



## DID YOU MISS IT?

# IRS Approved 501(c)(3) Status for the Foundation for Mechanical Insulation Education, Training, and Industry Advancement

The transition of the Foundation for Mechanical Insulation Education, Training, and Industry Advancement to a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The transition to a 501(c)(3) has been reported on extensively in this “Foundation Update” column and was not expected to be finalized until later this year. However, the IRS notification indicated the Foundation’s new status is effective as of January 2022. Thank you to the legacy contributors who have sustained the important work of the Foundation.

The Foundation’s primary purpose is to develop and implement strategies and recommend processes to advance and expand the commercial and industrial insulation industry through objectives such as promoting the value of insulation to audiences including specifiers, architects, engineers, plant owners, facility managers, building owners, government bodies, and allied associations; and establishing industry resources for information on mechanical, commercial, and industrial insulation systems.

### What’s New?

The Foundation is now a fully separate organization that will be managed by NIA and overseen by the Foundation’s Board of Directors, which includes President David J. Cox (Owens Corning); Treasurer John Lamberton (Irex Contracting Group); and Board Members Wally Blewitt (Knauf Insulation), R. Dean Burows (DKB, Inc.), Matt Hymer (Midwest Materials Company), Joe Leo (Atlantic Contracting & Specialties, LLC), and Marc Napolitano (Insulation Materials Corporation). A new Secretary will be elected by the current Board during their next meeting.

This transition will allow the Foundation to pursue grant opportunities and additional funding from groups, organizations, and individuals that may prefer to contribute to a charitable educational organization.

One of the first actions of the Foundation was to create a new top-tier Platinum level (\$30,000 annual contribution) to add to the existing Gold Elite (\$15,000), Gold Plus (\$10,000), Gold (\$5,000), Silver (\$3,000), and Bronze (\$1,000) contribution levels.

### Insights from Dave Cox and Michele Jones

From Foundation President Dave Cox: “This transition to an independent 501(c)(3) organization opens a new world of possibilities for incubating innovative ideas to expand awareness and education

## 4 QUICK FACTS about the Foundation for Mechanical Insulation Education, Training, and Industry Advancement

- 1** The Foundation is a new NONPROFIT organization and is separate from NIA.
- 2** It will be managed by NIA’s professional team and led by the Foundation’s new Board of Directors, which is separate from the NIA Board.
- 3** It’s mission is still to develop and implement strategies and recommend processes to advance and expand the commercial and industrial insulation industry.
- 4** Thank you to the legacy contributors! For those who have not contributed before, please consider doing so. All contributions are considered tax-deductible.

about the power of insulation for commercial and industrial facilities. The mechanical insulation industry has the capacity to make a huge difference in the energy efficiency and carbon-reduction initiatives that our world needs, and with the support of current and new donors, the Foundation can have an even greater impact.”

From NIA Executive Vice President/CEO Michele M. Jones: “I am excited by the opportunities that 501(c)(3) nonprofit status offers. Although the Foundation has been a committee since 1998, the group has never ventured into the grant arena. Now, as its own entity, the Foundation has a better chance at playing a part in the government and NGO [non-governmental organization] funding circles. We will be looking to work more closely with the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and countless NGOs. We have had such an amazing core of loyal contributing stakeholders over the years, and I am delighted that their donations and all those that we receive from this point forward will be completely deductible.”

For more information, visit [www.insulation.org/foundationinfo](http://www.insulation.org/foundationinfo).