

News from the MBCEA  
Free and worth every penny!



## MBCEA News & Updates - September 2017

### Message from the President

This has been a rough few weeks for Mother Nature. To those of you affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, please know our thoughts and prayers are with you. Times like these are when the power of the MBCEA network truly shines. If you need help, I am sure there is someone in the group who can provide it. Funnel your requests through Sasha and she will make sure the MBCEA has your back.

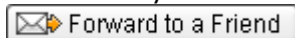
If you have not yet planned to attend METALCON, you should seriously consider it. METALCON is the only show devoted exclusively to the use of metal in construction. It will raise your standard. Come network, learn and do business. Links are provided below; we even have free hall passes.

While you are at METALCON, plan on attending our Las Vegas Chapter kick-off meeting. This fun event is designed to help you get more out of your MBCEA membership. RSVP to [Sasha](#) and come check us out.

In the coming weeks, you will be hearing more about this, but next year marks the 50th Anniversary of the MBCEA. My hat is off to the leaders and visionaries who, all those years ago, thought it might be a good idea for the Systems Builders to get together to share ideas, best practices and network. We have gone through a few name changes over the years but have always stayed true to our core mission, which is the professional advancement of our members and our industry.

Around our 15th Anniversary, then President Jim Shook wrote in the newsletter (back then it was delivered by Uncle Sam not email) "If more people knew our story, our membership would double overnight. Because it is true the services we offer MBDA members can save the cost of a membership investment many times over, IF the services are used." Sounds like not much has changed in the last 35 years.

I urge all of you reading this to forward a copy to a colleague - go ahead do it right now. Here is an easy link to do it:



Don't assume they are on our mailing list. Spread the good news of what the MBCEA is doing. If every member recruited just one new member, you would not only be doing them a favor but also helping yourself. The MBCEA is only as strong as its members.



To celebrate our 50th Anniversary, we are planning an exciting Conference to mark this auspicious event. Once again, we will be co-located with the MBMA. This is an exceptional opportunity for contractors, erectors, builders, manufacturers, and suppliers to all meet in one place and learn from each other. MBMA Chair, Brad Curtis recently said "through this type of camaraderie and by moving forward with similar goals, we can achieve much more together than we can alone." Please plan on joining us May 2nd-4th in San Antonio. MBCEA members will receive a 50% discount on registration fees in honor of our Anniversary.

Thanks and Stay Safe.

Regards,

Mike Reynolds  
President, MBCEA  
[mike@scisteel.com](mailto:mike@scisteel.com)

## METALCON

Plan now to attend METALCON 2017 to be held at the Las Vegas Convention Center October 18-20, 2017. Hotel reservations can be made through [this link](#). Click the picture to register and receive a free pass to the show floor.

See the schedule [here](#).

The exhibit hall is open Wednesday, October 18, from 12 - 6 pm; Thursday, October 19, from 12 - 6 pm; and Friday, October 21, from 10 am - 1 pm. MBCEA will have an exhibit booth along with MBMA and IAS. Come visit us at booth 1649! Click [here](#) for the action in the exhibit hall. [Register](#) your two-man team to compete in the Metal Roofing Games for cash prizes!

A Las Vegas Chapter meeting is scheduled for Thursday morning between 8 and 12. Gary Smith is holding a Globally Harmonized System certification class on Friday morning at 8:30 am. We look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas!



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

### **Avis Construction Co., Inc.**

Jack T. Avis  
PO Box 11985  
Roanoke, VA 24022  
540-982-3558  
540-982-2643 fax

[jack@avisconstruction.com](mailto:jack@avisconstruction.com)  
[www.avisconstruction.com](http://www.avisconstruction.com)

### **Sherman Construction Co., Inc.**

Andy Sherman  
 PO Box 1629  
 Greenville, SC 29602  
 864-277-0060  
 864-27-7524 fax

[andy@shermanconstruction.com](mailto:andy@shermanconstruction.com)  
[www.shermanconstruction.com](http://www.shermanconstruction.com)

## Chapter News

**On Thursday September 21, 2017, the New England Chapter** will be holding a training seminar covering the mandatory training program to comply with OSHA's Crystalline Silica Rule - For Construction.



This two-part, four-hour training will be conducted by Brian Stevens Ph. D., ASP, OHST of Contractors Risk Management, Inc. The first two hours of the seminar will satisfy the OSHA Training for All Workers and the second half will satisfy the OSHA Competent Person Training.

Space will be limited and expected to fill up fast. Please return the [reservation form](#) at your earliest convenience to reserve your spot.

**The Mid-Atlantic Division** of MBCEA is holding [Aerial Platform Training](#) on September 22 in Bordentown, NJ; a [Sporting Clays Event](#) on September 28 in Coplay, PA; [OSHA 30](#) on October 5, 6, 12, 13 in Wyomissing, PA; and [OSHA 10](#) on October 19 & 20 in York, PA.

**The Ohio Chapter** will hold Best Practices on Installation of Standing Seam Roofs on September 29, from 11 am to 1:30 pm with lunch provided. Location is Setterlin Building Co., 560 Harmon Avenue, Columbus, OH. Please email [Orris Schlabach](#) to register.

[Register now](#) for a certified training day in the **Northwest Coastal Chapter**. Topics covered to include Globally Harmonized Systems, Crane Signaling, Torch Cutting and Personal Fall Restraint.

### September 22, 2017

McMenamins Mall 205  
 9710 SE Washington Street  
 Portland, OR 97216  
 11 am to 3 pm  
 Lunch to be provided

On August 24, 2017, the **Carolinas Chapter** Construction Notebook Class #6 was "How to Install Insulated Metal Panels" as presented by MetlSpan:

We had 48 in attendance. Two from MetlSpan led the class, Arnold Corbin gave the powerpoint presentation and Matt Merrill led the hands-on installation mock up. MetlSpan did a wonderful job of presenting the information and everyone left with a good understanding of the installation process. We thank our sponsors: United Rentals sponsored breakfast, MetlSpan sponsored the catered lunch, other sponsors include Therm-All insulation for miscellaneous class expenses, Chief provided donuts, and Ahern Rentals provided watermelons.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**MBCEA Carolinas Chapter Fall Golf Outing**

Thursday, November 2, 2017  
 Tee off at 11:30am with box lunch on cart  
 Social/Awards will be at 4:00 pm  
 Deer Brook Golf Club  
 201 Deerbrook Drive  
 Shelby, NC 28150  
<http://golfdeerbrook.com/>

**The newly formed Las Vegas Chapter** will hold a chapter training session on Thursday, October 19, 2017, from 8-12 in Room N252 at the Las Vegas Convention Center. Contact [Jesse Evert](#) to register and click on the Exhibit Hall Pass in the Metalcon section above to walk the show floor after the meeting on us.

## AC478 - Key Requirements

IAS Accreditation (AC472) ensures metal buildings are designed and manufactured in accordance with strict industry standards. More and more building owners and municipalities across the country are now asking for the same type of accreditation for the contractors and erectors who assemble the building. Even when accreditation is not required, achieving IAS Accreditation (AC478) greatly strengthens your position when trying to win a project.



This quality standard was developed by Erectors for Erectors. It is the standard to recognize Metal Building System Assemblers that are committed to excellence. The IAS mark shown here is proof that you have the personnel, organization, experience, knowledge, management procedures and commitment to assemble metal building systems.

### But how do you do it? What does it involve?

- Documented Management System w/ Cross Reference Matrix (MBCEA has a template document available to our members)
- Safety, Training and Quality Manager (can be the same person - they will have other roles as well)
- Contract with Inspection Agency or Special Inspection Agency
- Site Specific Plans
- OSHA 10 and MBI Quality & Craftsmanship for all field workers with more than 1 year
- Documented Safety Plan
- Documented Training Plan and procedures
- Policy regarding Subs
- Basic Insurance
- Document Control Policy
- Annual Internal Audit
- Annual Management Review
- Adherence to Manufacturers Specs
- Receiving and Storage Process

But do not let this list intimidate you. Schedule a one hour telecon with [Jackie Meiluta](#) and she will break it down for you and help you through the process. This service is provided at no charge to MBCEA members.

What are you waiting for? Contact Jackie today.



**Please support our sponsors. They make this newsletter possible.**

## OSHA SAFETY TIPS FOR CLEANING UP AFTER A STORM

Hurricanes Harvey and Irma brought catastrophic flooding, but it also brought heroic reactions from first responders and volunteers. As the flood waters recede, thousands of Americans are beginning the difficult work of cleanup and recovery.



If you're cleaning up flood damage, check out our tips on staying safe. And remember: Most of these are general guidelines. But some operations - such as utility restoration, hazardous material cleanup, and search and rescue - should only be conducted by workers who have been properly trained.

### Stay Out of Flood Waters

Even though it may be tempting to wade in flood waters, flooded areas may be deeper than they look, and water levels can rise unexpectedly. Flood waters can also contain dangerous debris that can cause cuts and puncture wounds. Water is sometimes also contaminated with chemicals and germs that can make people sick. Stay out of flood waters unless it is absolutely necessary to evacuate an area.

### Avoid Electrical Hazards

Workers can expect to find standing water anywhere in a flood zone. If water has been present anywhere near electrical circuits and electrical equipment, turn off the power at the main breaker or fuse on the service panel. Never enter flooded areas or touch electrical equipment if the ground is wet. Assume any downed electrical lines are energized and don't come within 10 feet of them. Repairing downed electrical lines is a task that should be left to trained utility workers.

### Safely Remove Debris

Debris and downed trees can hide electrical lines, which carry a risk of electrocution. Falling tree limbs and improper use of chainsaws and wood chippers present additional hazards. Proceed with caution around debris, and use proper protective equipment when operating power tools. Slips, trips, and falls are other

common hazards when clearing debris. Watch your step on slippery and uneven surfaces.

### **Breathe Easy**

Gasoline- and diesel-powered generators, pumps, and pressure washers all release carbon monoxide, a deadly, odorless gas. Only operate these machines outdoors and never inside confined spaces. Mold - which can cause respiratory illness, eye irritation, and skin rash - often appears after flooding. You can clean items with detergent and water, and disinfect cleaned surfaces with 0.25 cups of household bleach in one gallon of water for light contamination, and up to 1.5 cups of bleach per gallon of water for heavier contamination. Do not mix bleach with other cleaning products that contain ammonia.

### **Keep Your Cool**

Heavy labor and low water intake while conducting flood cleanup in high temperatures and humidity can lead to heat illness, exhaustion, and stroke. Drink plenty of water and take regular breaks in shaded or, if available, air-conditioned areas.

### **Avoid Wild Animals**

Avoid contact with wild or stray animals. If contact is unavoidable, wear protective gloves and wash your hands regularly. Approach piles of debris with caution and if you see a snake, fire ants, or other creatures that could bite or sting, step away. Insect repellents and protective clothing - including long pants, socks, gloves, boots, and long-sleeved shirts - can provide extra protection. Seek immediate medical attention if you are bitten by a wild animal. Only trained workers should attempt to rescue stranded or injured animals.

Visit our hurricane recovery page for more tips on staying safe, and to learn more about how the U.S. Department of Labor is supporting communities affected by this storm.

## **Moody's: Damage from Harvey and Irma could hit \$200B**

The combined destruction of property from hurricanes Irma and Harvey could range from \$150 billion to \$200 billion, according to a preliminary estimate from Moody's Analytics.

Moody's Chief Mark Zandi, noting that the estimate could change substantially as more information becomes available, said the U.S. economy could suffer an additional \$20 billion to \$30 billion in lost economic output from the two storms. As a result, Moody's shaved its third quarter forecast for gross domestic product by half a point to 2.5 percent.

The ongoing shortage of skilled construction labor is one of the biggest hurdles expected to impact rebuilding efforts. Even before the storms, seven in 10 contractors nationwide said they had trouble finding qualified workers, according to a survey last month by the Associated General Contractors of America.

Slate notes that labor conditions across the economy are tighter now than they were immediately post-Katrina, to which Harvey, in particular, has been compared. While the number of workers in the affected areas likely will not be sufficient, the extent workers could be drawn from other markets is limited.

Texas has state-level reciprocal license agreements with several states for the specialty trades and it doesn't regulate roofers or general contractors, both of which could help fill the pipeline. Some municipalities have their own rules, however, and the limited oversight puts residents at risk of scammers.

In the Houston metro area alone, between 10,000 and 20,000 construction workers will likely be needed for repair work in the next 12 months, said Rob Dietz, chief economist at the National Association of Home Builders.

## Research Findings: Sharp Drill Bits Reduce Health Risks & Increase Productivity



Workers who perform concrete drilling are exposed to hazardous levels of noise, force, vibration and airborne silica dust. Reducing the risks associated with those hazards is the focus of a study by Dr. David Rempel, a member of CPWR's research consortium, and his research team at the University of California.

Using a specially designed test bench the researchers have conducted experiments using a common hammer drill and carbide-tipped bit to isolate the effect of drill bit wear on worker exposure to these hazards. The tests found that bit wear reduced worker productivity -- holes took longer to drill -- while increasing the drill operator's exposure to silica dust, noise, force and vibration. Looked at another way, by swapping out worn bits promptly for sharp new ones, contractors can increase productivity while better protecting workers from occupational health hazards.

The results have been published in a series of journal articles.

Read the full and related articles [here](#).

## New work visa requirements exacerbate current talent shortages

**The H1B and H2B programs are about to get a lot more frustrating for recruiters as new foreign national worker requirements roll out.**

[Read more](#)



## The case for Employee Handbooks in 2017

**To employees, company handbooks and policy manuals can be annoying and time-consuming. Such labels could be used to describe any mandatory part of everyday life, but they detract from the goal of**

**handbooks which, at the very least, are supposed to protect employees.**

**At the same time, the days of hundreds of pages of legal provisions and workplace policies condensed into phone book-sized packets are a bit redundant in the digital age.**

**So how do you ensure your employee handbook will still be relevant and, more importantly, helpful to all employees?**



[Read Full Article](#)

## **We want to hear from you!**

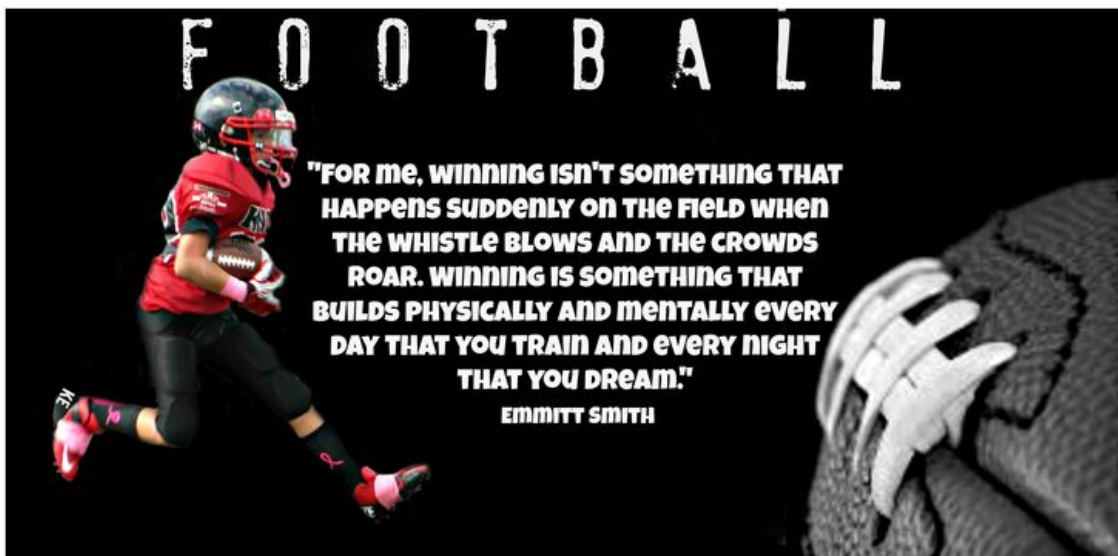
The MBCEA is dedicated to the professional advancement of our members. We need to know what is important to you, what kinds of things you are interested in, what you need.

[Sasha Graver, Executive Director](#)  
[Mike Reynolds, President](#)  
[Jackie Meiluta, Program Manager](#)



please connect with the MBCEA.

## **Quote of the Day**



MBCEA | [sgraver@mbcea.org](mailto:sgraver@mbcea.org) | 484-239-3337 | [www.mbcea.org](http://www.mbcea.org)



MBCEA, PO Box 4308, Bethlehem, PA 18018

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [sgraver@mbcea.org](mailto:sgraver@mbcea.org) in collaboration with



Try it free today