



Construction Bulletin

ABC's Core Attributes

Value
Quality
Safety
Training
Experience

"As a professional in the construction industry I would not be allowed to, nor given the opportunity to work on a job that is one mile from my house in the same township I live in. Not to mention it is my hard earned money that is funding the project as a tax payer."

Andy Bates
Project Manager, Paving
Allan A. Myers

Want to learn more?
www.abcsepa.org

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Ed Rendell & DGS Lock Out Merit Contractors & Employees

A \$400 million expansion to the Graterford Prison in Montgomery County is out for bid. You would think this is a great opportunity for our area's construction workforce, but it's not. More than 75 percent of the region's construction employees who have chosen not to join a union are not allowed to work on the project according the Department of General Services (DGS) and Gov. Ed Rendell.

But by putting a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) in place, DGS and Gov. Rendell have decided to allow only

union construction workers on this project. So, if you are a resident of the state of Pennsylvania, your hard-earned tax dollars are funding a project that you can't work on. How un-American is that?

ABC has launched a campaign designed to increase the awareness of these discriminatory practices in our region. Be on the look-out for ads in The Reporter and Times Herald newspapers titled "My Daddy Can't Work on the Graterford Prison Project" and the traveling billboard with the same message. ABC is also running 60-second radio

commercials opposing the PLA among other tactics.

You can make a difference too! ABC encourages all construction workers to speak out and let your state senators, Gov. Rendell and the DGS know that you oppose discriminatory union-only PLAs. Tell them you support fair and open competition and demand that the Graterford Prison project be open to *all* qualified contractors without regard to labor affiliation.

Visit www.abcsepa.org for a list of legislators and officials and sample letters or to learn more about discriminatory PLAs visit: www.thetruthaboutplas.com

Paying Tribute on Labor Day

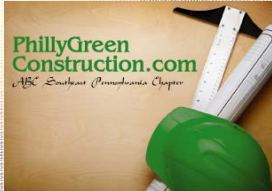
As we approach Labor Day, it is important that we take this opportunity to thank you and our construction craft professionals who are the backbone of our industry. You and the millions of men and women who make up the U.S. construction workforce have had a positive impact on our country like no other profession. As a construction craft professional, you build the roads that connect our towns, the office buildings where we work, the schools where our children are educated, the hospitals where we get medical care and the places we call home.

It is also important that we remember that Labor Day is not exclusively a union holiday, but a day where all construction professionals are recognized, including the more than 84 percent like yourself who choose to work for Merit Contractors who believe in Free Enterprise and open competition. We appreciate the fact that you place a premium on the quality of work you produce and believe that employment opportunities should be awarded based on qualifications and performance, rather than labor affiliation.

Our country would not be what it is today without the hard work and dedication of construction craft professionals like yourself. So on this Labor Day, we commend each and every one of you for your contribution to your profession, your community, your company and our great country.



For more tips, visit:



Stand Up –Stand Out –Do Your Part by Vince Console

As the construction industry “goes green” the changes in policy, procedure and training can seem like a daunting task when taken as a whole. In reality, it’s a combination of small steps and individual effort in rethinking our role in the green environment. All of us in the industry, from office management and staff to workers on the site, can have an impact on how the construction industry improves our performance in relation to the world around us. In the office, we have opportunities in almost everything we do. Purchasing products made from recycled materials, recycling as many products as possible, reducing paper use through electronic communication and

data storage and using refillable water bottles, all collectively have a large impact on our “environmental footprint” with relatively minimal effort. Teleconferencing and webinars reduce travel, training and environmental costs. The opportunities to color our industry a “pro-active green” are endless. In the field, green building practices are entering the mainstream of the construction industry, and many of those practices are simply large scale examples of the things we can do individually. Water use reduction, energy conservation, locally produced environmentally friendly products are enabling us to create buildings that create better, healthier and more

productive working and living spaces. Training our workforces in the ways that they can have a positive effect on the green environment is a responsibility that we have as individual companies and collectively as an industry.

Whether your role in this industry is in management, the office or in the field, remember that we all need to better understand our role in the green environment. So stand up, stand out and do your part in the greening of America’s largest industry!

Vince Console is an NCCER trainer certified to teach the new ‘Your Role in the Green Environment’ class offered by ABC.

Join the March on 9-12

A new movement is taking form as a result of the current economic crisis and the reactions by some of our legislators, both locally and nationally. Glenn Beck, a popular Fox News personality has charged local citizens with getting involved and making their voices heard. The movement, coined The 912 Project, provides Americans with direction based on 9 principles and 12 values. On 9/10/2001 the country was divided, on 9/11, we were scared, and then on 9/12 we were united. The idea is to bring our country back to that feeling of togetherness. Local groups, started by concerned citizens just like you, meet regularly about issues that affect their lives. Additionally, the groups are coming together on 9/12/2009 to march on Washington. You can make a difference too! Visit www.the912project.com for more information.