NEIEP SHOWCASES LABS AND COURSES AT THE 2017 ECA ANNUAL MEETING

On Tuesday, March 7, at the annual meeting of the Elevator Contractors of America, NEIEP staff had the pleasure to showcase our inventory of courses, training aids, and labs for meeting attendees. International officers and organizers for the IUEC attended the event in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, alongside dozens of owners and industry professionals from signatory independent elevator companies to talk about the benefits of high quality education and to increase awareness of our program’s many offerings.

ECA member companies have a long-standing appreciation for the educational benefits provided by NEIEP for their IUEC employees, and this exhibit afforded them a chance to catch up with NEIEP to see what we have in place for apprentices and mechanics as well as what’s in store on the horizon. Our industry’s future depends on the ongoing collaboration between those who provide practical learning on the job and the instructors who offer the highest quality classroom training to supplement the real-world experience. EIWPF staff were also on hand to promote their endeavors.

Since its inception, NEIEP has been proud to offer hands-on labs to help IUEC members achieve best practices above the industry standard and hone real-world skills required in the field. The labs on display in Ft. Lauderdale represent the best of elevator education, from the venerable labs at the heart of the NEIEP experience to the cutting edge virtual tools available now. Labs on display included the Hoistway Lab, Electricalab, the Door Operator Lab, as well as Solid State, HCL, and Motor-Generator. The Hydraulic Valve Simulator Lab was also exhibited, along with Scaffolding, Rigging and Signaling, and several labs moving through the development phase now, including the Pipe & Wire Lab, Line Starter/Motor, and Microprocessor Labs. The newly minted Motor Alignment lab was exhibited and drew high praise as well.

The virtual tools, including the Virtual Escalator Lab and the Virtual HCL, continue to make waves with NEIEP Fair attendees, offering equipment exploration and troubleshooting experience through interactive 3D models. Reaction to these labs and the overall exhibit was very positive. Henry Bowling, of ELCON, concluded, “I am super impressed with the whole layout. You guys [NEIEP] have come so far since I went through the program, it’s unbelievable.”

Labs and training aids are excellent educational tools, and they remain an integral part of NEIEP’s total offerings. Yet, online courses and interactive models are convenient, alternative means of learning, and are very important to the program as well. The value of these courses is echoed in the thoughts of industry professionals. “I think the biggest thing for me is the computer
program. I think it will be great for the apprentices, but also for continuing education,” stated Tim Cook, General Manager for Urban Elevator in Cicero, Illinois.

Innovative learning methods and comprehensive curriculum are highly valued by NEIEP, and at the core of the program is an overriding concern for safety in the field. Safety is, of course, high on the list of priorities for employers as well. When asked if anything at the exhibit stood out, Michael Frecking, President of Lake-land/Larsen Elevator, offered, “From the employers’ standpoint, it’s looking at safety and how much we really need to make sure that everybody’s going home safe at the end of the day to their families.” Safety is well represented in the curriculum and was on display in the exhibit, with CPR/First Aid/AED, PPE for Scaffolding, and the many online courses covering the full spectrum of safety procedures.

The importance of the ECA meeting is not only acknowledged by NEIEP, but by the EIWPF as well. Mark Mullins, EIWPF Liaison to the ECA, shared his thoughts on the value of good relations with ECA companies. “I think it’s very important that [ECA folks] get to see this stuff because, as smaller independent companies, they need to know what NEIEP has to offer. I think it’s very good.” Mark added that, as far as he’s concerned, “the ECA is probably the backbone of the industry. They are small independents. They’re very good to work with.” The annual meeting was an excellent opportunity for these industry professionals to stay up to date on the latest in NEIEP’s educational offerings, and thanks to Mark Mullins for his work in connecting NEIEP and the ECA to make this well-received exhibit happen.

To see more images from the ECA Conference, scan this QR Code or visit neiep.org and choose “Gallery” from the “Media” tab dropdown menu.
Confined spaces can pose dangers in the work environment for elevator constructors. The types of hazards that could be encountered include entrapment, ventilation issues, or accidents involving electrical or mechanical equipment.

This new course from NEIEP provides an overview of the new Confined Spaces in Construction standard, 29 CFR 1926. This new ruling is compared to the older Confined Spaces in General Industry Standard, 29 CFR 1910. After successfully completing the course, you should have a greater awareness of safe work practices for confined spaces because you will know how to:

- Identify confined spaces on your jobsite
- Determine if a permit should be required to enter
- Follow the directives contained on a permit
- Identify hazards you might encounter
- Describe the duties and responsibilities of the Entry Supervisor, Attendant, and Entrant

The course is built on scenarios that describe relevant information in context to create awareness for how to work safely in and around confined spaces. The focus is on basic safety awareness to help students understand the hazards associated with construction industry confined spaces, both physical and atmospheric, and preventative measures to ensure safe work practices. The course provides a highly visual, interactive approach to learning about the process of working in and around confined spaces, with information on protective, monitoring, and testing equipment; safety regulations and why they are in place; and the responsibilities of employers, entrants, entry supervisors, and attendants.

CE036 Confined Spaces Awareness is considered a foundational level course covering the basics. The course does not provide skills training in conducting any actual work in or around Permit- or Non-Permit Required Confined Spaces (including use of test instruments and PPE), nor does it train students to be the authority that determines whether specific areas encountered on the job are or are not to be considered confined spaces. Elevator constructors who require certification as supervisors, entrants, or attendants will need additional training as required to be provided by employers per the OSHA standard. This course is designed to make certain that all workers have a baseline understanding of what to look for on the job site in regards to confined spaces, what their rights and responsibilities are, as well as those of their employers and co-workers.

To access the Confined Spaces Awareness Course, login at neiep.org, use the Students drop-down menu, select Online Training and Licensing, then click on the Continuing Education button and scroll to CE036.
Administered by Rowan Global Learning and the College of Engineering, this program is ideal for journeypersons and seasoned professionals in the construction industry as well as apprentices who are looking to develop leadership skills and advance their careers. The B.A. in Construction Management degree prepares individuals to supervise, manage, and inspect construction sites, buildings, and associated facilities. Rowan University’s program has received the endorsement of North America’s Building Trades Unions.

Upon completion of the program students will be able to:

- Supplement construction experience with the managerial skills required to propose, plan, and implement a range of construction projects.
- Develop competence in integrating safe and ethical practices efficiently and profitably.
- Communicate effectively with construction teams and community members.
- Develop effective project management strategies and techniques.
- Manage construction projects with appropriate scheduling software.
- Estimate quantity take-offs and costs with computer aided methods.
- Master issues related to construction law and project management.
- Understand materials and methods listed in the Construction Specification Institute’s Master Format.

All general education and Construction Management courses required for degree completion will be offered by Rowan University. Rowan’s credit assessment review of the NEIEP curriculum included analysis of 96 training units associated with our four-year program, information specific to classroom contact, study, examination, on-the-job learning hours, and a comparative review of training assessments conducted by our other college partners. The result of the assessment review provides up to 42 semester credit hours for NEIEP apprenticeship training to be applied to the Rowan University Construction Management Online Program.

In addition to advanced standing credit related to NEIEP apprenticeship completion, IUEC members may (consistent with University transfer credit policies) apply credit from previously completed post-secondary study toward the Rowan University undergraduate Construction Management degree. Specifically, NEIEP graduates may transfer and apply additional credit hours to the degree for a total of 84 advanced standing credits.

IUEC members must meet the following requirements to be eligible for credit:

1. Complete an Application Form.
2. Submit an official NEIEP transcript which documents completion of the apprenticeship program.
3. Submit official transcripts for any previously attended college.

In addition, some students may be required to:

1. Complete essays associated with the application (from previously completed course work or newly created work).
2. Complete an interview with the admissions counselor or Program Director.
3. Include two letters of recommendation with the application.

The cost to complete the degree program is $400 per semester hour for IUEC members. For more information, or to get started, visit rowanu.com/programs/702 or contact the University, (856) 256-4747 or via email, global@rowan.edu.
REQUESTING A NEIEP TRANSCRIPT

Going back to school? Current and former NEIEP students may request an official transcript of their educational records.

**Request for Records**

Completing and returning a Records Release Form will allow NEIEP to release an official transcript of your educational records.

To get started, login to neiep.org and click on the “Forms” tab at the top of your screen. From there, select the “Request for Records” link and follow the directions.

Fill in all of the required fields in the form and print the document. To protect the privacy of your educational records, you must have the Record Release Form notarized (by a Notary Public) and then return the original notarized form to our Records Office at 11 Larsen Way, Attleboro Falls, MA 02763.

Once the NEIEP Records Office receives your notarized form, NEIEP will then release your records to you and the institution you have authorized on the form. Please note that incomplete or electronic copies of the Records Release Form are not accepted - only the original, signed, notarized document will allow us to release your records.

NOTE: If you are requesting a transcript for Thomas Edison State College, you will need to include a copy of your annual statement from the Benefits Office with your completed Records Release form. Thomas Edison State College will not accept a NEIEP transcript without this additional form. Contact information for the Benefits Office is available at neibenefits.org.

NEIEP may notify the Chairman of your current and/or last listed local JATC program of any requests for student records.

*For current students, you may also obtain an 'unofficial' transcript by logging into the NEIEP website and selecting 'Student Certificate' under the Students tab. Unofficial transcripts can be printed from your computer at any time, and do not require a request form or notarization.

LOOKING FOR YOUR SEMINAR OR WORKSHOP INVITATION?
CHECK THE NEIEP WEBSITE

A reminder: NEIEP has put in place a system for inviting instructors to training seminars and lab workshops. No longer will invitees receive letters in the mail inviting them to attend; instead, a paperless invite is issued through NEIEP’s website, and each invitee will see a notification to rsvp once they log in at neiep.org.

This new system allows NEIEP to see instantly who will be participating and what their travel plans are. It also allows instructors to post notes or ask questions related to the event and their attendance. It is important for you to check the NEIEP website from time to time to make sure you’re not missing out on an invitation for training.

Once participants go to the Seminar Invitation, they can respond whether they plan to attend, and they will be given information on how to contact the travel agent to arrange for air travel, as needed. Once all questions have been answered on this invitation, be sure to submit your response by clicking on the button at the bottom of the page.
SUBSCRIBE TO NEIEPVIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

Looking for a way to describe NEIEP’s mission and resources to people new to elevator education? NEIEP’s YouTube channel is a source of public information including promotional material as well as news on recent educational developments. This is not a training channel, so no worries about sharing the information you’ll find here with anyone. This channel serves to inform all interested parties about our program and will give you a place to check on the latest news and information. Subscribe to NEIEPVIDEOS after scanning the QR Code available here with your tablet or smartphone or by visiting youtube.com/user/NEIEPVIDEOS.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS-SPRING SEMESTER

WEEK 10 (April 10-April 15) This week classroom rosters and class participation are reviewed. Students that have zero participation, to date, are dropped from class and reported to JAC for follow up.

WEEK 13 (May 1 - May 6) & WEEK 17 (May 29 - June 2)-MAKE-UP Classes

These weeks are reserved for Make-up classes. Please submit class for approval prior to the date of the class. A minimum of 2 students who need a make-up class have to be present in order for the class to be held. If less, the class cannot be funded.

MISSING REQUIREMENTS REPORT: JAC is encouraged to routinely check the Missing Requirements Report (MRR) to monitor students’ progress. Any discrepancies, missed unit exams or attendance issues should be corrected with NEIEP prior to the next scheduled class.

WEEK 18 (June 5 - June 9) FINAL EXAMS COMMENCE

Shipment dates for final exams will be posted when defined.

BUFFER WEEKS (June 12-June 23) Final weeks of the semester are reserved for any class that was forced to be rescheduled due to weather or a holiday. All unit exams, attendance, final exams or record discrepancies must be resolved no later than June 30. June 30 is the closing date for the Semester. Any issue not resolved on or before this date is recommended to go before the JAC.

NEIEP CALENDAR Important Dates for Spring 2017

May

May 29 NEIEP Closed Holiday

IMPORTANT for Instructors: With payroll now closing weekly, student grades and attendance should be submitted the night of your course or by the Friday of the week your course met at the latest.