



Limited Energy - Unlimited Potential

Statewide Limited Energy JATC Newsletter

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Phone #: 763-571-5922

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Training Today's Industry for Tomorrow's Technology

WELCOME to the New Limited Energy Training Director

The Statewide Limited Energy JATC would like to welcome Mr. Sam DiPaola as our new Training Director!

Sam comes to us with an extensive background in field work as well as working with a well respected educational facility.

Sam comes to us from Dunwoody College of Technology where he had been the Director of Electronics education for the past 8 years and managed the electrical education department for 3 years prior to that. At Dunwoody, Sam was involved in writing curriculum for the low voltage design program which included sound, data, and alarm systems design during the merger of Dunwoody and NEI College.

Sam and his wife Amy wrote a book titled *"An Introduction to Low Voltage Systems"*, published by Delmar Publishing, Thompson. This book is available through amazon.com.

Take the time to call Sam and welcome him. He is anxious to get feedback on what you want and expect. He is available for phone calls or personal meetings. Please call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. as the last hour of the day will be dedicated to students arriving for class.

Duluth - NICET Prep Class

We will be holding a two (2) day class at the Duluth training center on January 14 and 21, 2006. This is two consecutive Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This class is for people who want to prepare themselves to take the NICET Certification Test.

Although there is no classroom fee, you will be required to have a current NFPA 72 Code Book, 2002 edition and the National Electrical Code Book, 2005 edition. Anyone wishing to purchase these books can let us know when they register for class.

If you are interested in participating in this class, please call our JATC as soon as possible as classroom space will be limited to a maximum of 20 participants. If you prefer, you may register through our website at www.statewidelea.org and enter the class name of "Duluth NICET Prep". We anticipate that there will be a lot of people registering for this class so don't wait until the class is full to call us.

Continuing Education Classes

If you are employed by a contractor who is signatory to the Limited Energy Agreement, you can register for continuing education classes with **no classroom fee**.

Other license holders can also register for this training. However, there is a \$100 fee for anyone not employed by a signatory limited energy contractor.

Continuing Education Class Schedule: FRIDLEY

November 14 & 15	Computer Fundamentals
November 28 & 30	Local Area Networks
December 5 & 12	Residential Audio/Video
December 7 & 14	Basic Paging Systems
January 7	Basic Security Systems
January 17 & 19	Card Access
January 23 & 25	Basic CCTV

Classes with two dates listed are week day evening classes from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on BOTH evenings. Classes with one date listed are Saturday classes from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. NEC code book, hard hat and safety glasses are needed for these classes.

If you, or anyone you know is interested in registering for a class, you can register on line through our website or you can call our Fridley office. Please remember, we need a minimum of 10 participants and a maximum of 25 students for any class.

When registering for class, **DON'T SHORT CHANGE YOURSELF**. Don't take a class you could teach just to get your continuing education credits. You will benefit most by taking a class that you plan to learn something from.

Interested in Teaching?

Our Training Director is in the process of scheduling meetings with current instructors as well as people who have a desire to teach at our JATC. Teaching opportunities are available for IBEW members, contractor non-union employees and people who are interested in investing some of their time in the future of our industry. Please consider teaching and call Sam DiPaola for more information.

You may have the opportunity to take a training suggestion of yours and help it become a class that can benefit others.

Visit us at <http://www.statewidelea.org>

From Sam's Desk



Our JATC is ready to take the next step into the future. As the Training Director, it is my

plan to ensure that we are successful in this endeavor.

Ultimately, my main priority will be to make sure that the three training facilities in Duluth, Rochester and Fridley are properly equipped and staffed to deliver a level of training which not only meets the expectations of all interested parties and stakeholders, but will also eventually surpass them.

I am also looking into offering a selection of continuing education classes that will not only assist participants to achieve technician status, but will also be of value to all levels including Journeyman Technician. After the upcoming holiday season, we will have classes for those individuals looking to get their Minnesota Power Limited Technician License. This will be a 16 hour license prep class. I taught this class in the past with 97% of the participants passing the license exam.

If you are interested in specific classes that are not normally offered, please let me know and I will see what I can do to make those happen. I also plan to schedule more continuing education classes in the Duluth and Rochester area. That will greatly depend on instructor availability as well as the number of people we can sign up for a specific class.

Over the next few weeks, I plan to get out and meet as many of you as I can, contractors and IBEW members alike, and listen to your concerns. I believe that feedback is critical to our meeting or exceeding your expectations. If something isn't working, or needs attention, I want to hear about it.

While I'm open to any and all productive suggestions as to how we can make this organization operate more effectively, I feel that it is important to state that I don't believe in fixing what isn't broken, and I'm also not going to be reactionary based on a single comment. I will always take the time to listen to a broad range of opinions with regard to an issue before a change or new procedure will be implemented.

In closing, the Statewide Power Limited JATC has certain procedures, standards, and regulations which we must follow and abide by through the course of doing business. I intend to follow those guidelines. Please feel free to contact me with any of your concerns. Thanks you.

Please keep asking questions. Remember, the question you ask is probably something that someone else is wondering.

Question: I am not an apprentice, but I heard that contractors can call the JATC for information on who people who have been laid off. Will the JATC tell contractors that I am out of work right now?

Answer: **YES!** If you are not currently employed by a limited energy contractor, you can call our JATC and be placed on the "Out of Work Report". We will verify phone numbers that you can be reached at, areas of working experience, and training. This information is available to signatory contractors who may be hiring. As you are aware, we do not have a hiring hall and the JATC is not functioning as a hiring hall. We are providing a service to IBEW Members as well as signatory contractors.



Question: I am a contractor and have heard about the Out of Work Report. Is this available on your website?

Answer: This report is not posted on our website. You may call our JATC at 763-571-5922 and we will fax the report to you. This information is updated daily as we are informed of lay-offs and new hires. Our reports list people ranging from Installer Level 1 through Journeyman Technician. You can review the report and determine who you will call to interview and/or hire.

Question: I am an installer. I started my job with the union over 6 months ago and I have been told that the JATC needs to send my contractor a letter for my pay increase. When will that happen?

Answer: Before the JATC can send a pay increase letter or evaluate your classification, you need to go through all of the steps to become indentured as an apprentice.

1. Apply for Apprenticeship.
2. Take the aptitude test and achieve at least the minimum acceptable score.
3. Complete the drug screen with a negative test result.
4. Submit your transcripts, including high school.
5. Be recommended for apprenticeship by your employer.
6. Attend apprenticeship orientation and sign all of the appropriate paperwork.

After this is completed, the Training Director will evaluate your documentation and will determine what level you should be at. Future increases after the initial assessment will happen according to the apprenticeship standards.