

Independent Electrical Contractors of Southern Arizona

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NEWS RELEASE

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Independent Electrical Contractors of Southern Arizona Electrical Apprenticeship and Training Program

Fourth Annual Apprentice Wire-Off Competition Friday, April 23, 2010

The Independent Electrical Contractors of Southern Arizona (IEC of Southern Arizona) hosted its Fourth Annual Apprentice Wire-Off Competition on, Friday, April 23, 2010. The event is designed to provide graduating students an opportunity to show the skills they have acquired through the IEC of Southern Arizona Apprenticeship and Training Program. Participating apprentices included Joshua Barham, Jeremy Bilow, Rocky Deckard, Garth Hansen, Carl Hansen, Ryan Marsh, Robert Skolik, Daniel Miller. Each apprentice competes individually at their own workstation which is equipped with identical descriptive instructions, schematic drawing and materials to complete the wiring of an undisclosed project. This years' competition project was to wire 2 compressors according to the instructions and plans provided. Their efforts were observed and reviewed by local judges with many years of experience in the electrical field. The judges for the 2010 competition included Josh Beck of Mountain Power and Alan Bieberstein of Cornerstone Electric. Jeremy Bilow is the winner of the Wire-Off Competition which was announced at the Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony on May 21, 2010.

The Wire-Off event was held at HD Electrical supply, an associate member of IEC Southern Arizona, located at 2125 E. Beverly Drive in Tucson. HD Supply hosted an onsite trade show and lunch during the competition. Participating vendors included Lithonia Lighting, Cooper Lighting, Cutler Hammer, Crouse Hinds Fittings, Christy Boxes, Arlington Fittings, WireMold, Burndy, B-Line, 3M, Lutron and Pass & Seymore.

Apprenticeship and Training Graduation Friday, May 21, 2010

The Independent Electrical Contractors of Southern Arizona (IEC of Southern Arizona) hosted its annual Apprenticeship and Training Program Graduation and dinner on Friday, May 21, 2010 with more than sixty members, apprentices, family, friends and guests in attendance. City of Tucson Council Member (Ward IV) Shirley Scott congratulated the 2009-2010 graduates and applauded them on their determination to complete the four year program. Councilwoman Scott emphasized the importance of skilled electrical professionals keep pace with continuous industry-wide growth and changes.

The IEC of Southern Arizona Apprenticeship and Training Program is recognized by the Arizona Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of Labor. Apprentices also earn credits at Pima Community College through the program. The graduates of the 2009-2010 IEC of Southern Arizona Apprenticeship and Training program are: Joshua Barham, Rocky Deckard, Garth Hansen, Carl Hansen, Ryan Marsh, Daniel Miller, Robert Skolik and Jeremy Bilow who also won the Wire Off Competition, was named the Apprentice of the Year. For more information about this four year electrical training program please contact Apprenticeship Director Brenda Olsson at (520) 820-5506 or visit the IEC Southern Arizona website at www.iecsaz.org.

IEC of Southern Arizona

IEC of Southern Arizona is a diverse organization of electrical professionals whose mission is to promote the success of all electrical contractors serving Tucson and Southern Arizona. Its leadership is dedicated to keep its membership current about the ever-changing electrical industry and to provide quality educational programs, information and services to help electrical contractors excel in today's market.

The electrical industry is the most technical of all business trades. It requires a professional to manage and a professional to construct electrical projects. The only way to become a professional is through quality training, education, and experience. Members of IEC of Southern Arizona actively support the improvement of a qualified electrical workforce.

IEC of Southern Arizona is committed to providing a means to a quality work force which is reflected in its four year apprenticeship program. In the future, IEC of Southern Arizona plans to expand its training program to include continuing education opportunities as well as business and management training opportunities for the contractor and other business professionals.

IEC of Southern Arizona has doubled its membership within the last two years and continues to grow! Visit the IEC Southern Arizona website at www.iecsaz.org for more information about the association and its members, programs, and events.