



Construction Bulletin

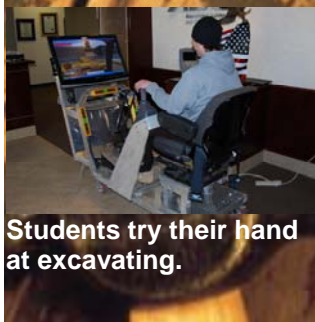
ABC's Core Attributes

- Value
- Quality
- Safety
- Training
- Experience

For information on Card Check Legislation, visit:

www.myprivateballot.com
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Want to learn more?
www.abcsepa.org



Students try their hand at excavating.

Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter
Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.
430 W. Germantown Pk.
East Norriton, PA 19403
Phone: 610-279-6666
Fax: 610-279-7052
www.abcsepa.org

A Message from our Chapter Chairman

One of my top priorities for 2009 is expanding ABC's message to all of our member employees. Throughout my years with ABC, I've realized just how important ABC is for me, my family, my company and my co-workers.

ABC is perhaps the foremost champion of freedom in the construction workplace. ABC is a passionate defender of workplace freedom striving to provide more employee choices. ABC is a loyal advocator of education and is the foremost promoter of safety. It is the flag bearer of honesty, integrity and fair play. And, it is a place where men and women can come together to

advance the collective causes of freedom and equality, and mutual success.

That is why it was so important to me to encourage your involvement in ABC. By embracing these ideals, by committing ourselves to further education and knowledge, by championing the causes of freedom, each and every one of us can play a part in preserving our great nation and the free market system that has lead us to such great prosperity and achievements.

Today our freedoms are under attack. Perhaps our opponents are motivated by good intentions?

Perhaps some are motivated by personal political gains? But if freedom is reduced, and if the back door system of "who you know" wins out over "who's the best for the job" the consequences will be devastating.

I hope that you will accept my mission to become involved with ABC. With our combined efforts, we can fight to preserve the ideals and principles that help make ABC such a great organization, and America such a great land.

With sincere regards,

Sandro Corrado,
2009 Chairman
ABC SEPA

Students get hands-on experience with excavator simulator

ABC SEPA teamed up with American Infrastructure to give approximately 31 students from Norristown and Plymouth Whitemarsh high schools the opportunity to operate a fully functional simulation of a John Deere Excavator at the Chapter headquarters in East Norriton on January 21. The interactive event was part of the Chapter's commitment to the ACE (Architects Contractors and Engineers) Mentor Program of Eastern Pennsylvania, a program giving high school students an exciting opportunity to learn more about the potential careers in architecture, engineering and construction.

As Pennsylvania's first group focused on the needs of suburban students, the team of students and mentors meet bi-monthly at the ABC SEPA Chapter headquarters. The group works together on a project that addresses "real-life" situations and issues. The students begin with real blueprints of the project. They are taught how to read them, manage the project, create a timetable for completion and even how to budget for supplies. The project will culminate in a formal presentation for industry professionals given by each student in Philadelphia on May 13.

"This is a great opportunity to talk to students about career options in the construction industry," said Bob Capps, vice president of Business Development at ABC and the suburban ACE Team Lead. "This simulator gave the students a real feeling of what it is like to be behind the wheel of a large piece of equipment. It kept track of their safety performance and determined their effectiveness as an operator."



Congratulations to ABC SEPA Craft Championship Finalists
Some of these students traveled to Hawaii in February to compete nationally!



Electrical Finalist
 Nick Giampietro
 Tri-M Group, LLC



Carpentry Finalist
 Joshua Price
 Berks Ridge Company Enterprises, Inc.



Masonry Finalist
 Steve Goodman
 Thompson Masonry Contracting Co.



An Interview with Nickolas Giampietro, Tri-M Group, LLC ABC National Craft Championship Electrical Finalist

What is your position at your company?

I am an apprentice 3 technician at Tri-M's pre-fab shop.

What is your typical day like?

My work consists of doing anything from building maintenance to prefabricating an installation for a particular job in the field. Sometimes I will be laying out wire pulls, other times I am bending conduits for raceways or threading rigid conduits.

How did you become interested in this field?

I knew at the age of 13 that I liked to work with my hands like my father. He taught me a lot about construction and I wanted

to go to school for it. I took the opportunity to go to vo-tech school for electrical technology and I had an interest in it ever since.

What is your favorite part of your job?

My favorite part is knowing everyday that my trade plays an important role for today's living standards. I also like that the workplace is not always the same.

What training do you have?

After attending tech school, I decided to go to Pennsylvania College of Technology located in Williamsport, where I learned a lot about the electrical trade. After I graduated, I got a job at The Tri-M Group and they enrolled me in the ABC's

Apprenticeship Trust program. I go to school once a week while I work full time and I am looking to receive my journeyman papers upon completion of the program.

What advice would you give an upcoming student?

I would tell them to make sure they are prepared for all the hard work that they are going to be subjected to do. I would also encourage them to be safe about everything they do because this is a dangerous trade.

Support ABC's Apprenticeship Trust

Special Thanks to Volvo Rents for its Generous Support to our Apprenticeship Trust

The Chapter would like to thank Volvo Rents Construction Equipment for its generous financial support to the Apprenticeship Trust Training Center. On February 20, Bill Ellis and Rich Campagna of Volvo Rents presented ABC with a \$10,000 check. This check is in addition to a previous \$10,000 donation, bringing Volvo Rent's total charitable giving to \$20,000.

You Can Help Too!

The Apprenticeship Trust is kicking off its 2009 Fundraising Drive by raffling off a 2009 Harley-Davidson Dyna Street Bob. Tickets are available for a \$20 donation. Second prize is a 42 in. 1080p Flat-Panel LCD HDTV and third prize is a DeWalt XRP 10V Cordless 4-Tool Combo Kit. If you are interested in a chance to win, contact the Chapter Office at 610-279-6666. The drawing is set for June 8, 2009. You do not need to be present to win.

