



Wisconsin Roofing Contractors Association



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SpecRight Program

WRCA was pleased to be able to present NRCA's SpecRight program on January 18. Nearly 20 people attended the program designed to help contractors and suppliers save money for their customers through improved, energy-efficient design and construction of the roofing system.

For more information about the SpecRight program, contact the WRCA office at (414) 227-1230 or go to www.specright.net. NRCA reports that they will soon make the EnergyWise Calculator available online, eliminating the need for software. Access to the Calculator will be password protected, with the password provided to those who have attended the SpecRight program.

Election of Officers & Directors

Congratulations to the new officers and directors of WRCA for 2007!

President	Mark Langer Langer Roofing & SM Milwaukee
First Vice President	Robert Fedder M.M. Schranz Roofing Milwaukee
Second Vice President	Greg Petersen Carlson Racine Roofing & SM Racine
Secretary/Treasurer	Randy Christiansen Northern Metal & Roofing Green Bay
Past President	Mike Burns Lakewood Roofing of Oshkosh Winnebago
Associate Advisor	Don Leitel Roofers' Mart of Wisconsin Butler

Christmas Party A Hit By All Measures!

Despite a snowy beginning to the day, we still had more than 90 people attend the WRCA Christmas Party on December 1 at Blackhawk Country Club in Madison.

Many thanks to our event sponsors (see below) for making the event a success and to Dave Tilsen who served as chairman of the event and sponsored us at the Club.

- ACH Foam
- ACI Asphalt
- Aon Risk Services
- Blackstone Metal Works, Inc.
- C&I Vacuum
- Carlson Racine Roofing
- CertainTeed
- Diversified Roofing Solutions
- E.D. Chase
- GAF Materials Corporation
- Genessee Aggregate
- Giuffre Brothers Crane, Inc.
- HNI Risk Services
- Hunter Panels
- ITW Buildex
- Johns Manville
- Karnak Corporation
- Lakewood Roofing
- Langer Roofing
- M.M. Schranz Roofing Inc.
- Milwaukee Insulation
- Nation's Roof
- OMG (Olympic Manufacturing Group)
- Plymouth Foam
- Pro Fastening Systems
- R.M. Lucas
- Roofers Mart
- Spec Products
- The Garland Company
- Tilsen Roofing
- Tremco
- Velcheck & Finger Roof Consulting Service
- Weather-Tek

FM 1-29 Position Paper

The WRCA has adopted a position paper on the revisions to FM 1-29. The paper is available at our website at www.wrcaonline.org.

In it, we state:

“It is the position of the WRCA that the industry – architects, engineers, specifiers, contractors, and end-users/owners – work together to increase the level of awareness of these changes, to better understand their effects, and to design and install roofing systems appropriate for this area.”

The Position Paper has been distributed to the trade and industry press and to the associations representing architects, engineers, specification writers, building owners, building maintenance, and others.

If you have any questions about the position paper, contact the WRCA office at (414) 227-1230.

CFR & Continuing Education

During the last legislative session, a bill was passed to require certification and continuing education for those pulling residential building permits. A requirement for a Certificate of Financial Responsibility (CFR) was already in place for those pulling residential building permits.

The administrative rules governing the new requirement are under development. One of the questions that was asked early on was whether this requirement would apply only to those pulling permits to build new homes or to all contractors pulling residential building permits – deck construction, siding, windows, remodeling, and roofing, to name a few. The certification requirements will apply to all contractors pulling residential building permits.

To become certified, an employee within the company must have taken education courses relevant to the building industry within the past year. The courses must include a test and must cover several required subjects.

To remain certified, an employee within the company must take an average of six (6) hours of continuing education each year. The

continuing education need not be outside of the area of expertise of the contractor (i.e., roofing contractors can take courses that only deal with the roofing industry).

WRCA continues to work with the State of Wisconsin to be a provider of education courses that will lead to certification and allow roofing contractors to maintain their certifications once they have them.

For more information, contact the WRCA office.

Recent Events

WRCA thanks all of you who attended our membership meetings in September and November of last year and our Annual Meeting in December. In September, we heard from NRCA's Mark Graham on the FM 1-29 changes. In November, WISN-12 meteorologist Mark Baden was with us to discuss weather and its effects on our industry. The Annual Meeting was a time to relax and enjoy the company of friends and peers.

New Members

WRCA is pleased to announce the following new members:

Aon Risk Services (Green Bay)
Sarnafil
Patent Construction Systems
A & D Roofing Products

Membership Renewals

Our thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership in WRCA for 2007! If you have not yet renewed, we encourage you to renew today! If you need additional information or a copy of your invoice for 2007, please call the WRCA office at (414) 227-1230.

Space Available!

If you are interested in advertising in the next edition of the WRCA newsletter, contact the association office. This is a great (and inexpensive) way to reach a targeted audience of roofing contractors throughout the State.

Mark Your Calendar!

It's never too early to be thinking about golf....

Mark your calendar for the WRCA Golf Outing, Wednesday, July 18, 2007 at the Camelot Golf Club in Lomira.

Upcoming Events

Look for information soon about other upcoming meetings. All WRCA dates/locations are tentative.

NRCA Convention	March 4-8 Las Vegas, NV
CSI/FM Global Seminar	March 14 Milwaukee
Membership Meeting (Lunch)	March 21 Fond du Lac
Membership Meeting (Dinner)	May 9 Milwaukee
Golf Outing	July 18 Lomira
Membership Meeting (Dinner)	September 12 Milwaukee
Membership Meeting (Lunch)	November 14 Fox Valley
Christmas Party	December 1 Green Lake
Annual Meeting (Lunch)	December 12 Milwaukee

CERTA Train-the-Trainer

Certified trainers and applicators will be notified in advance of the need to renew their Certified Roof Torch Applicator (CERTA) train-the-trainer authorization. If there is sufficient interest, WRCA may be able to work with NRCA to conduct this program in Wisconsin, saving time and travel expenses. Please contact the WRCA office to let us know if you are interested. The schedule of NRCA courses is available online at www.nrca.net.

IRS Announces Mileage Rates for 2007

The standard mileage rate for use of a car, van, pickup, or panel truck is \$0.48.5 per mile for 2007. The rate is \$0.04 per mile higher than the 2006 rate due to higher vehicle and fuel prices.

Withholding on Government Contracts

Very quietly included in the Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2005 was a provision in Section 511 that requires that all government entities (local, state, federal) with total expenditures of \$100 million or more to deduct and withhold from all payments made to businesses or individuals providing goods or services an amount equal to 3 percent of the payment.

The provision will go into effect in 2011 unless it is repealed between now and then. The tax will have a significant effect on the cash flow of contractors and it is still unclear how the provision will be addressed between the prime contractor and its subcontractors (likely through increased retainage to supplement that prime contractor's cash flow). NRCA is one of many construction industry associations working to repeal Section 511. It will be important to address this with the Wisconsin Congressional delegation in the months ahead.

WCPAP to Continue

The Wisconsin Contractor Premium Adjustment Program (WCPAP) has been extended. The program provides WC premium discounts for high-wage employers in the construction industry, with a maximum discount of 10 percent. The program was scheduled to sunset in July of this year, but it has been extended and it will be made permanent, thereby ensuring the continuation of the discount program into the future. The amount and eligibility for future discounts will be reviewed every two years by the Wisconsin Compensation Rating Bureau. The discount is not provided automatically and you must apply/reapply for it annually. If you have any questions about the WCPAP, call the WRCA office or talk with your WC insurance provider.

Building Influence through Membership

In a recent article in *Professional Roofing*, NRCA Executive Vice President Bill Good reflected on the gridlock that many are predicting in Washington over the next several years. He goes on to describe, however, the number of changes that are taking place at the state and local level. He says, "The roofing industry must be engaged at the state and local levels...." We agree!

Despite control of the Congress and the Presidency, Republicans did not pass all that much legislation over the past six years. In large measure, this is because the federal government has been dealing with issues of national security.

In the meantime, the states have been moving forward on a number of domestic policy initiatives – energy, health care, education, minimum wage, voter ID, immigration, and the environment. In Wisconsin, we will see initiatives on all of these issues and more. Each will affect the roofing industry and small business differently, but they will affect us. Contrast this with the marriage ban, property tax relief, and concealed carry issues of last session. This session will clearly be aimed more at business interests.

Bill Good concluded by noting that, "Building associations takes time, money, and more often than not, some champions. But the stakes are increasingly high, and roofing contractors have learned that they can work incredibly well together." Again, we agree!

The best way to help WRCA is to recruit a new member. WRCA can provide all of the information you need and the rest is easy – just ask!

Congratulations and Thanks!

Our congratulations and thanks to Dave Tilsen who recently completed his term of service on the Board of Directors for WRCA. Dave served as president in 2005.

Electronic Communications

Many of you received this newsletter electronically. WRCA will be converting most of its communications (meeting notices, updates, and newsletters, invoices) to e-mail over the course of the next several months. Please be certain that any filters you may have will allow e-mails from the domain name cf-law.com. If there are others in your company that you would like to include on our distribution list, please let us know by sending an e-mail to gnaadt@cf-law.com.

Substance Abuse Testing

Effective May 1 of this year, all public sector projects subject to prevailing wage requirements will also require that contractors have substance abuse testing programs in place. In addition to a written policy, employees working on the project must be subject to pre-job, random, and reasonable suspicion testing for drugs and alcohol. The requirement for pre-job testing is waived for all employees who have been subject to a random testing pool for a minimum of 90 days prior to his/her first day of work on the jobsite.

The membership meeting in May will cover the substance abuse testing requirements and also discuss how these requirements interact with collective bargaining agreements, employee policies/handbooks, and other state and federal statutes.

Wind-Load Calculator Online

NRCA reports that it will launch its online wind-load calculator this month at www.roofwinddesigner.com. The system is designed to accurately determine design wind loads for roofing systems and is based on ASCE Standard 7-05. Access is free of charge. More information is available from NRCA's Mark Graham at (800) 323-9545 x7511.

Safety Resources

Find valuable safety resources – standards, training materials, and more - from OSHA at www.osha.gov/doc/index.html. The resources come in a number of formats – documents, checklists, videos, PowerPoint presentations, etc. Best of all, they're free!

The WRCA also has safety resources available to members free of charge. If you are interested, give us a call at (414) 227-1230.

Asbestos Update

WRCA is once again offering discounts on Asbestos Roofing Worker/Supervisor Training. The training is required by the State of Wisconsin and OSHA.

An administrative rule has been proposed to modify some of the training requirements, but that rule will not be considered until April at the earliest. In the meantime, the current rule remains in effect, and that means training/retraining is required.

Training is valid for one year and workers/supervisors have one year after that to complete an update course. Failure to complete the update course will cause the worker/supervisor to take an initial training class again. Employees who were initially trained or retrained in early to mid 2005 should be registering for update training.

To see a schedule of upcoming classes, go to www.goodarmstrong.com or call (262) 971-9663. Register directly with Good Armstrong Training & Consulting and mention that you are a WRCA member to receive your discount.

In addition, we have been informed by Milwaukee Lead & Asbestos Information Center that Mark Davis has been transferred from the DNR's Madison office to the Milwaukee office. DNR has authority over demolition and renovation of buildings which may contain asbestos. With limited exceptions for single family residences, all buildings that are demolished or renovated must be inspected for asbestos before work can commence.



CSI to Host FM Global Seminar

On Wednesday, March 14, the Milwaukee Chapter of the CSI will be hosting an all-day seminar on "Protecting Facilities from Nature's Fury-A Day with FM Global."

The program includes a discussion of the revisions to FM 1-28, FM 1-29, FM 1-52, and FM 1-40. Speakers include representatives from FM Global and from Firestone Building Products.

The cost to attend is \$89.00 for CSI members and \$99.00 for non-members. The program will be held at the Zoofari Conference Center located on the grounds of the Milwaukee County Zoo in Milwaukee.

More information is available by contacting the WRCA office or Devon Miller at (414) 266-9078, devon.mille@gasai.com

Jobsite Posters

The beginning of the year is the perfect time to check that your jobsite and shop posters are up-to-date. You can find a list of required posters that can be downloaded for use at:

Federal:
<http://www.dol.gov/osbp/sbrefa/poster/main.htm>

State:
<http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/dwd/posters.htm>

Contact Us

For more information about any of the articles in this newsletter or if there is any way that we can be of service to you, please be sure to contact our office at:

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