



Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc.

# WATTS UP

## Mid-South IEC Wins Apprenticeship Chapter of the Year



It is a pleasure to announce that Mid-South IEC received the 2010 National IEC's Apprenticeship Chapter of the Year Award at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual National IEC Convention and Electric Expo in Phoenix, Arizona.

This past year has been **monumental** for the Mid-South IEC's apprenticeship program. Due to intensive research and attention to detail, the Mid-South IEC has been approved as a Training Provider for the Workforce Investment Network.

The chapter was able to get **100%** of the apprentices (over 120) approved for WIN funding that lead to **zero cost** to the apprentices on their tuition, books and even tools for **all** the 1<sup>st</sup> year apprentices. Additionally the Mid-South IEC hosted over a **20% increase** in the number of apprentices for 2010.

"It is truly an honor to receive this prestigious award", said Walt Czynnik the Executive Director. He continued "what makes this award even more special is that it reflects on the positive impact the organization has had in the lives of the apprentices, their families and the IEC Contractors. Providing quality education for these apprentices and assisting them in maintaining a job while they are being trained for a career in the electrical and low voltage industry not only helps the apprentices develop a long term career, but also aids in the future growth of the electrical industry".

While it's not required in Tennessee to obtain a journeymen electrician's license to graduate, the Mid-South IEC always encourages the graduating 4<sup>th</sup> year apprentices to take the Arkansas Journeymen Electrician's Exam, better themselves with self growth and self development. On a strictly volunteer basis, the vast majority of the 4<sup>th</sup> year graduating apprentices took the Arkansas Electrician's Exam. **We are pleased to announce that 100% of them passed the first time!** The passing rate is normally 30%. The Mid-South IEC is extremely excited and proud of this accomplishment.

The Apprenticeship Chapter of the Year Award recognizes an IEC chapter apprenticeship program that has demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in growth and development on both a local and national level.

4TH QUARTER - 2010

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## Christmas Party

If you missed the IEC Christmas party December 14, 2010, you missed our Country Christmas. When plans were being made in the fall, many agreed we needed to “change things up”. A search for a venue led the staff to the Farmer’s Market at the Agri-Center International and the red barn. With the venue picked, plans were made down to the smallest detail of how many forks, plates and glasses would be needed. As the event grew closer and the temperatures dropped, we were thankful the barn was heated.

IEC members, spouses and guests enjoyed an evening of leaving the ties and sequins at home. Country vittles were on the menu for the evening and everyone enjoyed the “tunes” from Carol Plunk. An IEC Christmas tree made its debut. Each contractor member was represented by a light bulb and each associate member was represented by a light switch cover all decorated just for their company.

Mayor AC Wharton and his wife Ruby were there to share the holidays with us. Mike Kallmeyer, the National IEC President for 2011, made a special trip to spend the evening with us and to meet our members. We were very pleased to see Bob Johnson (Chief Electrical Inspector) and his wife Jean since she has been very ill this past year.

It was an evening of just being part of our IEC family complete with smiles, laughter, hugs and well wishes for the upcoming year! The IEC Staff hopes the holidays were everything you wished for and hope 2011 is all you hope it will be!



Memphis City Mayor AC Wharton wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year.



Mike Kallmeyer, National IEC's President addresses the membership of the Mid-South IEC.

**Christmas Party** *(continued)*



## Thank You !!!

The volunteer spirit is alive and well within the Mid-South IEC! We would not be as successful as we are without all of you!!

The recent IEC's Christmas party was also an evening of appreciation as plaques were presented to board members, committee members for their volunteer service and several of our Associate Members who donated time, services and economic support to the Mid-South IEC this year.

What made these presentations even more special was all of the recipients (second from left) was awarded these tokens of appreciation from Mayor AC Wharton (far left), National IEC's President, Mike Kallmeyer (third from left) and Larry Cooper, Mid-South IEC President (far right).



**Garrett Pepper**  
(second from left)  
Federated Insurance

In appreciation for your continued support of the IEC and the Electrical Industry with your donation of \$10,125.



**Stan Bond** (second from left)  
Marathon Electric

In appreciation for your dedication and leadership as a member of the Board of Directors for 4 consecutive years.

**Gene Mathis**  
(second from left)  
Menard, Gates & Mathis

In appreciation for your continued support of the IEC and the Electrical Industry with your donation of \$5,300.



**Greg Rhodes** (second from left)  
Rhodes Sales

In appreciation for your support as the Chairman of the IEC's Golf Tournament Committee .

**Aaron Jones & Randy Hoard**  
(second from left)  
(third from left)  
Eagle Sales

In appreciation for your continued support of the IEC and the Electrical Industry with your donation of \$2,500



**Thank You !!!** *(continued)*



**David Kendall** (second from left )  
Thomas & Betts

In appreciation for your continued support of the IEC's Apprenticeship Programs by developing Grounding, Bonding and Crimping classes for our 3<sup>rd</sup> year apprentices and Motor Controls classes for our 4<sup>th</sup> year apprentices.



**Joe Pede** (second from left)  
IAC Companies

In appreciation for your continued support of the IEC's Apprenticeship Programs for developing a class on switches and starters.



**Phyliss Woodruff** (second from left)  
ECS

In appreciation for your continued support of the IEC's Apprenticeship Programs for hosting conducting bending classes.



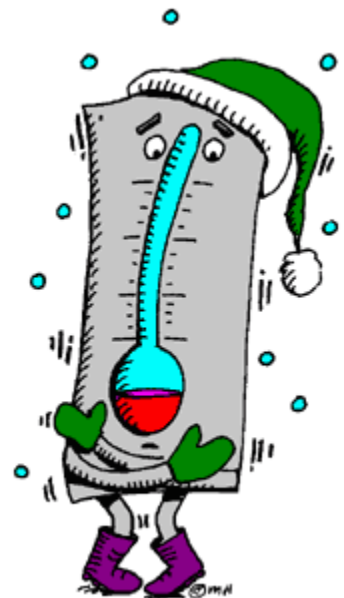
## Dressing for Winter Work

During cold weather, it can have chilling effect on the senses to see, smell, and feel. It is usually difficult to be productive when you are cold. Therefore, it is important to dress for the weather conditions found on the jobsite.

- ◇ Always dress in layers with the outer layers being rather loose and the inner layers being somewhat tighter (to trap body heat).
- ◇ Do not over bundle.
- ◇ Use the outer layer of clothing as a windbreaker. This will make the layers underneath more effective.
- ◇ Minimize sweat. If you begin to get hot, take a layer off. Try to avoid getting your clothing wet. Once wet, they will not serve as good protection from the cold.
- ◇ Wear head protection. This will increase your overall warmth. Over half of the body's heat loss comes from the head.
- ◇ Be sure to properly protect your feet. Unless you are moving around, your feet will feel the effects of the cold first. Wool socks help, but 4 buckle overshoes can provide better protection.
- ◇ Gloves are very important. Most often a thin pair of wool gloves under a pair of leather gloves will provide the best protection.

**Reminder:** Don't overdress. This can restrict your movements and increase the chances of an accident. The shock effect resulting from an accident in cold weather can be much more dangerous. Should an accident occur in cold weather, it is critical that the injured person be kept warm.

David Loreda OSHA Outreach Instructor



## Educational Field Trip for all 4th Year Apprentices

On October 21, 2010, our 4<sup>th</sup> Year Apprentices had a special treat. Thomas & Betts hosted a field trip to their million square foot Distribution Plant in Byhalia, Mississippi. The apprentices were broken into small groups and were taken on a tour of the facility by a manager who explained the conveyor system, how they operate, move T&B products, maintenance and shipping. If a conveyor is shut down for any length of time it not only disrupts the movement of product but the shipping time and ultimately customer satisfaction. Important lesson if standing to close to a conveyor, it will “sense” you and shut down!



Then Chris Culver, Director of Technical Sales for the IAC Companies provided an overview on sensor products, drives and starters. For the apprentices who had only read and done labs on three phase switches, etc., this evening was indeed a special treat.

Thanks so much to Jim Feeney of Thomas and Betts and Joe Pedi of the IAC Companies for making all the arrangements for this field trip.

## Tools for all 1st year apprentices.... “THANKS WIN !!!”

As part of the funding from the Workforce Investment Network, all 1<sup>st</sup> year electrical and VDV apprentices received brand new tools to assist them in transitioning to a full journeyman electrician or low voltage technician. “Merry Christmas to me” could be heard in the halls of the IEC during the first part of December as tools were distributed.



## **These Industry Partners Support the IEC as Associate Members!**

*Please keep them in mind when making your next business decision:*

**American Home Inspectors Training Institute**

**Anixter**

**CED**

**Clarke Power Services**

**Comcast Business Service**

**Computer AC**

**Computer Environment**

**Cummins Mid-South**

**Curtis Stout**

**Eagle Sales Company**

**Eaton Electrical/Cutler-Hammer**

**Electrical Contractors Supply**

**Electronic Power Systems**

**Ewing Kessler Power Solutions**

**Factory Sales Agency**

**Federated Insurance**

**First Light Lighting**

**Fortier Loss Control Consultants & Drug Abuse Testing**

**Fuelman**

**G&K Services**

**General Electric**

**GEXPRO**

**Graybar**

**Harris, Madden & Powell**

**H&E Equipment Service**

**HD Supply - Electrical**

**HILTI**

**Home Depot**

**Ideal Industries**

**Jackson, Shields, Yeiser & Holt**

**John Moore & Associates**

**Lighting Source**

**Menard, Gates & Mathis**

**NES Rentals**

**Orion Energy Systems**

**Pearson Safety Services**

**Perkins-Everitt Lighting**

**Phillips Bodine**

**Rhodes Electrical Sales Agency**

**RP Power**

**RSC Equipment Rental**

**SBOX Storage**

**Shamrock Companies**

**Siemens**

**SOS Systems**

**Spectrum Lighting + Controls**

**Sunstate Equipment Company**

**TAG Truck Center**

**Thomas & Betts**

**Thompson Power**

## New Contractor Member



The Mid-South IEC would like to welcome our newest Low Voltage Contractor Member to our organization.

The new contractor member is **Miller Protective Service**. The point of contact is Susan Miller and she can be reached at (901) 685-1900.

So when see here out in the field, please give her a warm IEC welcome.

## Look Within The IEC For Business Opportunities

Just a friendly reminder to the Electrical Contractors of the Mid-South IEC, that there are quality Low Voltage Contractors as contractor members of this great organization. Maybe on your next project, you may want to consider using one of our Low Voltage Contractor Members. Many of our Low Voltage Contractor Members' employees have received training by attending the IEC's 2-year Voice, Data and Video Apprenticeship Program and some of them are BICSI certified as well.

**Alarmtec Systems of Memphis**

**Audio Communications Consultants**

**DataComm Service Corporation**

**Entrance Control Systems**

**Miller Protective Service**

**NW1**

**Nichols Fire & Security**

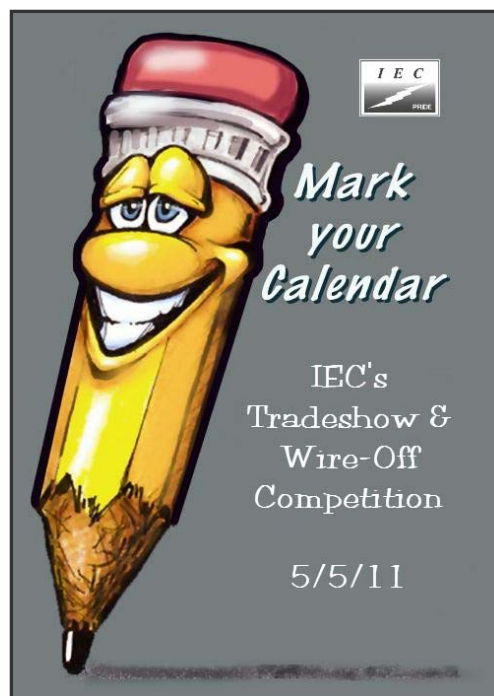
**Progressive Technologies**

**Simplex Grinnell**

**State Systems**

**Townsend Systems**

**TSI Telephone & Data Systems**



**Mid-South Independent Electrical  
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“Success is the  
sum of small  
efforts, repeated  
day in and day  
out.”

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.midsouthiec.org](http://www.midsouthiec.org)



Independent Electrical  
Contractors, Inc.

**Promoting  
Responsible  
Independent  
Dedicated  
Electricians**

**2010 Mid-South IEC Officers**

<i>President</i>	Larry Cooper	<a href="mailto:larry@arcelectricco.com">larry@arcelectricco.com</a>
<i>Vice President</i>	Tim Sammarco	<a href="mailto:tim@sammarcoelectric.com">tim@sammarcoelectric.com</a>
<i>Treasurer</i>	Bobby Carlock	<a href="mailto:bobby@rtcarlock.com">bobby@rtcarlock.com</a>
<i>Secretary</i>	Frank Fuchs	<a href="mailto:frankfuchs@bellsouth.net">frankfuchs@bellsouth.net</a>

**Board of Directors**

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Stan Bond	<a href="mailto:stan@marathonelectricco.com">stan@marathonelectricco.com</a>
Ben Dunford	<a href="mailto:bdelectric@aol.com">bdelectric@aol.com</a>
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**Staff**

Executive Director	Walt Czynnik	<a href="mailto:walt@midsouthiec.org">walt@midsouthiec.org</a>
Apprenticeship Coordinator	Vicki Czynnik	<a href="mailto:vicki@midsouthiec.org">vicki@midsouthiec.org</a>

For a complete schedule of events, please visit our website at  
[www.midsouthiec.org](http://www.midsouthiec.org) and click on “calendar”