. We are excited to have such an energy advocate from Congress speak to our membership.

The Construction Users Roundtable (CURT) exists to create a competitive advantage for construction users. CURT accomplishes this multifaceted objective by providing aggressive leadership on those business issues that promote excellence in the creation of capital assets. CURT was founded in the fall of 2000 by construction and engineering executives representing major corporations all across the United States. CURT’s primary goal is to enact broad, effective Owner representation and increased Owner leadership on construction industry issues in order to create competitive advantage for Owners. Continuing the 30-year effort of the Construction Committee of the Business Roundtable, CURT provides a national and international forum for the exchange of information, views, practices and policies of construction users from an array of industries.

Representing nearly $200 billion in capital and maintenance spending power, CURT is the premiere Owners’ organization and is recognized as a driving force behind continuous and significant improvement throughout the construction industry. CURT’s Executive Vice President: Gregory L. Sizemore, Esq. will address our members on his organization’s activities. Mr. Sizemore has
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more than 25 years of construction industry and association management experience. He has worked with the Associated General Contractors and Allied Construction Industries as well as the Construction Owners Association of the Tri-State (COATS)—both located in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. Sizemore is also credited with helping owners form and launch the Appalachian Construction Users Council and the South Georgia Construction & Maintenance Council. He is highly regarded in all sectors of the industry and has been recognized a number of times for his industry contributions. Mr. Sizemore is also involved in the academic community and teaches leadership development and construction law at the University of Cincinnati where he is an adjunct professor.

The economy appears to be recovering from the recession as positive economic growth is predicted in 2011. But are we really poised for recovery? One indication of a recovery is growth in construction. McGraw-Hill Construction is the leading provider of construction information in the industry. Cliff Brewis, Senior Director Editorial Operations is responsible for the newsgathering operation of McGraw-Hill Construction/Dodge, and is a frequent speaker on the construction forecast. Cliff will update us on the potential for construction growth at our spring convention. Cliff has over 30 years experience in construction, including 25 years with McGraw-Hill in sales and operations. In addition to his current duties with McGraw-Hill, Cliff is an active member of the Integrated Project Delivery Committee administered by the AIA California Council and AGC California. The diverse group is involved in advancing collaborative construction processes.

Facebook, Twitter, Tweet, Social Networks – what do they all mean to us in business? What is Social Media for Business and how does it work? If these are questions that you have been asking yourself, we have a session for you. We will have a representative speak to us on how social media can play a role in a company’s advertising and marketing strategies. We will learn about the basics of Facebook and Twitter, and how these tools can be used by businesses and discuss the use of social networks.

Safety and environmental issues for our industry have not diminished. OSHA has been very active in both new legislation and enforcement activities. Mr. Gary Auman, MICA’s legal counsel, will update us on legislative initiatives and OSHA activities that directly affect our industry. He will share his view on what you can expect from
## SERVICE FROM 22 LOCATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2929 Walker Drive</td>
<td>Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311</td>
<td>920-406-4100</td>
<td>920-406-4141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>823R1 South 60th Street</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53214</td>
<td>414-258-9333</td>
<td>414-258-0808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5810 East Avenue</td>
<td>Countryside, Illinois 60525</td>
<td>708-352-9663</td>
<td>708-352-9690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>St. Louis, Missouri 63110</td>
<td>314-776-2002</td>
<td>314-776-4616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Cleveland, Ohio 44135</td>
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<td>216-362-7999</td>
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<td>614-258-1942</td>
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<td>Kent, Washington 98032</td>
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<td>425-251-6225</td>
</tr>
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<td>763-502-9980</td>
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<td>303-371-0707</td>
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<td>503-248-9639</td>
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<td>858-578-8681</td>
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<td>702-891-5335</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kansas City, MO 64120</td>
<td>816-920-5900</td>
<td>816-920-5921</td>
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<tr>
<td>3741 N. Topeka Street</td>
<td>Wichita, KS 67219</td>
<td>316-651-0618</td>
<td>316-651-0291</td>
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<tr>
<td>3008 Orange Grove Avenue</td>
<td>North Highlands, CA 95660</td>
<td>916-978-9071</td>
<td>916-978-0437</td>
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<tr>
<td>130 Mason Circle, Suite B</td>
<td>Concord, CA 94520</td>
<td>925-691-9880</td>
<td>925-691-9882</td>
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<tr>
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OSHA enforcement activities and regulations. Gary shares his knowledge and expertise with the membership in order to help you become a better business manager. This is your opportunity to take advantage of Gary’s wealth of knowledge. This will be a session that you can not afford to miss!

We will have three concurrent forums dealing with member issues. 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. Rather, we will incorporate these items as discussion topics in our concurrent sessions. 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.

This year we will recognize the winners of our sixth annual “Best Practices in Safety” Award. This award was established to formally recognize our member firms’ efforts in safety and safety practices. We will honor the winning firms during our opening breakfast meeting. On our second day of meetings, representatives of the winning firms will participate 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 $450.00 for the first attendee from a member company. Registration for a second attendee from a given company is reduced to $425. Registration for all additional attendees is $400 per attendee. The registration fee is $825.00 for the first member and spouse registered from a member company. Registration for a second registered couple from a given company is reduced to $800. Registration for all additional registered couples is $775 per couple. 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 thirteenth annual “Mick Van Horn Memorial Golf Tournament” is set for Monday afternoon, June 20, 2011, at Gateway National Golf Links in Madison, Illinois. Enjoy golf as it was meant to be played at this stunning, links-style course in the perfect location for golfers who travel to the downtown St. Louis and Metro-East areas. Gateway National, rated the #1 public golf course in St. Louis, offers golfers the rare opportunity to return to the rich traditions of the game. Rolling links, separated by gentle mounds, meander through lush, green pasturanelands. Tall grasses, lakes, wood-tie bunkers, and occasional giant cottonwoods complete the landscape. In view of the magnificent Gateway Arch, you will cross occasional stone bridges, glide on raised boardwalks through quiet wetlands, and enjoy play on the only public course bentgrass fairways within hundreds of miles.

This year’s fee is $135.00 per golfer, which includes a shuttle to and from the course, 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. We will feast on hors d’oeuvres, libations, and friendships.

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 54th annual spring convention. Make your hotel reservations today by calling the Four Seasons Hotel at 314-881-5757. Please join Jim, Constance, the entire Board of Directors and fellow MICA members in St. Louis, June 19 – 22, 2011, for our annual spring convention and be a part of “Conserving Energy Through Insulation”.

Convention registration packets will be mailed to the MICA membership in early March. When you receive your packet be sure to complete the forms and mail or fax them to the MICA office. But do not wait to make your hotel reservations. Call the Four Seasons now and secure your room at this luxurious hotel.
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WASHINGTON – An interactive timeline commemorating 40 years of progress protecting the safety and health of working men and women illustrates milestones from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and its state partners’ efforts to reduce injuries, illnesses and deaths.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act was signed into law by President Nixon on Dec. 29, 1970. On April 28, 1971, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration was created. In the four decades since OSHA was created, the nation has made dramatic progress in reducing work related deaths and injuries.

“We hope you will join us in this anniversary year as we recognize OSHA’s accomplishments and reaffirm our dedication to the agency’s mission,” said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. “Help us celebrate four decades of healthier workers, safer workplaces, and a stronger America.”

OSHA invites the public to visit the timeline and explore 40 years of progress in workplace health and safety. Visit the OSHA at 40 Web page to read Assistant Secretary Michaels’ Anniversary Message about OSHA’s journey during the past 40 years and priorities for the future, and learn about activities throughout the year to celebrate OSHA’s accomplishments.
FUTURE MICA MEETING DATES

54th Annual Spring Convention — June 19 — 22, 2011, The Four Seasons Hotel St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri.

Fall 2011 Annual Fall Business Meeting — October 19 & 20, 2011, Embassy Suites Downtown, Omaha, NE.


Fall 2012 Annual Fall Business Meeting — October 17 & 18, 2012, Embassy Suites Downtown, Omaha, NE.

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. We try to be as current as possible with your help.

MICA STANDARDS MANUAL

Remember, as a MICA member, you receive a discount when purchasing the National Commercial & Industrial Insulation Standards manual. The hard copy or electronic version of the manual sells for $89.95 plus shipping and handling. Member price is only $75.00 plus shipping and handling. Call the MICA office to order your copies.

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STATEMENT FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR OSHA SUPPORTING PROMOTION OF JOB CREATION

WASHINGTON – Dr. David Michaels, assistant secretary of labor for the U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration, issued the following statement as the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce holds a hearing on “Investigating OSHA’s Regulatory Agenda and Its Impact on Job Creation.” Michaels understands the committee’s interest in examining the relationship between OSHA’s regulatory agenda and job creation. The Labor Department is focused on doing everything possible to support the creation of good, safe jobs.

“I think we can all agree that the American economy must succeed but never at the cost of the safety or health of American workers. OSHA’s goal is to ensure that everyone who goes to work returns home safely. I think we can also agree that the size of a business should not determine the level of protection that a worker receives. All workers have the same right to a safe workplace.

(Continued on page 23)
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“Despite concerns about the effect of regulation on American business, there is clear evidence that OSHA’s commonsense regulations have made working conditions in this country today far safer than 40 years ago when the agency was created, while at the same time protecting American jobs. The truth is that OSHA standards don’t kill jobs. They stop jobs from killing workers. OSHA standards don’t just prevent worker injuries and illnesses. They also drive technological innovation, making industries more competitive.

“Many OSHA standards cost little and easily can be adopted by employers with nominal effect on the bottom line. OSHA, by law and by practice, always looks at both the overall cost of compliance with a proposed regulation and at the expected benefits. The evidence shows that OSHA generally overestimates the cost of its standards. Congress’ Office of Technology Assessment, comparing the predicted and actual costs of eight OSHA regulations, found that in almost all cases ‘industries that were most affected achieved compliance straightforwardly, and largely avoided the destructive economic effects’ that they feared. Standards intended to protect workers from cancer-causing chemicals such as vinyl chloride and ethylene oxide were shown to not only protect workers but also to increase productivity. OSHA’s trenching standard has significantly cut the death rate for construction workers, and OSHA’s bloodborne pathogens standard has almost eliminated work-related cases of hepatitis B and HIV.

“The failure to issue sensible regulations endangers not only workers’ health and safety but also hurts American competitiveness. For example, because OSHA has a weak noise standard and weak enforcement, U.S. employers have no incentive to buy modern, quieter machines, which means that U.S. manufacturers don’t build them, and there are few jobs in the U.S. for engineers who could design them. A recent study by the National Academy of Engineering concludes that European manufacturers are way ahead of us in designing and building modern, quieter machinery. Today, when businesses anywhere in the world want to buy quieter equipment, they look not to the United States but to Europe.

“As we approach OSHA’s 40th anniversary, the agency’s success has been well documented. An estimated 14,000 workers were killed on the job the year that Congress created OSHA. That number had fallen to approximately 4,340 in 2009. At the same time, U.S. employment has
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almost doubled and now includes more than 130 million workers at more than 7.2 million worksites. Since the passage of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the rate of reported serious workplace injuries and illnesses has declined from 11 per 100 workers in 1972 to 3.9 per 100 workers in 2008.

“But OSHA’s job isn’t over. More than 3 million workers in America are injured every year. Every day 12 workers die on the job. OSHA’s commonsense regulations are helping to drive these numbers down and, at the same time, helping American businesses modernize and compete in the global economy.”

OSHA ISSUES ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE ON PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT TO PROTECT GENERAL INDUSTRY WORKERS’ SAFETY, HEALTH

WASHINGTON – The Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued the Enforcement Guidance for Personal Protective Equipment in General Industry*, a directive that provides enforcement personnel with instructions for determining whether employers have complied with OSHA personal protective equipment (PPE) standards. The directive was effective Feb. 10, 2011.

OSHA issued a final rule on Employer Payment for Personal Protective Equipment in November 2007. The rule required employers in general industry, shipyard employment, longshoring, marine terminals and construction to provide most types of required PPE at no cost to the worker. The agency also issued a final rule in September 2009 updating its PPE standards so that they are more consistent with current consensus standards.

This directive replaces Inspection Guidelines for 29 CFR 1910 Subpart I, the revised Personal Protective Equipment Standards for General Industry issued in June 1995. Changes in this directive include clarifying what type of PPE employers must provide at no cost to workers and when employers are required and not required to pay for PPE. The directive also provides guidance that allows employers to use PPE that complies with current consensus standards and updates PPE enforcement policies based on court and review commission decisions.

These personal protective equipment standards require employers to provide – at no cost to workers – protective equipment, such as goggles and face shields that fit properly without restricting vision; earplugs and earmuffs when they will reduce noise to acceptable levels and are less costly than administrative and engineering controls; and respirators to protect workers from exposure to air contaminants. Additionally, the directive lists PPE and other items exempted from the employer payment requirements and includes questions and answers useful in clarifying PPE payment concerns. Visit OSHA’s Safety and Health Topics page on Personal Protective Equipment for more information.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR RELEASES FISCAL YEAR 2012 BUDGET REQUEST

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor outlined its part of the president's fiscal year 2012 budget request to Congress. The department’s budget request focuses on efficiently achieving the department’s goals while exercising fiscal restraint.

“Our budget request reflects our commitment to help America ‘win the future’ by sustaining a competitive workforce and ensuring worker protections,” said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. “Our fiscal year 2012 request reflects what it will take to keep America’s workforce strong and innovative. It also makes responsible and reasonable cuts that are rooted in current economic realities and a continued focus on increased efficiency and effectiveness.”

The department’s budget request totals $12.8 billion in discretionary funding. The budget aims to help Americans find and keep jobs through programs that provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed adults, dislocated workers and vulnerable communities. The budget also preserves support for employment and training programs that target Native American communities and migrant and seasonal farm workers, as well as Youth Build and Job Corps, which serve disadvantaged youth. The department will continue to support veterans by investing an additional $2 million in the Transition Assistance Program and an additional $3 million in the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program.

In this time of tough economic conditions, job training programs need to be as efficient and effective as possible. In order to test new ideas and replicate proven strategies to deliver comprehensive and cost-effective services that help individuals acquire skills and succeed in employment, the 2012 budget will reinvest funding previously allocated to the states in order to establish a Workforce
Innovation Fund. The budget proposes almost $380 million for the fund in the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education, which will jointly oversee competitive grants to support innovative, systemic and evidence-based reforms in the workforce system.

The 2012 budget reflects many difficult choices. It reduces the Community Service Employment for Older Americans program and transfers the program to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where it can be better coordinated with other safety-net programs for seniors. In addition, the budget eliminates the $125 million Career Pathways Innovation Fund, which duplicates the recently enacted Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Program, and reduces funding for Job Corps construction to cover higher operations costs.

The department will continue its commitment to enhancing worker safety. For example, to improve mine safety in 2012, the department is requesting $33 million to help reduce the large case backlog at the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission. The current backlog creates an unacceptable delay in holding bad-actor operators accountable for threatening the health and safety of America's miners.

The budget proposes to strengthen the defined benefit pension system for the millions of Americans who rely on it by giving the board of directors of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. the authority to adjust the premiums it charges pension plan sponsors. Increases will be phased in gradually, starting in 2014, and PBGC will be directed to take into account the risks that different sponsors pose to their retirees and to the pension insurance program.

In 2012, the department will continue to protect workers and level the playing field for businesses by investing almost $50 million to combat worker misclassification involving the Wage and Hour Division, the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Office of the Solicitor, and the Employment and Training Administration. When workers are misclassified as independent contractors, they are deprived of benefits and protections to which they are legally entitled and law-abiding businesses are placed at a disadvantage against employers who violate the law.

Additionally, the department’s FY 2012 budget request promotes a continuation of efforts to ensure program effectiveness, improve efficiency and increase transparency. The department will invest $30 million in program evaluations to be overseen by the chief evaluation officer.

The budget includes a request for an Office of Information Services that will centralize and speed up responses to Freedom of Information Act requests.

**FMI’S 2011 U.S. MARKETS CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW**

Raleigh, N.C. – Senior managements need to be looking beyond the current turmoil and toward what their companies will look like coming out of the down cycle.

FMI, the largest provider of management consulting and investment banking to the engineering and construction industry, announces the release of its 2011 U.S. Markets Construction Overview, offering insight into some of the engineering and construction industry's most complex business challenges.

This year’s Overview consists of three major pieces: a compilation of trends in the current environment, important issues facing nine client groups served by FMI and the fourth quarter 2010 economic forecast.

A few highlights include:

- Nonresidential building construction has experienced a steep decline, which will extend well into 2011.
- Many trade contractors will shift to new market sectors to bolster weak backlogs.
  * Lodging, office and commercial are overbuilt.
  * Population growth is driving demand for healthcare, education and public safety sectors.
- More competition for fewer private jobs is increasing bidders on public projects.
- Sustainable or green construction will drive demand for LEED-certified buildings.
- Labor-intensive contractors hired heavily during the boom are now experiencing painful downsizing.
- Innovation is driving efficiencies in prefabrication, standardization and supplier integration.
- As the baby boomers age out, many firms will face succession and transition challenges.

Industry consolidation will create attractive acquisition opportunities.

FMI publishes the U.S. Markets Construction Overview annually. The Overview includes a comprehensive report on vital construction trends and forecasts the growth or decline in each market segment, noting both short-term and long-term considerations.
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