

**Building
Contractors
Association
of New Jersey**

MONTHLY UPDATE

August 2011

Labor Binder Update

So as to ensure your labor binder contains the most updated information, please make certain you received and replaced the following:

B-#76-11 Ironworkers
 Wages & Fringe Benefits
 Effective 7/1/2011

**Update: Northern NJ District
Council of Ironworkers**

The Northern New Jersey District Council of Ironworkers' agreement expired on June 30, 2011. A new agreement has not yet been reached; however, negotiations are ongoing. The union continues to work under the existing wage and fringe benefit schedule. The next meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2011.

**Operating Engineers, Local No.
825 Small Works Agreement**

In Bulletin #78-11, we announced the expansion of the Operating Engineers, Local 825's Private Commercial and Industrial Agreement to include contract values of \$5 million or under where there is documented non-union competition. There are several conditions in the Agreement that are more advantageous, serving to make contractors more competitive in bidding these types of projects. For further details, access the bulletin on the "Members Only" section of the website, www.bcanj.com or contact BCANJ.

Robert Polisano
President

James Prisco Jr.
Vice President

Eric Jensen
Secretary

Robert Gamba
Treasurer

Jack Kocsis Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

Darlene Regina
Executive Director

Carpenter Business Agents

In Bulletin #82-11, we distributed an updated list of the reorganized Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters Locals and Council Representatives, along with contact information. The bulletin is posted on the BCANJ website. The complete Business Agent Directory, updated for all the trades, will be distributed via e-mail later this year.

Carpenters Restructuring Survey

On August 22, 2011, we distributed via e-mail an online survey to help us understand how our members view the restructuring of the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters and its impact on your day-to-day operations. We urge you to complete the survey at your earliest convenience so we can identify any problems that may exist. *Please contact the BCANJ office if you need the link to the survey.*

BCANJ Annual Gala Dinner

Tables, PAC sponsorships and Souvenir Journal ad space are still available for the BCANJ Annual Gala Dinner on Thursday, October 27, 2011, at The Palace at Somerset Park in Somerset. We encourage you to show your support by attending this important BCANJ event as we honor our labor partners in the General Construction Trades for their sacrifices in helping our members stay competitive during these challenging economic times. *Please note: Table reservation checks must be made*

payable to BCANJ. Separate checks for ads and sponsorships must be made payable to BCANJ PAC, and ads must be received no later than September 19, 2011.

Check Your Web Listing

BCANJ urges members to check their website directory listing to confirm its accuracy or report changes. As we told you in Bulletin #72-11, members can click on the "Membership Directory" link in the upper-right corner of the BCANJ home page. Please send an e-mail as soon as possible with confirmation or changes to jschiff@bcanj.com.

LEED Grant Extended

In Bulletin #79-11, we told you of our success in securing an extension of our grant from New Jersey's State Employment and Training Commission to reimburse member employees for costs associated with taking the LEED exams. All provisions of the original grant remain intact, with a new cycle-end date of December 31, 2011. We urge members to share this information with their employees as soon as possible so they may take advantage of financial support as they achieve the highly recognized LEED certifications. Access the bulletin on our website to download the application form.

Safety Update...

For information on key safety issues, please refer to the enclosed report.

Legislative News...***Moratorium on 2.5% COAH Fee Signed Into Law***

As we announced in Bulletin #84-11, on August 24, 2011, Acting Governor Kim Guadagno signed legislation into law that provides relief from COAH's onerous 2.5% fee. BCANJ, along with our labor partners and the commercial developer community, strongly advocated for a solution to COAH'S 2.5% non-residential impact fee since its re-imposition in July of last year. The newly signed law places a two-year moratorium on the 2.5% non-residential impact fee, and restores the moratorium retroactively to July of 2010. The bill also allows contractors who paid the COAH fee to claim a refund. For complete details, access the bulletin at www.bcanj.com.

Environmental Infrastructure Bills Signed

In Bulletin #80-11, we told you Governor Christie signed into law several BCANJ-supported legislative measures that have the potential to enhance water quality and create infrastructure projects. The newly signed laws could provide as much as \$650 million in financing for clean and drinking water projects. For details, access the bulletin on the BCANJ website.

Port Authority Approves Toll and Fare Increase

On August 19, 2011, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey approved a multi-phase toll and fare

increase to finance the Authority's 10-year capital plan. In response to comments provided by both New York Governor Cuomo and New Jersey Governor Christie, the final approved increase was substantially reduced from the Authority's initial proposal. The total amount of the capital plan is approximately \$25 billion, and protects several high-profile projects, including the George Washington Bridge Cable, the Lincoln Tunnel Helix, the Bayonne Bridge, the Goethals Bridge and the World Trade Center.

Labor News...***July Construction Employment Improves***

As we posted in Hot Topics on the BCANJ website, the construction industry nationwide in July added 8,000 net jobs, the highest number in 15 months. Contributing to the growth were the nonresidential building and specialty trade segments of the industry, which added a total of 10,200 jobs in July, primarily in factory, power plant and hospital projects. The unemployment rate also dropped to 13.6% in July, down 3.5 percentage points from July of last year and sharply down from two months ago, indicating that many construction workers have left the industry to seek work elsewhere.

Criminal Immigrant Deportation Reached All-Time High in 2010

The US deported nearly 393,000 illegal immigrants in the last fiscal

year (which ended September 30, 2010), and half were considered criminals. Under the “criminal” designation, 27,635 deportees were arrested for drunk-driving offenses, while another 13,028 were arrested for less-serious traffic law violations. However, most of the criminals deported – 45,003 – were charged with drug-related crimes, up from 36,053 in 2008. Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano noted that because the most serious offenders are serving prison terms, we haven’t yet seen them reflected in the deportation numbers.

Web Advertising for Associate Members

In Bulletin #77-11, we announced the success of our first year of promoting Associate Members through advertising on the BCANJ website. We are pleased to continue the program in 2012. Every month, for an affordable fee, an Associate Member will have the opportunity to be exclusively featured on our scroll, which appears on virtually every page as visitors navigate the site. For a reservation form, access the bulletin on the “Members Only” page of the BCANJ website or call the Association office at 732.225.2265.

In September, BCANJ’s website will feature **Wiss & Company** as our exclusive advertiser. Please visit www.bcanj.com to access the link to their site.

Annual Membership Meeting

Please mark your calendar for the final membership meeting of the year: Tuesday, December 13, 2011, at the PNC Bank Arts Center, Holmdel. Look for registration information or check our website as the event approaches.

Resumes on File

Accounting/Accounts Payable

Self-motivated, well-organized individual with more than 30 years’ experience in large, upscale residential construction firm seeks accounting/accounts payable position. Expertise includes accounting and bookkeeping, purchasing and procurement, data processing, significant computer skills, customer service and much more, backed by bachelor’s degree in Accounting from Rutgers University and a large number of continuing education certifications.

Recent Civil Engineering Graduate

Highly motivated graduate with degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Delaware (May 2011) seeks entry-level engineering-related position as next step toward obtaining PE certification. Hands-on experience includes summer internship with New Jersey engineering firm. Special interests focus on water quality, geotechnical engineering and land development.

To view either of these resumes, please call BCANJ at 732.225.2265.