



MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear NECA Innovation Community,

I'm thrilled to reflect on the success of the 2024 NECA Convention in San Diego, where over 10,000 attendees gathered to elevate their businesses and professional experiences. This year's Convention exceeded expectations with a packed agenda, dynamic networking, and a shared focus on advancing the electrical construction industry.

A special shout-out to the [Innovation & Strategy Task Force](#), whose expertise enriched every aspect of the event. From Educational Sessions to live episodes of the Innovation Overload Podcast, their efforts brought cutting-edge insights, and their leadership continues to shape the future of our industry.

We also had incredible participation from our NECA Innovation Institute alumni, with representatives from six cohorts leading the charge throughout the 2024 Convention. Their enthusiasm and commitment to innovation were felt across every dimension of the event. I'd like to give special recognition to the [Westinghouse Cohort](#) and [Bell Cohort](#), who were honored on the General Session stage in front of thousands of their peers. Their leadership and passion for pushing the boundaries of what's possible in this industry serve as an inspiration to us all.



The Innovation Zone in the Emerging Innovation Hub showcased best practices for applying industry solutions to improve operations. Attendees explored the [2024 NECA Exhibitor Market Map](#), featuring insights on all 350 exhibitors and offering a comprehensive view of industry-leading solutions. Additionally, the [NECA Project Life Cycle](#) framework provided contractors tools for process mapping and implementing standard operating procedures to enhance their operations.

Looking ahead, there are exciting opportunities to engage and continue driving innovation:

- **NECA Innovator of the Year Award:** This prestigious award recognizes a contractor who is making transformative strides within their company and across the NECA community. [Nominations for the 2025 Innovator of the Year](#) are open until November 15, 2024.
- **MEP Innovation Conference:** Taking place January 27-30, 2025, in Los Angeles, this premier construction technology and innovation conference includes hands-on labs, roundtables, educational workshops, offsite tours, and the latest from cutting-edge exhibitors. [Supercharge your productivity](#) with the exclusive VIP code **MEPVI PN3CA** for \$200 off registration.
- **NECA Innovation Institute Applications:** [Applications are now open](#) for the April 2025 and August 2025 Cohorts of the NECA Innovation Institute. This year-long executive program equips the most forward-thinking leaders with the tools, coaching, and peer network needed to drive innovation in your organization.

Let's continue to innovate together and take this industry to new heights!

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NECA Executive Director of Industry Innovation
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INDUSTRY PIONEERS



"Being an innovator is being unafraid to take risks, thinking outside of the box, and being persistent when introducing something new to people."

Crystal Wagner
Executive Director of Finance for Gerke Electric
NII Franklin Cohort
2023 - 2024



Click/Scan for more info about the NECA Innovation Institute



"You have to be open minded and look at problems as opportunities if you want to have a culture of innovation."

Curtis Harbour
Senior Vice President at The Brandt Companies



Click/Scan to check out the Innovation Overload Podcast

Celebrate Your Innovators!

The **NECA Innovator of the Year** is awarded to an industry pioneer from a NECA member contractor who champions innovation and continuous improvement across their company and the entire NECA community.



Click/Scan to nominate an innovative team member today

AROUND THE INDUSTRY



WHAT WE'RE READING

- [Not by Design: The True Cost of Poor Collaboration](#)
9/11/24, Dodge Construction Network
- [Electric vehicle battery prices are expected to fall almost 50% by 2026](#)
10/7/24, Goldman Sachs
- [Despite elevated fears, contractors still lack cyber insurance](#)
10/16/24, Construction Dive



UPCOMING EVENTS

- [AEC TECH](#)
October 22 – 27 New York City, NY
- [Trimble Dimensions Conference](#)
November 10 – 13 in Las Vegas, NV
- [MEP Innovation Conference](#)
January 27 – 30 in Los Angeles, CA

