

# ECAO

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS  
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

# News

170 Attwell Drive ~ Suite 460 • Toronto, Ontario • M9W 5Z5  
Tel: 416.675.3226 • Fax: 416.675.7736 • Toll-Free: 1.800.387.ECAO  
ecao@ecao.org

[www.ecao.org](http://www.ecao.org)

February 2003

Volume 33, No. 2

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

MasterFormat™ Update .....	1
WSIB Seminar Series and Manual .....	2
WSIB Counselling.....	2
Electrical Project Supervision Course Update .....	2
Upcoming Trade Shows .....	3
Skills Ontario/Canada.....	3
Wright and Carroll Awards – Call for Nominations .....	3
2003 Conference in St. John’s.....	4
Rogers/Cantel .....	4
Services for Members.....	4
At the Board .....	5

## **MASTERFORMAT™ UPDATE**

The Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), developers of the MasterFormat™ for construction specifications, held their third and final MasterFormat Stakeholders’ Symposium in San Francisco on January 24.

Last September we reported that the Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) was supporting the IBS-16 proposal being put forward by NECA (the National Electrical Contractors Association in the US). Since that time ARCOM (Architectural Computer Services, Inc., who work with the American Institute of Architects (AIA)) developed and presented their Proposal D. This proposal was similar enough to NECA’s IBS-16 that NECA threw its support behind it, as did CECA.

Like NECA’s proposal, ARCOM’s proposal maintained the 16 division format that is currently in place while incorporating room for new systems and leaving room for growth in the current divisions. In doing so, impact on everyone who now works with MasterFormat will be minimized. It also seemed to meet all the other CSI task force’s objectives.

---

**2003 CONFERENCE, ST. JOHN’S, NEWFOUNDLAND, JUNE 18-22**

---

Proposal D, as it was called, was presented on January 24 and discussed, along with the other proposals, at the meetings held over the next two days. However, when put to a vote, Proposal B (a multi-divisional scheme not supported by the industry) was selected to be developed into the final recommendation.

After some minor alterations, there are still several approval steps before it's adopted. It must be approved by the CSI and CSC (Construction Specifications Canada, CSI's Canadian counterpart) executives. The timeline now has a consolidated Draft 2 being prepared for February 18 (and posted on the web at [www.csinet.org](http://www.csinet.org)), Draft 3 presented at its convention on April 9-11, a final draft by June 23 being sent to the publisher in July to December and available for sale April 2004.

No matter what decision is reached on the final version, the real test will be whether the design and construction communities accept it.

### ***WSIB SEMINAR SERIES AND MANUAL***

The WSIB Seminar Series and Manual are coming soon to your local area. Many areas have already expressed interest in hosting the seminar and others are waiting to gauge contractor interest in attending.

The seminars will be a half day in length and will clear up many of the questions that are most commonly asked about WSIB rules and regulations responsibilities and liabilities. Participants will also learn valuable techniques for effectively managing the WSIB claims process. Each participant will also receive a copy of ECAO's new WSIB manual – a valuable guide to all matters related to the WSIB, written from a contractor's perspective.

If you would like to attend a seminar, contact your local ECA office for details about seminars in your area.

### ***WSIB COUNSELLING***

Sooner or later, almost every contractor gets involved with a WSIB claim. These are seldom straight forward and easy to manage. If you need guidance with a WSIB matter, contact Gary Robertson at the ECAO offices.

### ***ELECTRICAL PROJECT SUPERVISION COURSE UPDATE***

The Electrical Project Supervision course has been well-received by contractors and students alike. Niagara region has completed two classes, and Toronto, Hamilton, Sudbury, and Sault Ste. Marie are currently delivering their first courses. Other local areas have expressed interest in running the course, and are in the process of scheduling them.

The course consists of three levels, with approximately 24 hours of instruction at each level. For maximum effectiveness, it is best that participants be involved in project supervision. This allows them to contribute their experiences to the class and immediately apply what they have learned. It is also advisable to leave a gap of a couple of months before taking the next level course to allow the participant to apply the instruction he or she has received.

Currently Level I courses are being taught. Train the Trainer sessions for Level II are being arranged for the week of March 31.

## ***UPCOMING TRADE SHOWS***

ECAO, through the Joint Electrical Promotion Plan, will be participating in two important trade shows in the month of March.

March 4 and 5, the Enercom show will be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. This show focuses on power generation and distribution, and we will be featuring our power and utility sector contractors at the booth.

March 28 is Springfest. This show attracts building owners and managers from across the province, again to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, and allows us to highlight our Contractor Locator and web site.

If you are interested in helping with a booth at either show, contact the ECAO office.

## ***SKILLS ONTARIO/CANADA***

This year Ontario will host the Canadian National Skills Competition along with the annual Ontario competition at RIM Park in Waterloo, from May 26 – June 1.

In addition to the Ontario competition, which will be held on Tuesday, May 27, elementary and high school students will be able to experience the trade through hands-on presentations throughout the week. The national competitions take place on May 30 and 31. Closing ceremonies will be held on Sunday, June 1. ECAO and the IBEW will be hosting two levels of wiring competitions and the Network Cabling Specialist competitions again this year.

Volunteers are always needed to supply manpower to work the booths, and staff the competitions. There is also a need for materials for the competitions and the hands-on displays. This year, with the event taking up a full week, including three days of competition, the need is even greater. If you can help, please contact the ECAO offices.

## ***WRIGHT AND CARROLL AWARDS - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS***

Nominations are now being accepted for the R. H. (Hugh) Carroll and D. J. B. Wright Awards, which will be presented at the Annual General Meeting being held at the ECAO Conference in St. John's Newfoundland in June. Please note that the deadline for the Carroll Award is Apr. 18 and Wright is Apr. 1. This is earlier than preceding years.

The R. H. (Hugh) Carroll Award is given to companies who demonstrate a dedication to safety. The D. J. B. Wright Award is presented to an electrical contractor who has shown dedication to the electrical contracting industry in the province.

Nomination procedures and forms can be found at [www.ecao.org](http://www.ecao.org) or contact the ECAO offices.

## ***2003 CONFERENCE IN ST. JOHN'S***

Set in beautiful and historic St. John's, Newfoundland, against the backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean, it seemed only natural to select the theme "A Sea of Change" for this year's conference.

Electrical contracting, like all areas of our lives, is changing at a rapid pace. Computers and increased communications are changing the way work is tendered, supervised and constructed. Standards and materials are also undergoing change. It's important to the success of your business to keep up with the latest innovations.

This year Ontario is holding its conference in conjunction with the Canadian Electrical Contractors Association's national conference and with the support of the electrical contractors of Newfoundland, June 18-22.

In addition to being educational, conferences are also an excellent way to develop relationships and network with fellow contractors in Ontario and, this year, across the country.

Registration packages will be mailed out soon. They are available at the ECAO and CECA websites ([www.ecao.org](http://www.ecao.org) and [www.ceca.org](http://www.ceca.org)). Just download them and fax them in. The websites are also kept up to date with the latest program information.

## ***ROGERS/CANTEL***

Talks are underway with Rogers/Cantel to establish a group rate for cellular phone services. Discount rates will be determined by the number of participants in our group. If you are currently a Rogers/Cantel subscriber, please contact Earle Goodwin at the ECAO offices so that we can secure the best possible rates.

## ***SERVICES FOR MEMBERS***

As a credit card company used to say, membership has its advantages. The Member Services Committee has been working to arrange services and programs that will allow our member contractors to purchase or lease commonly-used goods and services at attractive rates. Over the next few weeks look for information on tool and equipment rentals as well as office furniture and supplies.

Also, don't forget about our existing programs.

**Skipwith & Associates** provides group benefits and pension plans to ECAO members at attractive rates.

---

**2003 CONFERENCE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, JUNE 18-22**

---

**Federated Insurance** has a wide range of general insurance offerings for your business.

**Jim Peplinski's Leasemaster National** will arrange for the lease or purchase of any make or model of van or passenger car.

**PetroCanada** and **Esso** offer gasoline purchase programs to our membership.

If you need further information on any of these programs, contact Earle Goodwin at the ECAO offices.

## **AT THE BOARD**

ECAO continues to intervene on behalf of our power and utility sector contractors as hearings proceed at the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). The OEB is currently in hearings over its Transmission System Code (TSC), that sets out the electricity transmitters' obligations with respect to customers, including performance standards, technical requirements and expansions and connections. This code also determines which costs can be included in the transmitters' rates.

In a nutshell, it is crucial that ECAO participate in these proceedings to ensure that transmission companies are restricted to including only those costs that relate directly to their transmission activities so that other work they might undertake (either on their own or through affiliated companies) does not get subsidized and give them an unfair competitive advantage when competing against our utility contractors. Also, it is expected that the outcome of these hearings will set the pattern for the Distribution System Code (DSC) coming up for review in early 2004. It will also have a bearing on the Affiliate Relationship Code (ARC), which sets out the standards and conditions for the interaction between electricity distributors or transmitters and their respective affiliated companies. These latter two codes will have implications on the competitive market for all electrical contractors bidding work against distributors and transmission companies, not only in terms of the costs they will have to bear, but the types of work they can undertake in general.

The Board of Directors was asked to reaffirm their support for the association's involvement in these matters in light of the significant commitment of time and money that will be involved. Grasping the importance of these efforts, the Board unanimously renewed its support.

In the last issue listed our new Associate Members but several were inadvertently missed. ECAO is pleased to welcome the following Associate Members:

Accubid Systems Ltd  
Hesco Electric/Electric Depot  
Tevelec Limited  
Electrical Safety Authority

*ECAO News is published at the ECAO offices — 170 Attwell Drive, Suite 460, Toronto, Ontario, M9W 5Z5. Address changes may be sent to this office by mail, by telephone at 416-675-3226, by fax at 416-675-7736, or by e-mail to [ecao@ecao.org](mailto:ecao@ecao.org). Comments and questions can be directed to Earle Goodwin at the above numbers (extension 313) or by e-mail to [egoodwin@ecao.org](mailto:egoodwin@ecao.org).*

---

**2003 CONFERENCE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, JUNE 18-22**

---



# Electrical Installation and Maintenance in Hazardous Locations - to Sections 18 & 20 of the CEC

A one day technical workshop on the requirements in Sections 18 & 20 of the Canadian Electrical Code.

CSA offers this limited time, one day workshop, led by Bob Nelson

## AGENDA:

- 8:00 **Registration & Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 **Opening Remarks**
- 8:45 **Hazardous Locations – Pt. 1 CEC**
  - Overview of Section 18
  - Class I Locations – Flammable Gases or Vapours
  - Class II Locations – Combustible Dust
  - Class III Locations – Ignitable Fibres or Flyings
- 10:00 **Refreshment Break**
- 10:15 **New Class I, Zone 0, 1 & 2 Requirements**
  - History of the Change to the Zone system
  - Zone Concept
  - Comparison between the Division and the Zone Requirements
  - Equipment/Device Marking - Methods of Protection - Gas Groupings
  - Temperature Codes - Ingress Protection
- 12:00 **Lunch**
- 1:00 **Requirements for Hazardous Locations (Including the Zone System)**
  - General Requirements - Wiring Methods - Sealing
- 3:00 **Refreshment Break**
- 3:15 **Requirements from Section 20**
  - Gasoline Dispensing and Service Stations - Propane Dispensing, Container Filling, and Storage
  - Compressed Natural Gas Refueling Stations - Commercial Garages - Repair and Storage
  - Residential Storage Garages - Bulk Storage Plants - Finishing Processes - Aircraft Hangers
- 4:50 **Completion of Evaluation Form and CEU Requirements Questionnaire**
- 5:00 **Course Adjourns**

Includes a spiral  
bound copy of the  
2002 CE Code!

**Cost: \$295 - includes continental breakfast, lunch & a copy of the CE Code.**

**SPACE IS EXTREMELY LIMITED - CALL TO REGISTER TODAY!**  
*A certificate of completion will be issued for the participant's records.*

**For a complete Agenda and Registration Information**

Visit our Online Store at [www.csa.ca](http://www.csa.ca),  
Call 1-800-463-6727, or  
E-mail [seminars@csa.ca](mailto:seminars@csa.ca)



CANADIAN STANDARDS  
ASSOCIATION



# Electrical Installation and Maintenance in Hazardous Locations Workshop

Please register me for:

- Mississauga - Jan 31/03  Burlington- Feb 17/03  
 London - Mar 5/03  Mississauga - Mar. 28/03

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ PCode \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I AM PAYING BY:  VISA  American Express  MasterCard

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Holder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque enclosed (payable to CSA)

## MY PAYMENT AMOUNT IS:

One Day Seminar

Fee \$ 295 One Day

Plus \$ \_\_\_\_\_ GST

**Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## HOW TO REGISTER:

Register online at: [www.csa.ca](http://www.csa.ca)

**PHONE:** 416-747-4017 or 1-800-463-6727 (option 4)

**FAX:** 416-747-2510

**MAIL:** CSA Seminar Registration,

5060 Spectrum Way

Mississauga, ON

Canada L4W 5N6

**EMAIL:** [seminars@csa.ca](mailto:seminars@csa.ca)

