Working hard to Protect, Promote & Educate our Profession

NEWSLETTER, MAY 2019

Edition Highlights

- MIACCA Calendar of Events
- MIACCA Meets with LARA Director
- How does your HVAC profitability compare to utility VAPS?
- DTE 1st to file its VAPS Notification
- MIACCA Welcomes MI Saves

Message from President
Bill Krestakos
Michigan Legislative & Regulatory Update

MIACCA Meets with New LARA Director Orlene Hawks

MIACCA had the opportunity to sit down with the new Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) Director, Orlene Hawks, along with Keith Lambert, Director, Bureau of Construction Codes (BCC) and Marnie Wills to discuss some important HVACR issues last week. The conversation included:

1. Statewide Mechanical Permit. As you know, MIACCA is hoping to introduce a statewide permit to the Construction Codes Commission (CCC). At the meeting, it was well received and we were recommended to reach out to the Michigan Township Association and Municipal League and work with other industries that utilize the permit in hopes of support to get this back on the agenda. In the long run, following the State permit will benefit contractors and the State alike.

2. Utilizing the Skilled Trades Regulation Act (STRA) boards as experts. MIACCA reiterated the importance of

MIACCA performs many important duties in our industry. Duties such as working to promote legislation that helps our contractors across the state, working to minimize unlicensed activity with our RAP initiative, developing a future work-force as well as educating our current one and much more.

Our goal is to benefit our members. This is why we offer training and certifications and attend legislative meetings on your behalf. In addition, we are always seeking to improve in our ability to offer you, our members, what you need.

Send us your feedback as to what you would like to see us do for you. Our staff is eager to work with you and your company to help all of us in the HVAC/R industry in Michigan.

Also, take a look around our site (miacca.org) to make sure you are up to date on our upcoming events and services currently offered.
using the expertise of the various boards for their opinions on rule changes. It was expressed that they were going to do so. Continue Reading

MIACCA attends April 2, 2019 Board of Boiler Rules

MIACCA was in attendance at the April 2, 2019 Skilled Trades Regulatory Act (STRA) meeting. Keith Lambert, Director of the Bureau of Construction Codes addressed the board regarding the original draft rules which have been rescinded and will be revised. The board asked to be included moving forward and inquired as to how long before the revisions are expected to take. Lambert stated that the process that they rolled out is going from a 40 week time frame to 15 or 16 weeks in an effort to try to cut the process time in half but hopefully within one year instead of a previously stated time line of 2 years.

Lambert asked if the board would like to create a sub-committee to work on rules but they decided they would all like to look at it as a whole instead. Continue Reading

How does your HVAC profitability compare to utility VAPS?

In 2016 as part of the negotiated energy bill, MIACCA was instrumental in getting annual reporting requirements put in to law, MCL 460.10ee(15), for when an utility chooses to offer its non-utility "value added products and services" (VAPS). The annual reports are to include, among other things, income statements for each VAPS offered. The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) ordered that electric utilities may continue filing their annual reports in MPSC Case No. U-12134 or in MPSC Case No. U-18326 for all other utilities; with the annual reports being due on April 30th of each year (Read Order Here). So after April 30, check out U-12134 and U-18326 to see how well you are doing. Continue Reading

DTE 1st to file its VAPS Notification

On April 17, 2019, DTE filed its VAPS notification in MPSC Case No. U-20512 – In the matter of the application of DTE Electric Company for Code of Conduct approval. This advance notice of the VAPS is pursuant to MCL 460.10ee(6)(a), and again thanks to MIACCA's efforts in the drafting of the 2016

As always stay safe and keep up the great work!

Accelerating Michigan's Clean Energy Future Through a Growing Network of Trusted Contractors

As we continue growing our member network, MIACCA is pleased to welcome our newest associate member, Michigan Saves—a nonprofit organization dedicated to making energy improvements easy and affordable for all Michigan energy consumers. Unique in its authorized network of energy-efficiency and renewable energy system contractors.

Below are links to articles provided for you by Federated Insurance designed to be short awareness pieces for member education:

Risk Management Corner – Property/Casualty and/or
legislation. While DTE filed this notice "under seal" and "confidentially," DTE cites no legal authority in its filings for which the MPSC may withhold this information from the public or VAPS competitors. MIACCA will be taking this issue up with the MPSC Chair, Sally Talberg, at its upcoming meeting and the Energy Ombudsman provided for in MCL 460.10ff.

MIACCA Comments in support of Gas Pooling Case No: U-20439

In the matter of the application of Consumers Energy Company for approval of a Group Transportation Service Pilot Program, MIACCA has submitted comments stating "that transportation customers will benefit from pooling through reduced costs and imbalance fees, expanded flexibility, and increased supplier options as pooling reduces costs for the supplier and ultimately the customers."

"In a pooled environment, the scheduler can manage several utilities and submit one nomination for the entire pool, instead of one for each customer. By reducing the overhead to accomplish the scheduling and balancing functions, then that cost savings will ultimately be passed on to the customers in the form of more competitive pricing."

MIACCA respectfully requested that the commission support and approve the pooling program. Read Full Comments

WFD HVACR Update

Submitted by Michael Cain: President Michigan Engineered Comfort Corporation (MECC) | Facility Engineers, Contractors & Consultants

MIACCA is seeking input from our members as to what you will be looking for in future employees.

Workers Compensation subjects

HR Question of the Month – a Human Resources-related question and answer from independent HR legal professionals

It's Your Life – concepts related to Life and Disability insurance

Product Spotlight

New MiniFresh® Eliminates Mini-split Odors

Nu-Calgon has launched a ClenAir™ odor eliminator called MiniFresh® that is designed to meet the challenges of indoor mini splits, packaged terminal air conditioners (PTACs), and fan coil units. The MiniFresh neutralizes odors, freshens the room air, deodorizes units, and keeps the evaporator coil and blower cleaner.

For more information, visit www.nucalgon.com.
Please help us by taking this poll and offering your input

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