



Setting and Reaching Goals

In my last column, I introduced the theme for my tenure as NIA President: *Progress through Unity*. A critical element of progress is goal setting, and I am pleased to be part of an association that is focused on setting and reaching goals for itself, its members, and its industry. As summer begins, I am looking forward to next month's meetings of NIA's Board of Directors; Executive Committee; Convention Committee; and newly renamed and reconfigured Foundation for Mechanical Insulation Education, Training, and Industry Advancement (Foundation). NIA leadership will examine long-range plans established last July, check progress against goals, and evaluate if the chosen direction is still appropriate.

Last year, NIA leadership prioritized determining NIA's value proposition; exploring creating NIA insulation standards; and playing a role in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) and decarbonization strategy. Emphasis also was placed on transitioning NIA's Foundation from a 501(c)(6) to an independent 501(c)(3) organization, making it a full tax-deductible nonprofit, which has now been completed. NIA messaging has been strong about mechanical insulation's role in achieving sustainability goals, with my predecessor Dave Cox and NIA EVP/CEO Michele Jones presenting the argument for insulation as a first-choice strategy for carbon reduction in presentations (and publications) across the country. I look forward to continuing that mission, working with Michele to strengthen and build relationships with allied organizations and partners—again, striving for progress through unity—to get insulation front and center, where it belongs. You can read more about these efforts and what the establishment of the new Foundation as a 501(c)(3) organization mean in Michele's column on page 6. In both cases, the bottom line is that NIA has made measurable progress against goals set last year. I will keep you updated on developments after our meetings this July.

Along the lines of *unity*, this issue of *Insulation Outlook* offers practical, immediately applicable information of value to readers across all roles in the industry. Past NIA President and current instructor for NIA's Thermal Insulation Inspector Certification™ Program Ron King offers a look at what makes for good specifications—and, therefore, easier, better performing projects—on page 28. In "Considering the Architectural Acoustics," Josh Rasch explains how elements of architectural acoustics can help one meet design and application goals for a space (see page 8). And Gordon H. Hart, P.E., provides a thorough, well-illustrated walk-through of best practices in his article "A Study of Industrial Refrigeration Insulation," beginning on page 12. Whether you are a plant owner, facility manager, design engineer, specifier, architect, contractor, or manufacturer, all three articles include information relevant to your day-to-day work.

I will close by thanking everyone who participated in making NIA's recent Convention such a success and asking you to remember that the networking, collaboration, and unity does not end when we leave Convention and return home. Please stay in touch with those you met, and keep spreading the message about the value of insulation.

Joe Leo
President
National Insulation Association

Thinking about RETIRING?

STAY IN TOUCH WITH NIA!

NIA is looking for experienced insulation professionals. Join our team as a subject matter expert, course instructor, presenter, or general consultant.

Please also contact us if you are interested in reviewing newly created industry resources, writing articles, mentoring members, or presenting webinars.

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Email niainfo@insulation.org to find out more.