

IEC Forums

“If I wasn’t in an IEC Forum, I’d probably be out of business by now.”

Emerson Smoker, Sr.

President Rite Way Electric, Albany, Oregon

Forming a peer group to discuss common problems and solutions isn’t something you can do with your local or regional competitors. Besides potential legal ramifications, you just can’t tell your local counterpart that you’re losing your shirt on that project on which you outbid him. You could, however, trade candid information with colleagues in other regions, especially if they have problems that are similar to yours.

IEC Forums provide IEC contractor members with opportunities to interact and discuss challenges and solutions with non-competing electrical contractors. Forums allow their members to exchange best practices, share ideas, and engage in confidential business discussions to improve their businesses.

Forums set their own rules and organize their own meetings. They usually include about ten members of similar sizes and specialties, each from a different city. They typically meet a few times per year and often schedule meetings to coincide with IEC National conferences. Many forums include social activities in their meetings.

Usually, only company principals participate in Forum activities; however, some Forums allow members of a firm’s senior management team to take part in their discussions.

To join an existing Forum or establish a new one, contact IEC National.

For more information about management education or to locate your local IEC chapter, visit www.ieci.org.

Management Education Resources

- ★ IEC Forums
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 - Online Courses
 - Electrical Project Management Institute
 - Convention Sessions
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Independent Electrical Contractors
The association for electrical and systems contractors



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INDEPENDENT
ELECTRICAL
CONTRACTORS

Chapter Programs

More than 70 IEC chapters offer a wide variety of educational activities for their members. In many cases, these programs fulfill continuing education requirements toward electrical license renewals.

Safety education is a priority. Chapter seminars cover arc flash, grounding, ladders and scaffolds, plus many other safety-related topics.

IEC Industry Partners, which include many manufacturers, distributors, and suppliers, provide programs about their newest products, how to be more profitable, and ways to improve safety on the jobsite.

Additionally, most IEC chapters offer a variety of other events and activities, such as wire-offs, foreman training, trade shows, and legislative awareness, to promote productivity and maximize their members' success.

Most IEC chapters offer one or more apprentice training programs that serve to recruit and develop new electrical workers. With an expected shortage of electrical workers in the near future, apprentice training and other workforce programs, such as shared worker and application services, help electrical contractors manage their labor more effectively and efficiently.



For more information about your local IEC chapter, visit the IEC website, www.ieci.org, and click on Chapter Information.

IEC University:

IEC's management education department



Online Courses



IEC University's eCampus offers hundreds of online courses covering safety, technical issues, business skills, and much more.

Accessed through the members-only section of the IEC website, employees of IEC member companies have access to a wide range of practical courses at inexpensive prices (\$12 to \$59 each).

The courses utilize streaming video and other interactive features. Sample course topics include:

- Basic Electrical Theory
- Electrical Controls & Application
- Installation, Distribution & Lighting
- Wiring Diagrams & Troubleshooting
- Basic Process Control
- Mechanical Print Reading
- Electronic Circuits: Characteristics & Operation
- Conflict Resolution in the Workplace
- Sexual Harassment Awareness
- Customer Service & Telephone Courtesy
- Teamwork
- Time Management
- Construction Safety
- Fall Protection
- Lockout / Tagout
- Personal Protective Equipment

Volume purchase discounts are available. While all titles are presented in English, some courses are also available in Spanish.

To get started, visit the IEC website, www.ieci.org, and click on Education & Training.

Electrical Project Management Institute

Designed by electrical contractors for electrical contractors, this 80-hr. course is held annually on the West Lafayette, Indiana, campus of Purdue University. Presented in two non-consecutive 40-hour session weeks, the course's 34 modules are taught by leading Purdue faculty members with many years of experience in theory and practice of electrical project management. The period between sessions allows for completion assignments and reporting projects.



Convention Sessions

IEC University presents dozens of educational sessions during national conferences and conventions. Topics cover industry issues, leadership skills and techniques, operations and profitability practices, technical and safety issues, and service. These sessions are designed to help contractor owners and managers run their companies more efficiently and profitably.

Pre-conference seminars provide more in-depth coverage of topics in half- and full-day sessions.

Additionally, IEC University often provides technical safety education to apprentices and journeymen who attend the annual IEC Electric Expo trade show during the Annual IEC National Convention each fall.

