NIA News

NIA News is going to be a digital only publication, starting with this issue.

THE OFFICIAL NEWS PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL INSULATION ASSOCIATION (NIA) REPRESENTING THE MECHANICAL AND SPECIALTY INSULATION INDUSTRY

VOL. 29, 2022, ISSUE 4

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EVP/CEO MESSAGE

Launching Us into the New Year



As 2022 comes to a close, there is so much to be excited about in the new year! One note about the issue of NIA News you are reading: As part of the budget approval process for 2023, the NIA Board of Directors approved a digital-only NIA News for this issue and for all of 2023, so look for NIA News in your inbox, not your mailbox! NIA is doing our part to reduce expenses and save some trees!

First, I'd like to thank everyone who attended NIA's Fall Summit in November. NIA President Joe Leo's theme for his term is *Progress* through Unity, and I am amazed at the progress that can be made by a unified group in fewer than 2 days. Turn to page 6 for photos and a recap of what attendees were able to learn and achieve together.

The education that takes place whenever we are together will continue in a new format through NIA's Education Center, which I'm excited to say has just launched. Through on-demand microlearning and easyto-access industry resources, NIA's Education Center can change the way you and your employees gain the training you want. Turn to page 14 for details on the new content, how to subscribe, and member pricing.

Much of the funding to develop this new educational resource came from the Foundation for Mechanical Insulation Education, Training, and Industry Advancement. Turn to page 16 to see an update from the Foundation's Board of Directors to get insights on what they have accomplished so far and upcoming plans, plus information on how you can be a part of this new nonprofit organization.

After the sparkle of the holidays passes and the cold weather sets in, I like to think about spring and the next chance for NIA members and industry leaders to come together in paradise! I invite you to join your industry colleagues at NIA's 67th Annual Convention at the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa in Maui, Hawaii, where the Pacific Ocean will be our backdrop March 15-17. It has been more than 10 years since we met in this tropical paradise—we were last in Hawaii in 2009 (in Kauai), and in Maui in 2002. Make sure you get your schedule out and make your plans to join us. Read more on page 10 about what we have planned and how to prepare now. Step one is to book your room at a price that truly cannot be beat!

I am excited to work with you in 2023, and the contents of this issue showcase the initiatives and events that we at NIA believe will support our members and the industry in the new year and beyond.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Michele M. Jones

Michele Mynes

Executive Vice President/Chief Executive Officer

NIA LEADERSHIP

Executive Leadership

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2023 Convention Planning

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Matt Calmeyn. Fabrication Specialties, Inc.

Education and Training John Lamberton, Irex Contracting Group

Fall Summit

Marc Napolitano. Insulation Materials Corp.

Health and Safety

Mike Hill, Performance Contracting, Inc.

Merit Contractors

Mike McCowan, L.C. Insulations, Inc.

Metal Building Laminators

David Tomchak. Bay Insulation Systems, Inc.

Technical Information

Bill Gregg, Promat, Inc.

Union Contractors

John Lamberton. Irex Contracting Group

Young Professional Advisory

Ashley Luse, Luse Thermal Technologies

PEOPLE & PLACES IN THE NEWS

NIA Announces New Secretary/Treasurer



During the NIA Board of Directors Meeting held in conjunction with NIA's Fall Summit, November 2-3, 2022, Johns Manville's Jack Bittner was voted in as NIA Secretary/Treasurer to fill a vacancy that was created when Rudy Nigl accepted

a position outside of the industry and resigned from the NIA Board of Directors. Welcome to the NIA Executive Committee, Jack!

ROCKWOOL Names New Director of Public Affairs and Communications



Sarah Sinovic has joined ROCKWOOL North America as Director of Public Affairs and Communications. In this role, Sarah will engage policymakers, journalists, and communities throughout the United States and Canada to advance

ROCKWOOL's efforts to meet critical climate action targets. ROCK-WOOL manufactures sustainable, fire-safe stone wool building insulation made from melted rocks and promotes energy-efficient building design to support climate-resilient communities.

continued on next page

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

8/29/22 Contractor

Hudak's Insulation, Inc.

Attn: Gerald Cox 6200 Days Cove

White Marsh, MD 21162 Phone: 410-238-2000

www.hudaksco.com

Specialties: Acoustic Products/Services, Commercial Insulation, Fabrication, Firestopping, HVAC Insulation, Industrial Insulation, Marine, Paintings/Coatings, Plumbing Insulation, Power, Refractory Contractor, Refrigeration Insulation, Removable Insulation, Scaffolding

9/16/22 Affiliate

Raptor and Associates

Attn: Andy Hooper 3512 Wilkinson Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28208 Phone: 804-316-3777 www.raptor-rep.com **Products:** Heat Trace Supply

9/21/22 Distributor

Bay Insulation Supply, Inc.

Attn: Daniel King P.O. Box 9229 Green Bay, WI 54308 Phone: 920-406-4000 www.bayinsulationsupply.com Specialties: Commercial Insulation, Distribution, Fabrication, HVAC Insulation, Industrial Insulation, Marine, Plumbing Insulation, Refrigeration Insulation, Removable Insulation

9/22/22

44 Front St P.O. Box 16649

Union Contractor

Energy Insulation Conservation, LLC Attn: Peter Smedberg

Worcester, MA 01603 Phone: 508-453-0940 www.energyinsulation.com **Specialties:** Acoustic Products/ Services, Fire Proofing, HVAC Insulation, Industrial Insulation, Plumbing Insulation, Refrigeration Insulation,

9/30/22 Contractor

Taurus Insulation, LLC

Removable Insulation

Attn: German Olivas 12855 S. Highway 385 Odessa, TX 79766 Phone: 432-924-6910 www.taurusinsulation.com Specialties: Industrial Insulation. Removable Insulation, Scaffolding

10/6/22

Aislamientos Y Forros Industriales

Attn: Fernando Villarreal

Av. Los Altos No. 4809 Col. Los Altos Monterrey, Nuevo 64370 Mexico Phone: +52-81-1932-9000 www.ayfisa.com Specialties: Cold Storage, Commercial Insulation, Distribution, HVAC Insulation,

Insulation, Removable Insulation

Industrial Insulation, Power, Refrigeration

10/11/22

Fabricator **Bradco Supply Company**

Attn: Jeff Adamic 3327 Roanoke Rd Kansas City, MO 64111 Phone: 816-756-2000 www.bradco.supply

Specialties: Building Envelope, Cold Storage, Commercial Insulation, Distribution, Fabrication, Refrigeration Insulation

10/11/22

Associate (Manufacturer) HiTherm North America, LLC

Attn: Chris Bullock

15000 Camino Real Kyle, TX 78640 Phone: 205-961-0009 www.hitherm.net

Products: Insulation Board & Block (Rigid/ Semi-Rigid), Underground & Direct Burial Piping Insulation

10/18/22

Contractor

Diamond Quality Insulations, LLC

Attn: Jasmine Davidson 41 Level Acres Dr., Unit C Horseheads, NY 14845 Phone: 833-374-7374 www.dainsulations.com

Specialties: Acoustic Products/Services, Commercial Insulation, Firestopping, Removable Insulation, Scaffolding

WELCOME BACK

8/5/22

Distributor

Tregoning Industries, Inc.

Attn: Cheryl Johns P.O. Box 1316 Macclenny, FL 32063 Phone: 800-315-9646 www.tregoning.net

Specialties: Commercial Insulation, Distribution, Fabrication

9/30/22

Laminator

Therm-All, Inc.

Attn: Dennis Kaczmarek 830 Canterbury Rd. Ste. A Westlake, OH 44145 Phone: 440-734-1001 www.therm-all.com

Specialties: Metal Building Lamination

Do you know of a company that could benefit from becoming a member of NIA?

For more information or to refer a potential member, please call Aimee Doyle at 703-464-6422, ext. 113, or email membership@insulation.org.

Sarah will draw on her experience convening stakeholders from multiple sectors in sharing ROCKWOOL's story and building awareness about the organization's vision for a decarbonized future. Additionally, she will work with ROCKWOOL's executive leadership to elevate their expertise. Sarah is based in Washington, DC.

Based in Houston, Texas, ROCKWOOL Technical Insulation has been a member of NIA since 1989. Visit www.rockwool.com for more information.

Thermal Solutions, Inc. Receives 10 ZISA Awards



At the National Maintenance Agreements Policy Committee, Inc.'s (NMAPC's) 22nd Annual Zero Injury Safety Awards (ZISA) Gala held on October 22, 2022, in Washington, DC, Thermal Solutions, Inc. received 10 ZISA Awards. Pictured above with 3 of the 10 awards are (from left to right) Mike Pleasant, NMAPC/ZISA; Fred Chandler, Charleston, West Virginia, Building Trades Manager; Mark Artrip, Thermal Solutions Owner; Donna Stevens, Structsure Scaffold Solutions President; Mike Tussey, AEP Construction Manager; John Stevens, Thermal Solutions Owner; Bob Hoover, NMAPC/ZISA; and Dan Hogan, The Association of Union Contractors/NMAPC/ZISA President.

Thermal Solutions, Inc. has been a Contractor member of NIA since 2002 and is headquartered in Proctorville, Ohio, with regional offices in Lexington, Kentucky; Louisville, Kentucky; New Albany, Indiana; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Middletown, Ohio. President John Stevens serves on the NIA Board of Directors as an At-Large Representative. Visit www.thermalsolutionsinc.com for more information.

TopBuild Announces Executive Leadership Changes

TopBuild, which acquired Distribution International in 2021, recently announced that Joey Viselli has been named Chief Operating Officer. Most recently, Joey was Executive Vice President of Distribution International. His new role will focus on operational strategy across all businesses. He will continue to have executive oversight of the Specialty Products business, which includes Silvercote and Service Partners MBI. These two businesses are transitioning to become a single brand—Silvercote, A Service Partners Company—in early 2023.

Jeff Franklin was named President, Specialty Distribution, with executive oversight of both Service Partners and Distribution International. The company will continue to support its customers and do business as both Service Partners and Distribution International.

Distribution International, Inc. is based in Houston,
Texas, and has been a member of NIA since 1998. Visit
www.distribution-international.com for more information.
Silvercote, A Distribution International Company, is based in
Greenville, South Carolina, and has been a member of NIA since
2015. For more information, visit www.silvercote.com.



By Gary Auman

OSHA recently released its top ten standards cited for violations from October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022. Five of the top ten standards are in the construction industry, while the remaining five are in general industry. None came as a surprise to me, and they should not surprise you. Let's take a look at them.

Number one on the "hit parade" by a large margin is the Fall Protection Standard: 1926.501. There were 5,260 citations for violation of this standard, which is more than twice the number of the second-place finisher, the Hazard Communication Standard. We are talking here about the number of violations, not the number of employers cited. In many cases, the same employer may have received several citations for violations of different parts of this standard, and each will count toward the total. While I will not go into detail for each of the top ten, I do want to go into some detail on this standard and a few others. Fall protection is important because of the number of fatalities that



have been attributed to violations of this standard, which covers the requirements for conventional fall protection as well as warning lines and safety monitors. The listed standard also includes a section that has been getting quite a bit of attention from OSHA in the recent past: Standard 1926.501(a)(2). This standard is only two sentences long and primarily requires you to determine the integrity of any walking or working surface before any of your employees enters onto it. The second sentence states that employees shall only be permitted on such a surface if it has the integrity to support their weight safely. You need to take this requirement seriously and document each time you perform the required inspection, as well as its results.

As noted, second place on the list goes to the Hazard Communication Standard—1910.1200. Third place goes to respiratory protection, which, for general industry and construction, falls under Standard 1910.134. I believe this one made the top ten list as a result of the use of respiratory protection during the pandemic. Next comes ladder safety, which is Standard 1926.1053. There were 2,143 citations issued for violations of this standard. Judging by the number of citations I have seen issued to my clients, I believe the majority of these are related to improper setup (setting the ladder on a rake edge, not tying it off, and not training employees how to correctly use the ladder, for example).

Number five on the list concerns scaffold safety, with the citations issued under 1926.451. Here, I suspect there are several sections that may vie for attention as the most frequently cited under this standard. These will include using damaged scaffold components (including scaffold planks), lack of fall

protection, not barricading the base of the scaffold, and failure to have a competent person involved in the erection, etc., of the scaffold.

Number six moves us into the general industry standards and is the standard for the control of hazardous energy: 1910.147. I suspect that many of these citations address the employer not having an effective lockout program, as well as the inadequate training of authorized employees. Be sure your lockout program addresses all forms of energy that might be used to operate a machine. It should also include a method to confirm that all sources of energy have been neutralized so there is no residual energy remaining that could energize any part of the machine and cause injury to an authorized employee. Also, be sure that your lockout procedure is machine specific and posted on the machine to which it applies.

Moving down to the last four on the list we have powered industrial trucks (1910.178), fall protection training (1926.503), personal protective equipment (PPE) and lifesaving equipment (1926.102), and machine guarding (1910.212). Fall protection training is fairly obvious, looking at the number of violations of 1926.501. Many cases arise from an employer's inability to show that it has trained its employees in all aspects of its fall protection program, including the determination of the integrity of ALL walking and working surfaces. I suspect that many of the PPE citations for the construction industry relate to fall protection and personal fall arrest systems, as well as rescue systems. The reference to lifesaving equipment may be related to permit-required confined spaces. For machine guarding, please be sure that you have guarded all possible access to a point of operation by installing EFFECTIVE guarding and that you can demonstrate how you developed your guarding and confirmed that it is effective.



GARY AUMAN (www.amfdayton.com) is a Partner in the law firm of Auman, Mahan & Furry in Dayton, Ohio. He graduated with an electrical engineering degree from the University of Louisville in 1969, and a law degree from The Ohio State University in 1976. Since then, his practice has focused on

defending employers in workers' compensation and OSHA cases. In 2002, he was awarded the Distinguished Service to Safety Award by the National Safety Council. He has worked with OSHA in its development of safety and health standards, and he has defended OSHA cases in several federal appellate courts. He also represents four national and regional trade associations in the construction industry.

Making Connections at Fall Summit 2022



For 2 days in early November, more than 100 attendees from 55 NIA member companies gathered at the MGM National Harbor in the Washington, DC, area for education and networking at NIA's once-a-year, members-only meeting that focuses on peer-to-peer education and gives opportunities to reconnect as the year comes to a close. NIA was excited to welcome 16 first-time attendees, including 4 new members, to Fall Summit, which featured more than 20 hours of education, including two keynote speakers and seven industry-specific sessions. And in a Fall Summit first, NIA provided a free app to attendees that facilitated downloading all meeting materials, completing session surveys, accessing presentations, and more.

"In my experience, attending Fall Summit is super helpful no matter what your level in the industry is. Not only do you have your targeted meetings with people in your sector who do the same thing you do in different parts of the country, you also get to see the big picture of the full supply chain at a national level and gain a greater understanding of the whole market. It's well worth your time to attend," said Owens Corning's Ginny Gier, Area Sales Manager.



The two keynote presentations addressed issues that are top of mind for the entire industry: economic and construction outlooks, and facing the opioid-use and suicide epidemics in the construction industry.

During Wednesday's luncheon, Keynote Presenter Paul Trombitas, Partner, Strategy Practice and Building Products for FMI Corp., shared the trends behind the data that is changing the built environment and the construction industry. His insights focused on three key areas: the new economy vs. the old economy, the next 5-year cycle, and industry headwinds. Paul guided attendees through key trend lines, including where people shop

ATTENDEE SURVEY RESULTS SHOW:

92%

of attendees who completed the survey rated the Fall Summit as excellent or good 92%

of survey respondents learned new information

84%

found that networking with new customers exceeded or met expectations 81%

gained new business contacts











and the growth in e-commerce; where people live in relationship to where their food comes from, and the ever-growing need for food processing; and where people live and the concentration of construction spending in a few markets. One comment that had many attendees nodding in agreement was a look at headlines going back to the 1960s on persistent labor challenges for the construction industry, which is only intensifying. He suggested that labor shortages are a characteristic of the construction industry, and we need to change the way we talk about its.

A more somber workforce topic was the subject from Keynote Breakfast Presenter Rick Rinehart, ScD, Deputy Director of the Center for Construction Research and Training, who brought needed attention to the suicide and opioid-use epidemics in the construction industry. The statistics are startling, and the construction industry far outpaces other industries. Construction workers are six to seven times more likely to die from an opioid overdose than the average worker. And the pandemic has exacerbated these conditions—recent research shows that nearly one in every six construction workers reports feelings of anxiety and/or depression. However, Rick wanted to talk about solutions and actions—not just data and sample programs—and, most importantly, to hear from the audience about what is working, what is not, and ideas for what can be done and what research or studies would be most helpful. Rick noted that there is no "silver buckshot," but his organization

does fund small studies that can help with solutions to move us in the right direction.

When asked about the educational value at NIA's Fall Summit, Energy Insulation Conservation, LLC's Paul Ainsworth said, "It blows my mind how much information you can get in less than 2 days. Each session I attended at Fall Summit helped me see things from a different perspective—from the trends in the FMI session to the pro-active safety tactics in the Health and Safety Session to the interactive discussions at the presentation on the opioid and suicide epidemics. I'm so glad to be back in NIA and taking part. I recommend to everyone to attend NIA's meetings—just come and listen—you'll be glad you did."

Industry Sector and Committee Sessions Highlights Associates

- Elected Ginny Gier of Owens Corning to be the new Secretary
- Heard from the American Transportation Research Institute's Alex Leslie about the future of transportation and how it would impact insulation materials and supplies
- Created a task force to review the current Premier Industry Manufacturer Award program and its point system to increase participation. The current system requires 175 points to win, and there are more than 150 points available without any cost.
- Discussed the term "granular" and whether the name is accurate for the products classified under that term in the

Mechanical Insulation Design Guide. The committee decided to refer this matter to the Technical Information Committee.

Distributor/Fabricators

- Examined the future of transportation with Speaker Alex Leslie from the American Transportation Research Institute, focusing on how it would impact insulation materials and supplies.
- Explored the new advertising packages with Rob Glass of YGS
- Reviewed the purposes and objectives of the committee, and discussed future projects and speakers

Health and Safety

- Held a highly interactive Q&A panel discussion on important safety, health, and OSHA topics with NIA Legal Counsel Gary Auman, Director, Auman, Mahan & Furry, and NIA Health and Safety Committee Vice Chair Bill McCaffrey, Vice President, Environmental Health and Safety, Irex Contracting Group
- Discussed potential updates to NIA's Safety Excellence Award
- Brainstormed potential speakers and topics for the 2023
 Convention, including heat illness or a presentation from a local Hawaii OSHA representative

Membership

- Discussed proposed changes to the Membership Committee leadership structure and welcomed new committee members
- Brainstormed ways to engage with more members. The committee will work with focus groups to discuss the topic further and develop resources to benefit members and encourage participation.
- Reviewed NIA's Ambassador Program, including recent new members and Fall Summit first-timers
- Scheduled its Q1 2023 planning and strategizing meeting to review successes from 2022 and draft its 2023 committee goals and objectives

Merit Contractors

- Heard from FMI's Paul Trombitas about design-build and collaborative projects, how that approach is growing, and what contractors need to focus on
- Elected Anchor Insulation's Jordan Fiske as Vice Chair
- Discussed regional market conditions, focusing on projects, delays, and workforce issues
- Examined the committee's purposes, action, and objectives, and decided to focus on outreach to contractors who do not regularly attend NIA events to share the benefits of participation

Technical Information Committee

- NIA was asked by the DOE to review several of its training materials that contain insulation, including its "Improving Steam Source Performance Source Book." The TIC created a task force to review those materials and suggest improvements for the committee to review at the next meeting.
- Voted to form a task force to evaluate and reclassify the term "granular insulation," which will be voted on during the next meeting
- Reviewed the "Insulation Materials Specification Chart,"
 "Guide to Insulation Product Specification," and the "Insulation
 Science Glossary" and asked all companies if any updates to
 product information were needed. All changes were discussed
 and put to a vote.
- Decided to explore creating a new spec chart for protective jackets, laminates, and mastics. A task force was formed to begin creating the chart and will submit their draft at the next meeting.

Union Contractors Subcommittee

 Received updates from NIA's General Counsel, Gary Auman of Auman, Mahan & Furry, on topics including anti-trust issues, non-compete agreements, the current climate at the Department











of Labor on apprenticeship programs, pending legislation and rule-making regarding unions, the Supreme Court's comments on Union Strike Power, OSHA, and the Good Jobs Initiative

- Shared updates from around the country regarding the status of work
- Discussed updates to the leadership of the International Association for Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers

Young Professional Advisory Committee (YPAC)

- Heard from YPAC Mentor Program's latest pairing—Armacell's Tom MacKinnon and SPI's Jon Perry—on moving from an individual contributor to manager to leadership, which was an interactive presentation that resulted in a high level of YPAC discussion and participation
- Received a Board update from Assistant Secretary Rick Sutphin, which focused on the NIA budget, strategic goals, and recruitment of new members
- Reviewed and updated the committee's action items, to include updated language on diversity and inclusion within NIA and the industry, and created a new task force to further define the updated action item(s)
- Formed a new task force to investigate ideas to involve engineering students to participate in NIA meetings and learn about insulation and the industry
- Shared information about the YPAC Mentor Program with first-time attendees and encouraged participation

Two committees met prior to Fall Summit, including Education and Training and the Metal Building Laminators.

Education and Training

- Discussed NIA's Understanding Specifications and Understanding the Submittal Process courses, and how these will be moving to an on-demand format as part of NIA's Education Center in 2023. This will allow individuals more flexibility to take the courses at a time that best works with their schedules.
- Considered a new training course focused on quality awareness. The committee will continue to explore this topic in 2023
- Reviewed courses being created for NIA's Education Center and determined which topics should be focused on going forward

Metal Building Laminators Committee

- The Metal Building Laminator Committee held its meeting during METALCON on October 13, 2022, where the committee:
- Held elections and Bay Insulation System's David Tomchak was elected as Chair and Silvercote's Chris Barton was elected as Vice Chair.
- Revised and approved the 404 Certified Faced Insulation Standard, which was subsequently approved by the NIA Board of Directors at their Fall Summit meeting.
- Discussed decarbonization priorities and OSHA safety updates

It's Time for Happy Hour!

After a full day of discussions, education, and committee actions on Wednesday, attendees were ready for an evening of networking with customers and industry friends, beginning at NIA's Network Social Hour and continuing as attendees enjoyed an open night.

As members began to depart from Fall Summit Thursday morning, conversations turned to the next chance to gather—just a little more than 4 months away—at NIA's 67th Annual Convention, March 15-17, at the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa. If you missed the NIA Fall Summit, make your plans now to join us in March 2023! See page 10 for the latest details about the 2023 Annual Convention.







THANK YOU SPONSORS!





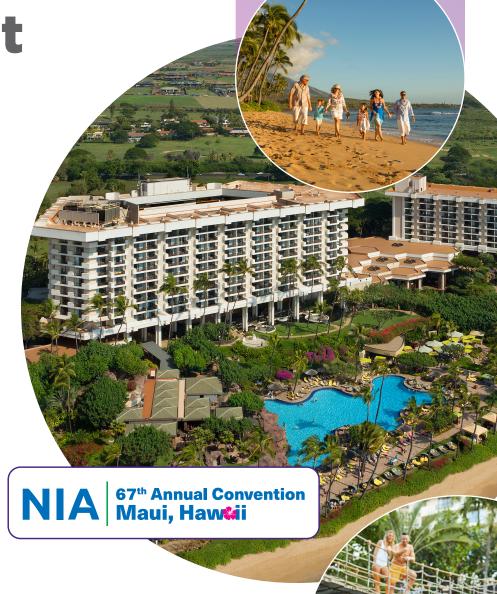


Let's Meet in Maui!

As we say so long to 2022, NIA members have so much to look forward to in 2023! Registration is open for NIA's 67th Annual Convention, March 15-17, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa. Our typical Convention schedule has been modified to allow attendees to not only maximize education and networking but also to have ample time to experience all that the Maui area has to offer. The hotel and Convention registration deadlines will come up fast in February—the hotel deadline is February 8, and the early-bird Convention and golf tournament deadline is February 13-so we encourage you to book early to maximize savings and time to plan your trip.

Education for the Industry

Join your colleagues for an inspirational and informative keynote session, a manufacturer-distributor panel discussion, and a variety of industry-specific presentations.



KEY DATES AND DEADLINES

February 8:
Hotel Reservation Deadline



February 13:
Early-Bird and Golf
Tournament Deadline



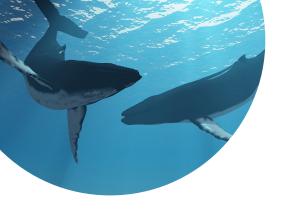
March 8:
Regular Registration Closes

Keynote Presentation: The Bucket List Life Kenyon Salo, Thunderstorm Skydive Team, Denver Broncos



As one of only five members on the Denver Broncos Thunderstorm Skydive Team, Kenyon Salo can be seen flying into the Denver Broncos Stadium at 60+ mph, ending with a soft landing on the 10-yard line. With

more than 6,000 skydives under his belt, and travels that have taken him all around the world, he lives life to the fullest and is on a mission to help others do the same. Through the power of connecting, storytelling, and adventure, Kenyon will share actionable steps to embark on a more fulfilled life, both personally and professionally.



General Session: Executive Panel— **Understanding the Manufacturer-**Distributor Relationship— You Can't Learn This on TikTok



Jose Canovas Vice President and General Manager, North America Technical Insulation, Owens Corning



Mark Coletta Executive Vice President, Homans Associates, LLC



Jo Anne Janney General Manger, Performance Materials, Johns Manville



Joey Viselli Chief Operating Officer, TopBuild/Distribution International



Facilitated by Louis Walton Senior Vice President, Proto Corporation

Hear from manufacturer and distributor executives in a candid, informative discussion on the changes and challenges they are facing. Facilitator Louis Walton of Proto Corporation will ask the questions everyone wants to know.

View details about educational sessions (much more to come!) and the schedule at www.insulation.org/convention2023.

TRAVEL TIPS FOR MAUI



Save Money and Break up Your Trip

Flights are always cheaper from the West Coast! Consider spending a few days in Arizona or California for business or pleasure prior to flying out to Maui. This will most likely help with travel costs and break up the trip.



Reduce Jet Lag

We recommend you arrive a few days early before the start of the event to take advantage of the beautiful resort and to help ease into the new time zone.



Book a Local Tour

The NIA Convention schedule has been updated from previous years to allow most afternoons free to spend time at the hotel or surrounding area with your friends, family, clients, and colleagues! Take advantage of this time by booking a local tour at https://bluehawaiianconcierge.com/nia.



Rent a Car

Renting a car is recommended. The hotel is a 45-minute drive from the airport; plus, having a car allows you to explore the island and take in sights such as the Road to Hana and Haleakala National Park.



Book Your Hotel Room Early

NIA's hotel room rates are truly incredible—a variety of room rates are available ranging from \$265-\$335 per night. Don't delay any longer—book your reservation now to guarantee your room type!



Marilyn Monroe Spa

The spa at the hotel is right on the ocean and space is limited, so if you are planning on getting a treatment, book in advance. They also offer outdoor Cabana Oceanview massages! Visit www.marilynmonroespas.com/maui for information and reservations.





OPEN TIMES FOR NETWORKING AND SIGHTSEEING

Wednesday, March 15 (1:00-5:00 p.m.)



Thursday, March 16 (12:30-5:30 p.m.)



Friday, March 17 (12:30-5:00 p.m.)

NATIONAL NETWORKING EACH DAY

Honoring NIA's Award Winners: Attend NIA's Premier Industry Manufacturer Award Presentation and hear about NIA's Safety Excellence Awards.

Welcome and Appreciation Evening: NIA's private Tropical Street Party will welcome you to paradise, with the Pacific Ocean as a backdrop and plenty of time to reconnect!

Farewell Reception and Dinner: Celebrate the accomplishments of outgoing NIA President Joe Leo, Atlantic Contracting & Specialties, with a cocktail reception, and share a fabulous meal.

Dessert Hospitality Suites: Taste all the sweet treats and marvelous concoctions from participating Associate member companies. Visit each suite for a chance at NIA's raffle prize!

NIA's Spouse and Guest Breakfast: Enjoy a laid-back gathering for breakfast, beverages, and great company! Join fellow spouses and guests for a private breakfast where you can get to know each other a little better and share highlights of your time in Hawaii.

Pro Tips:

See the list of open times on this page to schedule extra time for networking and customer appointments. NIA staff recommends you make restaurant reservations far in advance to secure your desired time.

Reserve Your Discounted Room at NIA's Convention Hotel—Book Early to Ensure Your Room Preference!

NIA has blocked rooms at the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa at a variety of discounted rates, based on room type. All guest rooms were renovated in 2020, and NIA's discounted room rates are unbeatable! Visit www.insulation.org/convention2023/hotel to see the four room types, which are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Take advantage of the discounted rate by making your reservation before February 8, 2023. Mention that you are part of NIA's group to receive the discounted rate, which is available from March 11–21, unless the room block sells out. There are limited discounted rooms available after the event, so if you are planning on staying longer in Maui please make your reservation in December!



Mike McCowan of L.C. Insulations and Merit Contractor Committee
Chair booked rooms for his family back in October and was impressed
at the discounted rates NIA has secured. Having lived in Hawaii,
he said the property is right where you want to be, at a price that
you definitely cannot match anywhere else.

NIA'S 67TH ANNUAL **CONVENTION SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

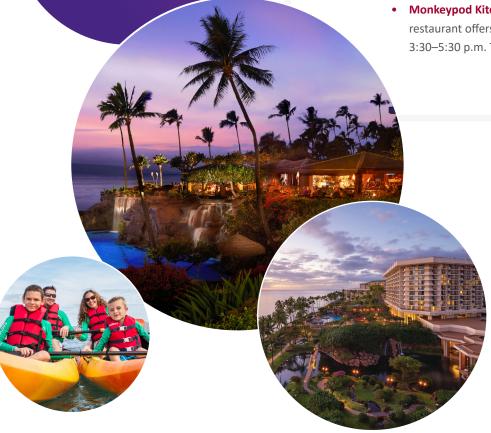
Be a part of the industry's premier event of the year as NIA brings the best in entertainment, educational sessions, and networking opportunities for attendees. NIA has created a variety of unique options for sponsors and advertisers. From digital to print packages, there is an option for every budget; and all sponsorship packages include recognition in the Convention program and the general sessions. View opportunities at www.insulation. org/convention2023/sponsor. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of this event, please email Erin Penberthy at events@insulation.org.



MICHELE'S DINING RECOMMENDATIONS

NIA EVP/CEO Michele M. Jones has shared a few of her favorite places to dine. With the beautiful sunsets and great restaurants, if reservations are available, they are strongly advised.

- Japengo—Right at the Hyatt, it was voted Maui's Best Asian and Pacific Rim Cuisine, so make sure to check this out!
- The Gazebo—Unique and right on the beach for an amazing breakfast. It is very small, and yes, you will have to wait in line as they do not take reservations, but sooo worth it!
- Mama's Fish House—Right on the water, Mama's is located on the Kahului side of the island but well worth the trek. Reservations are a must. It is near the airport, so attendees with late departure flights could eat here and then head to the airport.
- Tin Roof Maui—Another restaurant (note that it is take-out style) on the Kahului side of the island is a very popular stop. Chef and Owner Sheldon Simeon, of Top Chef fame, is known for his unique Hawaiian approach for his delicious food.
- Monkeypod Kitchen by Merriman—This farm-to-table restaurant offers live music and happy hour daily from 3:30-5:30 p.m. This is on my list to try!



We invite you to explore much more about NIA's Annual Convention and the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa by visiting www.insulation.org/convention2023. View the schedule and register today!

CALCULATE YOUR SAVINGS!

Take advantage of NIA's discounted group rates to take your family and guests on a fabulous vacation!

THE SAVINGS ARE UNREAL!

NIA's hotel room rates are truly incredible—save \$350-\$450 PER NIGHT off the normal rate, depending on room type



Discounted resort fee of \$20/night, instead of the typical \$40/night



Discounted self-parking overnight rates of \$15/per day, instead of the typical \$25 per day

NIA's Education Center Has Launched!

If you are a regular reader of NIA's publications, you no doubt have been reading about the launch of NIA's Education Center, and we are thrilled to say that this new concept in training and education for the insulation industry is available at www.niaeducationcenter.org!
Think of it as a centralized hub where subscribers can access information and training tools that are specifically designed for them—whether you are new to the industry, are more experienced and want to sharpen your skills and increase your knowledge base, or perhaps you work in a complementary, construction-related industry.

"As employers strive to grow their workforce to replace retiring team members and adjust for ongoing construction-industry

Available and Included in NIA's Premier Training Subscription

- 3E Plus® Short Informational Videos
- Chilled Water and Refrigeration Insulation Systems
- FMI's Economic Forecast Northeast Region
- Guide to Insulation Fastening
- · Harassment in the Workplace
- Heat Illness Prevention
- Hitting the Jackpot with DOE's Carbon Emissions Reduction Programs
- Human Resources for Small Contractors
- The Importance of a Written Safety Program
- Insulation Product Categories
- Insulation Selection for Power Generation
- Mechanical Insulation Basics
- Mechanical Insulation Installation Video Series
- Mechanical Insulation Shapes or Forms
- Moisture Barriers, Moisture Retarders, and Condensate Barriers
- Outcomes from FMI's Talent Development Study
- Passive Fire Protection vs. Fire Protection
- Passive Fire Protection in Industrial Applications
- Selling in a Virtual World
- Simple Insulation Calculators
- What Does the Future of Transportation Look Like?
- What the Inflation Reduction Act means to the Construction Industry
- What You Need to Know Before an OSHA Compliance Inspection
- What's New in Version 5.1 of 3E Plus

workforce challenges, such as increased demand for work-life balance, alternative work schedules, and competition from sectors with less strenuous physical demands, our new hires need to be able to engage faster and in a way that works with their schedules. Being able to access the assets of NIA's Education Center's on-demand training programs and individual specific topics creates an invaluable learning experience for each of the positions in our companies, and experienced and tenured employees will find that the microlearning resources can update and refresh their knowledge. In my book, microlearning is like the 'Cliffs Notes' that give you the info you need to succeed in the time you have," said Apache, Inc.'s David Patrick.

Even More to Come: In Development for Early 2023

- Advantages of Association Membership
- Breathable and Non-Breathable Coverings
- Economic Outlooks
- Emittance
- Fitting Factors—What Are They and Why/How Are They Used?
- Gross Margin vs. Markup
- Hydrophobic, Hydroscopic, and Water Resistant—
 What Are the Differences?
- K-, R-, and U-Values
- LEED Credits and Mechanical Insulation
- Measure through Methodology
- Product Density vs. Compressive Strength
- Protective Coverings Categories
- Protective Coverings –T ypes
- Sales Training
- The Difference between Quality Assurance (QA)/ Quality Control (QC) and Inspection
- · Understanding Different Types of Contracts
- Use Temperature
- Vapor Stops
- What Constitutes the Basis of a Contractual Claim?
- Work-in-Progress (WIP) Calculations





How to Sign up for the Premier Training Subscription Package

Companies who sign up for a Premier Training Subscription Package in 2022 will also have access for all of 2023. The primary representative of each company is able to sign up for this service by visiting https://nia.users.membersuite.com/shop/subscriptions/browse.

After signing up, your company will have access to the Premier Training Subscription service for a 12-month period (January–December 2023). These on-demand training opportunities will be available to anyone employed by your company (user registration required). Content will continuously be added throughout the year and will be specifically designed for anyone who is involved in the mechanical insulation industry.

No matter how you learn best or when you have time to squeeze the required hours of training in your busy schedule, NIA's Education Center has options for you that are on demand, targeted for the insulation industry, and essential for your business. For answers to questions, please email training@insulation.org.

New Training Course Instructors and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)



NIA is looking for talented and experienced individuals to work as course instructors and SMEs, and it is pleased to announce the newest instructor/SME: Scott Sinclair. Scott is currently instructing the Insulation Energy Appraisal Program™ and the Thermal Insulation

Inspector Certification™ courses for NIA. His years of experience and contributions to the mechanical insulation industry will enhance the student experience.

Watch for additional announcements as more SMEs and instructors are onboarded who will continue to enhance and grow educational offerings.

Why Subscribe? Benefits of NIA's Premier Training Subscription

COST SAVINGS

For one low fee, all your employees receive access to valuable and relevant industry training on an annual basis.

Variety

Training is available to increase skills for every professional on your team, whether they are new to the industry, a middle manager, or an experienced industry veteran.

Convenience

Content is offered on demand and in short lengths of time, ranging from a few minutes to up to an hour, which allows you to fit training into your schedule.

Complimentary Access to Popular NIA Training Programs

NIA's Mechanical Insulation Basics and NIA's Mechanical Insulation Installation Videos are included as part of the subscription fee.

Sponsorship Opportunities for NIA's Education Center

- Host a pre-recorded webinar (can be product focused)
- Create a custom training bundle to streamline your company's training needs

From the Foundation Board of Directors

Update on the Foundation for Mechanical Insulation Education, Training, and Industry Advancement

Mechanical Insulation
EDUCATION TRAINING ADVANCEMENT

As announced previously, the Foundation for Mechanical Insulation Education, Training, and Industry Advancement (Foundation) has a new status as an independent nonprofit organization that is under the management of NIA's professional team. The Foundation's mission is to develop and implement strategies and recommend processes to advance and expand the commercial and industrial insulation industry. This update will delve into a few of the Foundation's top projects and priorities. The Foundation invites everyone to become a stakeholder by becoming a Foundation contributor—see details at the conclusion of this update.

Preparing for the Next Industry Measurement Survey

Every 2 years, a survey is conducted to gauge the size of the insulation industry. This survey, which is funded by the Foundation, began in 1997 to gain data about the size of the insulation industry and growth rates for the U.S. commercial and industrial mechanical insulation markets. Survey participants provide information to Industry Insights, an independent, third-party company. The next survey will be conducted in January 2023. (To access the most recent survey results, visit http://tinyurl.com/2021InsulationSurvey.)

As the mechanical insulation industry has evolved, and as the need for additional industry data has emerged, the 2023 survey will collect a wider range of information compared to previous years.

In the 2021 survey, it became apparent that, due to industry consolidation, the increased use of flexible removable/reusable covers, changing mechanical insulation systems, and other industry developments, a different approach would be needed for the 2021–2022 survey. In past surveys, members have been asked to report a combined number for their mechanical insulation industry products. Starting in 2023, members will be asked to report separate numbers in various product groups for the products they represent in the United States mechanical insulation market, which will be analyzed by Industry Insights.

There are multiple reasons for this change in reporting.

- With the additional product data, Industry Insights will have the necessary information to create formulas to deduce the cost of fabrication. Without a breakdown by product group, accounting for fabrication and system variances is extremely difficult.
- 2. It will allow for a report to be created that will estimate national market share for the overarching product groups.
- It could, with interpretation and estimates, allow for general separation as to the size of the commercial and industrial markets.

Much of this additional data has been requested for years. Communications will be sent to NIA to forward to its Associate (Manufacturer) members for distribution in early January 2023. The Foundation looks forward to sharing the results with NIA members and Foundation contributors.

Mechanical Insulation Education Support

The Foundation is proud to support NIA's Education Center, has launched! It is the go-to national source for information and tools related to the mechanical insulation industry.

The Foundation, as part of its mission statement, is in full support of the development of this training resource and has been busy working with industry experts, SMEs, and volunteers to develop content, creating a robust list of subject areas, all geared to mechanical insulation education. Here is a sneak peek at just a few of the educational modules and topics the Foundation is helping to create:

- Human Resources for Small Contractors
- LEED Credits and Mechanical Insulation

- Mechanical Insulation Shapes or Forms
- Passive Fire Protection vs. Fire Protection
- What You Need to Know Before an OSHA Compliance Inspection

While the list above is only a small sampling of what will be included, categories of information will include Health & Safety, Insulation Materials, General Business, Energy Savings, and Human Resources. (Turn to page 14 for more from NIA on the Education Center.)

Board of Directors

The Foundation is proud to announce its full slate of Board members. A new Secretary was elected at the Foundation's Board of Directors meeting on November 2, 2022.

THE BOARD'S FULL SLATE IS AS FOLLOWS

President: David J. Cox (Owens Corning) **Secretary:** Marc Napolitano (*Insulation Materials Corporation*) **Treasurer:** John Lamberton (*Irex Contracting Group*)

Board Members

Jack Bittner (Johns Manville) Wally Blewitt (Knauf Insulation) R. Dean Burows (DKB, Inc.) Matt Hymer (Midwest Materials Company) Joe Leo (Atlantic Contracting & Specialties, LLC) Jon Perry (Specialty Products & Insulation)

Foundation Bylaws Update

At their November 2 meeting, the Foundation Board of Directors updated their bylaws to reflect an increase in the number of Board representatives, from seven to nine, and to stagger the terms of each Board member.



Ready to Contribute?

With so many projects well underway, and many more on the horizon, the Foundation is excited about the future. But it can only do as much as resources allow. A grateful thank you is extended to the legacy contributors, and one of the goals of the Foundation is to steadily grow this list in the next few years. If you are interested in contributing, please contact foundation@insulation.org. Multiple contribution levels are available to fit any budget. And because the Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, your contribution is fully tax deductible.



NIA has training for every level along an insulation professional's career.

Visit www.insulation.org to learn about online and in-person learning programs.



Contractors' Corner

Tips from a Safety Consultant and Structural Engineer

Top 5 Ways to Reduce Fall Hazard Risk

By Thomas Kramer, PE, CSP

Based on 25 years of working in the safety industry, these five methods have proven to have the most impact on reducing fall hazard risk, and they are ranked based on the financial impact to your organization.

Apply Prevention through Design (PtD)
The PtD concept (https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ptd/default.html) ensures that safety measures are evaluated and implemented during the programming phases of a project. For work in the insulation industry, this can be preconstruction tasks; coordination with the owner, general contractor, or other subcontractors; and innovations with insulation manufacturers to make your work easier and safer.

In many cases, insulation projects occur in existing facilities or with renovation work, and fall hazards cannot necessarily be "designed out" at that point. However, the PtD concept can still be applied by evaluating safety measures during the planning of projects, rather than after you and other contractors get on site.

Perform Fall Hazard Risk Assessments the Right Way
The ultimate goal of a fall protection program is to create a
safer environment for workers, but until hazards are identified, it is difficult to develop an effective strategy to reduce risk.

There are many ways to perform a risk assessment. In the insulation industry, you can perform job walks, facilitate tabletop exercises, and talk to the workers in the field. During a risk assessment, detailed data is gathered on all fall hazards. Once fall hazards and the potential risks associated with them are identified, evaluated, and ranked, leadership can use the information to create a validated budget, schedule, and abatement strategy. This prevents workers from showing up at job sites and having to improvise their fall protection systems, which inherently creates additional risk.

Avoid Over-Reliance on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Selecting and implementing fall protection solutions are the most visible aspects of a fall protection program. They are also the most costly. In the United States, overall fall fatalities and the associated costs are increasing, despite the fact that the amount of money spent on PPE has doubled. PPE should always be the last choice for a solution because there are so many opportunities for personal fall arrest systems to fail. When selecting abatement solutions, guidance should be taken from the Hierarchy of Controls (Figure 1).

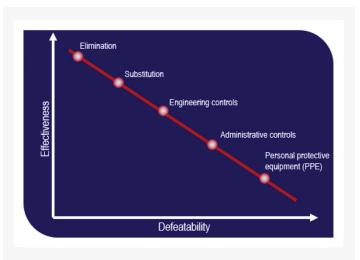


FIGURE 1: Hierarchy of Controls



This widely accepted strategy measures the effectiveness and defeatability of hazard abatement methods (https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hierarchy/default.html). As shown in Figure 1, PPE is the least effective and most defeatable solution, and therefore holds the lowest position in the hierarchy.

Focus on Certified Systems—Not Just Equipment
There are five primary elements to consider when
certifying a fall protection system. These must be
evaluated to ensure that all aspects of a given system are
acceptable for use.

- 1. Suitability of system
- 2. Anchorages
- 3. Equipment
- 4. Procedures
- **5.** Training

The certification process is especially important for active fall protection systems using a full-body harness, since properly functioning and usable systems can mean the difference between life and death.

Provide Effective Fall Protection Training

The goal of fall protection training is to change behavior. To truly impact a safety program, training must include more than just instruction on regulations and equipment use. Participants need the skills and tools to solve fall protection issues before they arise, so they do not rely on less effective reactive approaches or improvise systems in the field.

Adult learners have a variety of learning preferences, so it is important to use a variety of teaching methods. Regardless of the



While there are certainly other aspects to a successful fall protection program, employing the five principles described here has proven to reduce fall hazard risk.

training approach, it must be customized to the workers and their unique environments and responsibilities. Regular, ongoing training also will support the other major elements of a fall protection program and increase the effectiveness of each step.

Summary

In conclusion, while there are certainly other aspects to a successful fall protection program, employing the five principles described here has proven to reduce fall hazard risk. For detailed guidance on developing and maintaining a comprehensive, managed fall protection program, the ANSI Z359.2-2017 standard can assist your organization in creating a program that reduces risk and enhances safety.

THOMAS KRAMER, PE, CSP, is a Principal at LJB Inc. (www.LJBinc.com) in Dayton, Ohio. Thomas is a Safety Consultant and Structural Engineer with 27 years of experience. He is an internationally recognized expert in applying engineering and safety practices to reduce risk for workers at heights, specializing in the assessment and design of fall protection systems as well as fall protection program development and training. He is Chair of the ANSI Z359 Committee that develops the Fall Protection Code, and he serves as President of the International Society for Fall Protection.

NIA'S ONLINE RESOURCES

Insulation.org InsulationOutlook.com www.niaeducationcenter.org InsulateMetalBuildings.org www.linkedin.com/company/NIAinfo www.vimeo.com/NIAinfo www.twitter.com/NIAinfo www.twitter.com/InsulationInfo www.facebook.com/NIAinfo www.youtube.com/NIAinfo

EVENT CALENDAR



703-464-6422 www.insulation.org/events/calendar events@insulation.org

NIA MEETINGS

NIA's 67th Annual Convention

March 15–17, 2023 Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa Maui, Hawaii

NIA's 68th Annual Convention

April 17–19, 2024 Naples Grande Beach Resort Naples, Florida

NIA EDUCATION AND TRAINING

For information about education programs and training opportunities, please visit www.insulation.org/training-tools

REGIONAL INSULATION MEETINGS

www.insulation.org/events/ regionalcalendar events@insulation.org

Central States Insulation Association (CSIA)

Contact: Rachel Pinkus

937-278-0308, www.csiaonline.org

CSIA Spring 2023 Labor Conference

May 1–3, 2023 French Lick Springs Hotel French Lick, Indiana

Eastern States Insulation Contractors Association (ESICA)

Contact: John F. DeLillo 516-922-7855, www.esica.org

ESICA Spring Conference

May 3–5, 2023 Marriott Myrtle Beach Resort & Spa at Grande Dunes Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Midwest Insulation Contractors Association (MICA)

Contact: Rachel Pinkus 937-278-0308, www.micainsulation.org

MICA 66th Annual Conference

June 18–22, 2023 Cheyenne Mountain Resort Colorado Springs, Colorado

Southeastern Insulation Contractors Association (SEICA)

Contact: Phil Davenport 757-536-8437, www.seica.org

SEICA 2023 Spring Meeting

June 24–26, 2023 The Grand Hotel Golf Resort & Spa Point Clear, Alabama

Southwest Insulation Contractors Association (SWICA)

Contact: Linda Tracey
713-977-0909, www.swicaonline.org

EXPO 2023

February 9, 2023 University of Houston Student Conference Center Houston, Texas

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Thermal Insulation Association of Canada (TIAC)

Contact: Robin Baldwin 613-724-4834, www.tiac.ca

2023 TIAC Conference

August 23–26, 2023 Westin Resort and Spa Whistler, British Columbia

Western Insulation Contractors Association (WICA)

Contact: Robert Bergman 801-364-0050, www.wica1.com

WICA Annual Convention

September 10–12, 2023 Big Sky Resort

Big Sky, Montana