

SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



Membership Update

Stay informed on MCAI education opportunities, legislative developments, and events designed to support our members and strengthen the mechanical contracting industry.

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- **MCAA News & Events**

2026 MCAI Golf Outing

The 2026 MCAI Golf Outing was held on August 31 at the Country Club of Indianapolis. One of MCAI's most popular annual events, this year's outing once again brought together contractors, associate members, and industry partners from across Indiana for a great day of golf, networking, and fellowship.

The outing reached full capacity, and we appreciate the tremendous response and support from everyone who participated. Throughout the day, members had the opportunity to reconnect with longtime colleagues, build new relationships, and enjoy some friendly competition on one of the state's premier golf courses.

Thank you to everyone who attended, our sponsors for their continued support, and all those who helped make the 2026 MCAI Golf Outing another successful event. We look forward to seeing everyone at future MCAI Events!



Mechanical Contractors Association of Indiana

The Mechanical Contractors Association of Indiana, Inc. is a statewide trade association established to represent and service its members in the mechanical industry. It acts as the industry's voice in dealing with the public, state and local government, other construction industry groups, and labor. The MCAI focuses on education, labor relations, and multi-employer collective bargaining.



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46256

2027 Organizing Blitzes Announced

Don't miss this opportunity to support the UA, ensure the availability of craftspersons for your upcoming projects, and build your knowledge of UA operations.

Organizing blitzes present an opportunity to speak directly to the individuals being organized. These conversations let you share the benefits of working for your company. You also get a sneak preview of upcoming talent.

You will also have a chance to answer questions and dispel any myths non-union contractors may have heard about what it is like to be a union contractor.

Local association executives who participate in a blitz will better understand how the UA operates. They will enhance the labor/management relationship and be better able to support their contractor members' participation.

2027 Organizing Blitzes Announced

The UA has announced the following dates for the 2027 organizing blitzes:

- April 11 – 16, 2027 | Houston, TX
- June 13 – 18, 2027 | San Diego, CA
- July 25 – 30, 2027 | Milwaukee, WI
- August 22 – 28, 2027 | Philadelphia, PA

Registration and hotel information for the 2027 blitzes will be available in the coming weeks. MCAA will share that information when it arrives.

Women in the Mechanical Industry (WIMI)

Friday, August 28, the Women in the Mechanical Industry chapter met at D.A. Dodd's new facility in Lafayette for some hands-on learning, self-understanding, and social networking. The day began with a tour of their fab shop, complete with a couple of stations where the women performed tasks that field personnel do all the time – from crimping pipe and fittings together to hooking up water lines to a sink. Then the group moved into the classroom with Marissa Ulrich, and learned how to Quiet Our Inner Critics by turning the critic into a coach. The day concluded with networking at Walt's Other Pub



IRS Proposes Rules for Employer Contributions to Trump Accounts

The Treasury plan would allow up to \$2,500 in tax-free employer contributions while setting nondiscrimination, reporting and salary-reduction requirements for workplace programs.

The Department of the Treasury and the IRS proposed regulations spelling out how employers can contribute to Trump Accounts for workers and their dependents, providing companies with a framework for the new tax-favored employee benefit while imposing nondiscrimination and administrative requirements.

The proposed regulations, recently published in the Federal Register, also address nondiscrimination rules for employer-sponsored dependent care assistance programs. The rules would affect employers maintaining either type of program and employees who participate in them. [LEARN MORE](#)

Commentary: Community benefits, not moratoriums, should guide Indiana's debate on data centers

By Rob Henderson, IBTC

As more Hoosier communities debate data centers, a growing number of local governments are reaching for moratoriums. Nearly a third of Indiana counties have adopted data center restrictions, with Indianapolis now considering a temporary halt of its own. Concerns about water, power, taxes, infrastructure and transparency deserve serious answers.

But moratoriums can have unintended, far-reaching effects on a community. It is a public signal to employers, investors and site selectors that a community may be closed for business.

Companies compare communities to determine the best area for their investments. A blanket moratorium tells responsible developers the same thing it tells irresponsible ones: do not bring us a proposal. Once a community earns a reputation for shutting the door before a conversation begins, that reputation will likely extend beyond one industry. [LEARN MORE](#)

ICCA Welcomes Silas Rich to the ICCA Board of Directors

The Indiana Careers in Construction Association (ICCA) is proud to welcome Silas Rich to its Board of Directors. Silas brings a lifetime of experience in the pipe trades and a strong passion for leadership and advancing the construction industry. A fourth-generation United Association member, Silas is also a proud 26-year member of UA Local 440. His experience and commitment to the trades will be a valuable addition to the ICCA Board as the organization continues its work to promote careers and opportunities within Indiana's construction industry.

On behalf of MCAI, congratulations to Silas on this well-deserved appointment!

SEPTEMBER

2026

3

September

MCA SI Chapter Meeting

Cross-Eyed Cricket
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM CST

9

September

MCA WV Chapter Meeting

Via Zoom
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

10-11

September

MCPC Labor Management Meeting

Fort Benjamin Harrison

14

September

Local 440 JATC Meeting

Local 440 Office
3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

16

September

Local 166 JATC Meeting

Local 166 Office
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

16

September

MCA FW Chapter Meeting

Ruth's Chris
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

17

September

MCPC Chapter Meeting

Ruth's Chris
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

18

September

440 Student Job Fair

Local 440
8:00 AM – 12:30 PM

22

September

SCA Labor Management Meeting

Ruth's Chris
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

24-25

September

MCA SI Labor Management Meeting

French Lick

28

September

SCA Chapter Meeting

Ruth's Chris
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

29

September

Frank Favaro: Built to Lead

Sheraton Hotel Keystone Crossing
8:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Upcoming Classes

29
September

Built To Lead

NEI Instructor: Frank Favaro
Location: Sheraton Hotel 8787 Keystone Crossing, Indianapolis, IN 46240

Strong leadership doesn't happen by chance. It is developed through the right skills and experience. Leadership Skills That Work on the Jobsite and in the Office is designed for foremen, supervisors, project managers, and emerging leaders who want to become more effective in leading people and projects. Participants will learn practical leadership techniques that can be applied immediately, including communicating clear expectations, building accountability without micromanaging, motivating teams, resolving challenges, and leading by example. The course also provides actionable strategies to improve team performance, strengthen workplace culture, and develop confident leaders throughout your organization. Whether you're preparing the next generation of leaders or investing in experienced supervisors, this course offers valuable tools that will benefit both your employees and your company.

16
October

Day 3: Project Billings & Maintaining Positive Cash Flow

NEI Instructor: John Koontz
Location: MCAI Headquarters 9998 Crosspoint Blvd Indianapolis IN 46256

Maintaining positive cash flow is one of the greatest challenges facing project managers in today's construction industry. With traditional billing cycles, retainage, delayed payments, and unexpected project costs, even well-managed projects can experience cash flow challenges. This seminar will provide practical strategies to help project managers proactively improve project cash flow through effective planning, disciplined project execution, and strong customer relationships. Participants will learn how to identify potential cash flow issues early, improve billing and collection practices, manage change orders efficiently, and make informed decisions that positively impact a project's financial performance.

4
December

Day 4: Essential Management Skills: Time Management Managing Multiple Projects

NEI Instructor: John Koontz
Location: MCAI Headquarters 9998 Crosspoint Blvd Indianapolis IN 46256

Successful project managers do more than manage schedules and budgets—they lead people. Fundamentals of Mechanical Project Management is designed to help both new and experienced project managers develop the essential management skills needed to lead successful teams and projects. This seminar focuses on the people side of project management, providing attendees with a strong foundation in the leadership skills, communication techniques, and decision-making abilities that drive project success. Participants will gain a better understanding of the traits, behaviors, and management practices that foster accountability, build trust, improve team performance, and strengthen relationships.

For questions regarding the classes or to request additional information, please contact Heather or Brant at MCAI. Registration forms will be distributed in advance of each class.

New Communications Guide Helps Student Chapters Build Professional Skills

The MCAA Career Development Committee continues their annual resource rollout with the release of the Communications Guide for Student Chapters. This eight-part guide is designed primarily for MCAA Student Chapter members and advisors, but much of the content can also benefit interns and new hires at MCAA member companies. This resource can be used as a complete collection or downloaded as individual PDFs. [**LEARN MORE**](#)

MCAA President Curtis Harbour Highlights Strong MCAA-UA Partnership at UA Convention

The convention drew 4,034 delegates and featured remarks from United Association General President Mark McManus, Assistant General President Mike Pleasant, General Secretary-Treasurer Derrick Kualapai, North America's Building Trades Unions President Sean McGarvey, Canada's Building Trades Unions Executive Director Sean Strickland, Connect Trade Union (Ireland) General Secretary Paddy Kavanagh, actor and SAG-AFTRA President Sean Astin, and others. The program also included a session dedicated to mental health and the UA Pipe PALS Committee. [**LEARN MORE**](#)

Connect With the Latest Training from Mueller Industries, Inc. and PipeX Solutions at MCAA.org

The Manufacturer/Supplier Training area of MCAA's website connects our contractor members with training opportunities available from the members of MCAA's Manufacturer/Supplier Council. [**LEARN MORE**](#)

Find Your Fit: Explore MCAA's National Committee Opportunities

MCAA members looking for ways to become more involved in the association now have an easier path to exploring volunteer leadership opportunities. MCAA's Committees & Volunteer Opportunities page brings together information about the association's national committees in one convenient location, helping members learn about committee missions, responsibilities, and areas of focus. [**LEARN MORE**](#)

Foundations of Field Leadership Online: Registration Deadline is September 10

September 24, 2026 | Courses Begin

If you want to fast-track your new and aspiring field leaders in 2026, MCAA has just the program! Foundations of Field Leadership begins in September. Once a week for eight weeks, students spend 90 minutes online with an experienced field leader who walks them through best practices and practical strategies for running work and leading a crew. [**LEARN MORE**](#)

Save the Date for the 2027 Safety & Health Conference

January 11-14, 2027 | Caesars Palace Las Vegas

Join MCAA, SMACNA, and TAUC for the 2027 Safety & Health Conference, January 11-14, 2027, at Caesars Palace Las Vegas. Registration Opens September 14, 2026.

[**LEARN MORE**](#)



MSCA
Mechanical Service Contractors of America

MAJOR EVENTS

MSCA Field Supervisors Training

September 14-September 15 2026

Mesa, Arizona

Take advantage of the visionary point of view and cutting-edge educational offerings that characterize the only industry conference specifically for the nation's premier mechanical service contracting companies.

[Register](#)



MCAA
Mechanical Contractors Association of America

CONFERENCES

2026 Fabrication Conference

September 15-September 17 2026

MCAA's Fabrication Conference focuses on cutting-edge fabrication applications and tours of MCAA member fabrication facilities.

[Register](#)



MCAA
FIELD LEADERS

FIELD LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Field Leaders Conference, September 2026

September 16-September 18 2026

Portland, Oregon

Foremen and other supervisory-level field personnel have an opportunity to understand what their employers expect and what they should be doing as leaders.

[Register](#)



mcaa great futures

CONFERENCES

2026 MCAA GreatFutures Forum

September 24-September 26 2026

St. Louis, MO

During the GreatFutures Forum, students and MCAA member companies are invited to gather for education sessions that highlight the mechanical contracting industry, fun peer-to-peer relationship building and most importantly, a chance to network during the job fair.

[Register](#)



MSCA
Mechanical Service Contractors of America

MAJOR EVENTS

2026 MSCA Annual Education Conference

November 8-November 11 2026

Austin, TX

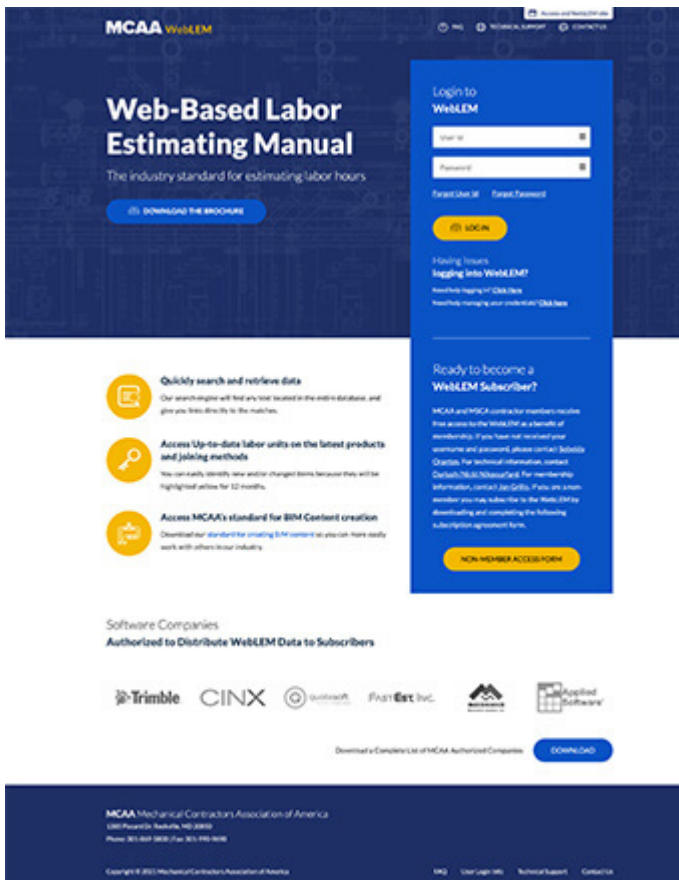
Take advantage of the visionary point of view and cutting-edge educational offerings that characterize the only industry conference specifically for the nation's premier mechanical service contracting companies.

[Register](#)

MSCA 2025 Benchmark Survey

In 2025, MSCA conducted a comprehensive benchmark survey to obtain current data on key performance indicators (KPIs) in the HVACR and plumbing service industry. The results were very insightful and sure to be beneficial to all MSCA members. The full report is now available, results are presented in two formats, one is overall results and the second is broken down by company size which can provide specific insight relevant to your company.

CLICK HERE: [LINK](#)



WebLEM

WebLEM is the industry's most reliable authority for comprehensive labor units for typical project tasks. Quickly search for and retrieve information. WebLEM is reviewed and updated to reflect the latest products and joining methods. You will need your MCAA.org username and password to log in to WebLEM. For WebLEM access questions, please refer to the WebLEM Access FAQs page.

[LEARN MORE](#)

For Managers: Your Employee Assistance Program



What is the Employee Assistance Program?

The EAP is provided by ComPsych® GuidanceResources® and offers counseling, legal and financial consultation, work-life assistance and crisis intervention services to employees and their dependents free of charge.

Why provide an EAP?

The EAP offers counseling, guidance and tools for emotional, financial, legal and other issues. Helping employees and their dependents ensures that these issues don't spill over into the workplace and harm productivity or morale.

Is the service confidential?

Yes, the EAP is strictly confidential. No information about participation in the program is provided to the employer.

Why should managers use the EAP?

The EAP is a referral resource when an employee expresses concerns over or suffers performance problems due to a personal issue. As a manager, it is not your job to be a professional counselor or best friend. The EAP can handle that for you.

Why might an employee or his/her dependents use the services of the EAP?

There are many reasons for employees to take advantage of these services, including when they:

- Are feeling overwhelmed by balancing work and family
- Are experiencing stress, anxiety or depression
- Are dealing with grief and loss
- Need assistance with child or elder care
- Have legal or financial questions
- Have concerns about substance abuse for themselves or a dependent

Under what circumstances might a manager refer an employee to the EAP?

All employees can experience personal difficulties that can impact their performance at work. As a manager, you can suggest the EAP to an employee as a confidential resource provided at no charge.

What happens when employees call the EAP?

When employees call, they will speak with a GuidanceConsultantSM, a master's- or PhD-level counselor who will collect some general information and will talk with them about their needs. The GuidanceConsultantSM will provide the name of a counselor who can assist them.

Can employees' children use the EAP?

Yes. The EAP is a confidential benefit for employees and their household family members.

Compsych is the New EAP Provider for the ISPTA / MCAI Drug Trust

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