

THE LICA CONTRACTOR

Volume 16, Number 5

Winter 2023



Coming June 2024: The LICA
Water Management Forum

A Message from ADMC

LICA-4-Vets Secures Training Facility



The Official Publication of the Land Improvement Contractors of America

ZERO IN ON YOUR NEXT BACKHOE.



**NO
PAYMENTS
FOR 90 DAYS**

&

**0%
INTEREST
FOR 51 MOS***

**0 REASONS TO CONSIDER ANYONE ELSE.
0 REASONS TO WAIT.**

Put a job-crushing Utility Plus or 580SV Construction King™ backhoe loader to work making money for you. Now's the time. Go to CaseCE.com or see your dealer to learn more.

NO ONE WILL OUTWORK US.™

THE NEW
CASE
CONSTRUCTION

*Terms and conditions apply. See your participating dealer or visit CaseCE.com for details. For commercial use only. Customer participation subject to credit qualification and approval by CNH Industrial Capital America LLC or CNH Industrial Capital Canada Ltd. See your participating CASE CE dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Eligible equipment limited to dealer inventory in stock. Previous retail sales are not eligible. Down payment may be required. Offer good through December 31, 2023. Not all customers or applicants may qualify for this rate or term. CNH Industrial Capital America LLC or CNH Industrial Capital Canada Ltd. standard terms and conditions will apply. This transaction will be unconditionally interest free. Canada Example: The interest rate will be 0.00% per annum for a total contract term of 51 months. Based on retail contract date of October 1, 2023, with a suggested retail price on a new Backhoe Loader 580SV of C\$150,400.00, customer provides down payment of C\$30,506.67 and finances the balance of C\$120,320.00 at 0.00% per annum for 51 months. Total contract term is 51 months. There will be no payments for the first 3 months, followed by 48 equal monthly installments of C\$2,506.67; provided that the amount of the last payment may be slightly different due to rounding. The total amount payable will be C\$150,400.00, which includes finance charges of C\$0.00. Taxes, freight, setup, delivery, additional options or attachments not included in suggested retail price. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice.

The Land Improvement
Contractors of America

The LICA Contractor is the official publication of the Land Improvement Contractors of America, dedicated to the professional conservation of soil and water. LICA was founded in 1951 and is today comprised of twenty-four chapters across the continental United States.

Publisher

Jerry Biuso, Sr.

Editor

Caroline Krug

Assistant Editor

Allison Hack, Eileen Levy

Contributing Writers

Caroline Krug,
Keegan Kult, Craig Martin,
Nick Yaksich

Contributing Photographers

Keegan Kult

Graphic Designer

Brenda Basey

The LICA Contractor welcomes letters, subject to editing for accuracy and brevity. The LICA Contractor also welcomes articles relevant to the land improvement industry. Include your name and daytime phone number for verification purposes. Deadlines are the twenty-first of the month preceding issue date. All unsolicited material must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

3080 Ogden Avenue, Suite 300
Lisle, IL 60532
Phone: 630-548-1984
E-mail: nlica@aol.com



Visit our website
www.licanational.org

For Advertising Sales Contact:
Rich Thompson
(952) 449-1592

Published by:
Land Improvement Contractors of America

Next Issue Date: Spring 2024
Advertising Material Deadline:
January 8, 2024

A Message From the President



Greetings, LICA family.

I hope all of you, your families, and your employees are in good health and ready for the holidays ahead. I can smell the turkey and gravy cooking in my mind right now. It is a time of the year when we are all working hard to get those projects done before the end of the year but remember we should all look back on our year and realize it's been a struggle for many. LICA is a family with the biggest hearts that I'm so proud to be a part of. We look out for each other in the way we do business by sharing information and ideas on how to make it work better. We also care about each other's families and the challenges that life brings to each of us, both good and bad. I believe that LICA members do everything from the heart, and that's why we stand out from any other group. Be a proud member and remember that together we can do anything. Go out in these next few months and take a few minutes to talk to folks about LICA. Again, I ask that every member sign up just one person and watch us grow into the biggest and best group in the USA. When we can grow our membership, that gives us so much MORE! We could get so many more benefits for you. There's a lot of hard work that goes into this organization at the national office, and I commend them for it.

From February 13th to 17th, we will be having our National Winter Convention at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront, right on the Virginia Beach Boardwalk. This will be in my state, so I hope to see you all there. There will be some great sites to see, such as the Military Aviation Museum, Nauticus Maritime Museum, and the USS Wisconsin. Also, a trip to Colonial Williamsburg and Merchant's Square. It will be a fun time, and maybe we could join the polar bear club and take a dip in the ocean, I assure you it's an eye-opener!

Another great and most important event is coming on June 13th-14th, 2024. We will be hosting the FIRST-EVER LICA WATER MANAGEMENT FORUM at the historic St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana. This will put LICA on the MAP! The attention this could bring to LICA will be second to none. This two-day event will be full of opportunity to learn, network, and showcase our contributions to the industry. Let's all do everything we can to support this national event.

Remember, you're a LICA member, so show your hearts this holiday season and help those who are not as fortunate to have a great Thanksgiving and Christmas. I was raised with the belief that friends can't be bought; you have to earn them. You can have a heated conversation at times but still be friends. To help each other, we must trust each other. When someone has an idea that's not the way you would like it, take the time to hear them out and understand that two minds are better than one. Always remember, we are a family through good and bad, and as a group, we can accomplish any goal we set forth. God bless you all, and I'll see you in Virginia Beach.

David Gallahan, National LICA President

Table of Contents

Feature Articles

Transformative LICA Water Management Forum Set to Ignite at St. Joseph's College..... 4

Building Opportunities: A Progress Update from LICA Educational Foundation for Veterans..... 10

Message from ADMC..... 12

Winter Convention14

Departments

Legally Speaking..... 20

Market Watch21

Legislative Landscape..... 22

National Benefits 29

Membership Drive 32

Regions & State Chapters 33

Transformative LICA Water Management Forum Set to Ignite Innovation and Collaboration at St. Joseph's College

By CAROLINE KRUG, Editor

National LICA is geared up to host a groundbreaking event that promises to reshape the landscape of water management. The inaugural LICA Water Management Forum is set to unfold at the historic St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana on June 13 and 14, 2024, bringing together a diverse array of water management professionals, contractors, farmers, government officials, and educators.



A Five-Year Dream Realized

The inception of the LICA Water Management Forum can be traced back to the visionary aspirations of Jerry Biuso, Sr., CEO of LICA, who has envisioned organizing a comprehensive drainage conference for more than five years. However, finding a central location proved to be a significant challenge until May, when a meeting with St. Joseph's College, recommended by VP Tony Cain, unveiled the perfect venue. The picturesque campus emerged as an ideal space to host a multitude of events, and the first of these, the LICA Water Management Forum, is set to make history in June 2024.

Event Highlights

The two-day forum will be a dynamic experience, offering a comprehensive lineup of seminars, equipment demonstrations, indoor and outdoor exhibits, an OSHA 10-Hour



“Secure your spot now and join us in shaping the narrative of progress in one of the most critical fields of our time.”



St. Joseph's College Campus

Course, first aid training, a heavy equipment simulator, and even a golf outing. The diverse program is tailored to the interests and needs of current (and aspiring!) water management professionals, ensuring a multifaceted exploration of the latest advancements, industry best practices, and cutting-edge technologies.

Education and Networking Opportunities

A key feature of the forum is the extensive educational component, with leading university educators in agriculture slated to share their insights. This collaborative learning environment will foster the exchange of knowledge and ideas among attendees, nurturing innovation and progress in the field of water management.

Abundant networking opportunities create a platform for professionals from across North America to connect, collaborate, and build partnerships. The inclusive spirit of the forum extends a warm welcome to all water management contractors, professionals, educators, and associates, as well as farmers, agricultural organizations, and government officials.

To encourage participation and support from all regions, complimentary booth space has been allocated to each LICA state chapter. LICA has also extended an invitation to our Canadian counterpart to the north, the Land Improvement Contractors of Ontario (LICO) making this an international event.

Community Support and Collaboration

The local community is rallying behind the LICA Water Management Forum, recognizing its potential to bring economic and intellectual vitality to the region. One of the most anticipated aspects of the forum is the collaboration between



Computer classroom at St. Joseph's College



10.03 Acre training field at St. Joseph's College for outdoor exhibits and equipment demonstrations.



Core building foyer

LICA and the Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition (ADMC). Together, these organizations bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table, amplifying the impact of the forum and broadening its reach.

St. Joseph's College, with its historic significance and multi-faceted facilities, is an ideal host for this transformative event.

Historic St. Joe-Reimagined

Opening its doors to students for the first time in 1891, St. Joseph's College flourished for over a century. It evolved through the years, initially offering high school and junior college programs to young men under the leadership of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. It became a senior college in 1936, eventually offering classes to women in 1968, and attracting students from around the country to its athletic programs. It even hosted summer training for the Chicago Bears for 30 years beginning in 1944, and the movie Brian's Song was filmed on its campus in 1971.

In 2017, the college temporarily suspended academic operations. This closure undoubtedly impacted the town, causing a void in both education and community life. The loss of a longstanding educational institution could be felt throughout the local economy as students and faculty were no longer contributing to businesses and the community at large. However, there's optimism for a promising future.

Since its closure, the staff has been working to find a new mission for St. Joe's. The campus has been operating as a satellite location for students earning certificates and associate degrees at partnering institutions. Now, discussions are underway to revitalize St. Joseph's College by transforming it into a vocational school, addressing the practical needs of today's students. In fact, the college is

LICA WATER MANAGEMENT FORUM

St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, IN

June 13 & 14, 2024

Lodging Options

On-Campus Apartment \$75.00 per person/night

Ideal for groups or companies

- 5 Bed/ 2 Bath plus kitchenette

Reserve today! These will fill up fast.

To reserve contact Allison Hack: anational.lica@gmail.com

Holiday Inn Express Rensselaer

4788 Nesbitt Dr., Rensselaer, IN 47978

Call: (219) 866-7111



Interested in Exhibiting?
Scan QR Code for Sales Package

For questions contact:

Allison Hack

anational.lica@gmail.com

Delivering More. All Day. Every Day.



Your next new Cat[®] machine comes with extended powertrain protection... at no cost to you.



Your powertrain will be covered for up to three years or 5000 hours⁽¹⁾ so you can:

» Work Confidently

backed by the power of the earthmoving equipment leader

» Control Costs

avoiding the expense of covered repairs

» Safeguard your investment

entrusting your machine to trained technicians whose service expertise and accurate recordkeeping can boost resale value

» And it won't cost you a thing.⁽²⁾

» What's included?

The plan covers parts and labor for powertrain component failures caused by defects in materials or workmanship.

This includes:

Basic engine, transmission, torque converter/divider, drive line, differential, drive axles and final drives.

Hydraulic drive pumps and motors on excavators and machines with hydrostatic drive or differential steering.

Brake components that also provide steering on track-type tractors and track-type loaders.⁽³⁾

Service brake components that are internal to covered powertrain components.



Contact your Cat Dealer for details

(1) Varies by model up to 3 years or 5,000 hours.

(2) Offer available for LICA members only. Terms and conditions apply.

(3) Excludes normal brake wear.

BUILT FOR IT.[™]

www.catallday.com

© 2015 Caterpillar. All Rights Reserved. CAT, CATERPILLAR, BUILT FOR IT, their respective logos, "Caterpillar Yellow" and the "Power Edge" trade dress, as well as corporate and product identity used herein, are trademarks of Caterpillar and may not be used without permission.





Large auditorium at St. Joseph's College



Lake Banet on campus

extending its reach beyond traditional college-age students by partnering with the LICA Educational Foundation for Veterans. St. Joseph's is poised to become the location of the first heavy equipment operator training facility for veterans recruited by the foundation. The prospect of re-opening St. Joseph's with a focus on trades brings hope for job creation, skill development, and economic growth in Rensselaer.

Excitement surrounds collaboration with organizations like LICA, particularly in the context of the upcoming LICA Wa-

ter Management Forum. This event aims to spotlight careers and advancements in farm drainage and water management, aligning with the evolving needs of agriculture. St. Joseph's College, centrally located in Rensselaer, Indiana provides the perfect venue for this one-of-a-kind event. The beautiful campus features well-equipped classrooms and a spacious auditorium for educational seminars, a foyer with floor-to-ceiling windows, providing an ideal setting for indoor exhibits and social gatherings, and over ten acres of training ground for outdoor exhibits and demonstrations.

As the community looks toward the future, the dream of reopening St. Joseph's College as a trade school signifies not just a revival of a historical institution but a beacon of hope for progress. Collaborative efforts with organizations like LICA add momentum to the initiative, fostering awareness and interest in essential careers. St. Joseph's College could once again become a source of pride for the town, symbolizing resilience, innovation, and a brighter future for education and industry in Rensselaer.

Agricultural Drain Systems



Highway Culverts

- 3" to 48"**
- Agricultural Drain Systems
- Airport Runway/Parking Lot
- Constructed Wetlands
- Landfill Drainage
- Industrial Waste Water Applications
- Septic Sewer Drain Pipes
- Sewer Sludge Compost Pipe

Our Pipe Is Laboratory Tested

For the Best Quality and Service Call

Crumpler Plastic Pipe, INC.
 Phone: 910-525-4046
 Fax: 910-525-5801
 Website: www.cpp-pipe.com
 Toll Free: 1-800-334-5071



Crumpler has proudly served the Carolinas and beyond since 1945

Mark Your Calendars!

As June 13 approaches, excitement is building for the LICA Water Management Forum. Professionals from various corners of the water management spectrum are gearing up to converge at St. Joseph's College, ready to explore, learn, and contribute to the future of sustainable water management. The prospect of reinvigorating St. Joseph's College as a hub for trade education adds an extra layer of hope and positivity to this transformative event. In the spirit of collaboration, education, and innovation, the LICA Water Management Forum stands as a testament to the collective vision for a more sustainable and interconnected future in water management.

This event offers an exclusive opportunity for our associates to showcase your support through sponsorship and highlight your contributions to the industry by exhibiting at an indoor or outdoor booth. Secure your spot now and join us in shaping the narrative of progress in one of the most critical fields of our time. We look forward to welcoming you to the LICA Water Management Forum! ■

PARTNER WITH THE PROVEN LEADER



HIGHEST QUALITY ... FASTEST DELIVERY ... BEST VALUE

- User-Friendly, Plug & Go Systems
- 1 to 60 Horsepower Pumps
- 1-Phase & 3-Phase Electrical Controls
- All Voltages Supported
- Lockable, Secure, Weatherproof, Climate-Controlled Enclosure
- Technical Support & Replacement Parts Readily Available

External LED Indicator Light



Variable Frequency (Speed) Drives

Cellular-Based Remote Monitoring



Monitor & Control Your PumpStation directly from your phone!

WE ARE YOUR COMPLETE PUMPSTATION SOLUTION



800.492.2779

www.carrypumps.com

Building Opportunities: A Progress Update from LICA Educational Foundation for Veterans



The LICA Educational Foundation for Veterans (LICA-4-Vets) is making strides in its mission to empower veterans with construction industry training and career opportunities. We're excited to share that we've secured classroom space and a 10-acre training field at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana, for our first Heavy Equipment Training Facility. But, we need your support to open its doors and make a lasting impact.

Empowering Veterans in Construction

Veterans bring valuable skills to the construction industry, yet they represent only 5.9% of its workforce. Our Heavy Equipment Training Facility at St. Joseph's College will be a game-changer, providing veterans with the skills needed to excel in construction careers. And it's not just about training; it's an opportunity to create a sustainable career path for military veterans and their families.

A Plea for Support

As we stand at the threshold of launching the LICA-4-Vets Heavy Equipment Operator Training Program, your support is crucial to realizing this vision. The funds we raise will go towards setting up the training field and acquiring necessary equipment.

Sustainable Impact with Your Help

Our goal is not just expansion; it's a thoughtful response to a genuine need in the construction industry. Your



St. Joseph's College campus

donations will empower veterans, address labor shortages, and benefit the community. Once operational, the facility will become self-sustaining with the help of GI bills, government, and private grants.

Immediate Opportunity at St. Joseph's College

We're at a pivotal moment. We have an immediate opportunity to establish a Heavy Equipment Operator Training program at St. Joseph's College. This partnership between LICA-4-Vets and St. Joseph's College not only promises educational opportunities but also holds the potential to positively impact the town of Rensselaer, creating a win for everyone involved. As the institution becomes a center for skill development and career-focused education, it can reinvigorate the local economy,

create jobs, and foster a stronger sense of community pride.

Your Support: A Lasting Impact

The construction industry needs skilled workers, and veterans deserve access to quality training. Your support will be the catalyst, turning this need into a lasting impact. Join us in building a future where veterans thrive in the construction industry!

Donate today at
<https://www.licaveteransfoundation.org/donate>



NO ONE EVER SAID SAFETY SECOND.



904 P-TIER

ADVANCED
VISION SYSTEM

NEVER IDLE

At 40 tons and over 30 feet long, safety comes first. By combining cameras and radar, the Advanced Vision System gives operators eyes in the back of their head. To protect your crew, and other investments, like never before.



JOHN DEERE

[DEERE.COM/SMARTERTOOLS](https://www.deere.com/smartertools)

Message from ADMC: Farmers Wanting More from Water Management Systems Provides Opportunities for Drainage Contractors

By Keegan Kult, ADMC Executive Director

Water has always been and will continue to be a critical resource in agriculture, as it is essential for growth of crops and the livelihoods of farmers. Traditionally, in humid regions, the focus has been on removing excess water to prevent waterlogging, reduce surface runoff, and to facilitate planting and harvesting. However, as a changing climate has been leading to wetter springs followed by drier summers, farmers are beginning to shift their mindset of wanting 24/7 free flow drainage to being able reduce their risks by controlling when drainage occurs or by being able to store their water and make it available for later use.

When farmers were only thinking about removing excess water from the fields, the science and technology were focused on how drainage could keep up with crop demands. This led to improving drainage systems from single targeted hand laid lines of clay tile to precise grade controlled, narrow spaced, corrugated plastic pipe pattern-systems with multiple sub-mains.

Now there are increasing demands to ensure there are returns on high priced land and rental rates, risk management due to the wetter springs and dryer summers, as well an increased awareness of environmental sustainability. Like the shift from targeted clay lines to pattern corrugated plastic pipe systems, there is now a shift from continuous free flow drainage to being able to manage the flow at the outlet with automated drainage water management, drainage water recycling, and even nitrate removal practices like denitrifying bioreactors and saturated buffers. Farmers were quick to realize the benefits of drainage with the yield monitor, now they are realizing that they can get even more from the system.

This new demand creates opportunities for informed drainage contractors to add even more value to their services. ADMC and its members are continuously working on the industry's behalf to improve the way research is conveyed to the contractors, educating farmers and landowners about water management, and most importantly improving the way practices are delivered. ADMC is always looking for new members to improve its ability to reach farmers and contractors. Membership support allows ADMC to be selective on impactful projects as well as to develop new partnerships to amplify its message on the important work and the role contractors have for the next generation of agriculture.

ADMC and its members are currently active in evaluating the impacts of automated drainage water management on yields versus manual drainage water management in Ohio, deploying batch and build implementation projects in Iowa, turn-key practice delivery for increase adoption in Minnesota, accelerating the use of conservation drainage in Illinois, and even deploying practices in the Chesapeake Bay. Next year, ADMC is excited to partner with LICA on the National Water

Management Forum in Indiana. This event will offer training opportunities for contractors to learn more about advanced water management. To learn more about these opportunities, please reach out to ADMC Executive Director, Keegan Kult. He can be reached by email at kkult@admcoalition.com or by visiting the website at www.admcoalition.com. ■



Figure 1 Installation of a saturated buffer lateral line by Illinois LICA at an ADMC partnered field day.



Figure 2 Iowa Batch and Build bioreactor installation by ADMC and LICA member Hands On Excavating.

Simple, Fast, and Convenient!

Quote Me\$ SM

**IN STOCK
COAST TO COAST**

25 XPL EASY LOADER

- CAPACITY: 50,000 lbs.
- 25 Ton Tri-Axle, Air Brakes
- 8 Degree Loading Angle Low Profile



* Shown with
Optional Hydraulic Ramps

- Trailer Weight: 11,720 lbs.
- Overall Width: 102", Length: 34'4"
- Deck Length: 22' Flat, 6' Beavertail
- Deck Height: 34"
- Ramps: 72" Long x 36" Wide
- Tires: Twelve 215/75R17.5 (H)
- Brakes: Air (Full ABS System)
- Lighting: 100% Sealed Wiring harness and L.E.D. Lights

Standard Features on 25XPL Easy Loaders



**AIR LIFT FRONT AXLE
COMPAC-TRAC SUSPENSION**
Ultra lift design requires no frame modification, maximum lift and ground clearance.



**ONE PIECE CAST
LUNETTE EYE**
Tested @ 275,000# and wrap around nose plate. Standard on all trailers.



**ADJUSTABLE
3-LEAF SUSPENSION**
Standard on all 15-25 Ton trailers.



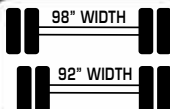
HIGH TENSILE MAIN RAIL
One piece and cold formed.
CROSS MEMBERS
pierced through Main Beam for lowest possible deck height and more unitized frame.



SUMITOMO BRAND TIRES
National Dealer Supported.
HUB PILOTTED WHEELS
Outboard brake drums for easier maintenance.



APITONG/COMPOSITE DECK
Durable Composite Decking is fastened to the crossmembers with bolts and deck washers making it easier to replace decking when required.



Eager Beaver
WIDE TRACK AXLES: 98"
Some Competition - 92"



ALL WHEEL ABS
with Spring Brakes on all axles.
Standard on all air brake trailers.



>> EagerBeaverTrailers.com

For a quote on any model, please call 800-257-8163



2024 National LICA Winter Convention

Virginia Beach, Virginia - February 13 - 17th

Agenda

Please note:

**The Winter Convention Agenda has changed.
National LICA Committees are now Thursday.
Seminars & Associates' Night are Friday.**

Tuesday, February 13

8:30 am - 3:30 pm Aviation Museum/
Nauticus Tour

Wednesday, February 14

8:30 am - 3:30 pm Tour of Williamsburg

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Executive Committee

Thursday, February 15

7:00 am - 5:00 pm Committee Meetings

12:00 pm Opening Lunch

Friday, February 16

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am - 12:00 pm Educational Seminars

12:30 pm - 3:00 pm Executive Directors' Meeting

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Associates' Night
(Exhibition)

Saturday, February 17

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am - 10:00 am Delegates' Meeting

10:00 am - 11:00 am Board Meeting

12:30 pm Lunch

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Reception

7:00 pm Awards Banquet

What does Registration Include?

Winter Convention registration includes all meal functions, Associates' Night, Educational Seminars, Committee Meetings, and the Board & Delegates' Meetings. All registered members will receive meal tickets, a name badge, and a program when they check-in on site and are welcome to attend any of the Committee Meetings and the Board Meeting. For a list of committees and their functions, visit LICANational.org.

Tours

Those who pre-register for any of the tours will receive an admission ticket to those events when they check-in on site. Tours leave promptly at the listed time.

Attire

The attire for our Winter Convention is mostly casual. Members do wear "dressier" attire for the Awards Banquet Saturday evening. Slacks, dresses, and nice shoes are often worn, but not required.

Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront

LICA members will be soaking in the views of the Atlantic Ocean right in the middle of the Virginia Beach Boardwalk this February. The Boardwalk has a plethora of restaurants and activities just minutes from the Hilton. But you don't even need to leave the hotel for a bite to eat. Dine next to the Atlantic Ocean at Catch 31, for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Located on the first floor of the Hilton.

Scan Code for:

Convention Registration,
Hotel Reservations &
more details.





2024 National LICA Winter Convention

Virginia Beach, Virginia - February 13 - 17th
Educational Seminars & Associates' Night

Educational Seminars

Friday, February 16

New Opportunities in Water Management

Presented by: SWRT Solutions, Inc.

Millions of acres of sandy textured soils do not produce profitable yields for your customers because they lack the ability to retain mobile crop nutrients and moisture in the root zone. SWRT Solutions Inc. is a new company with a subsurface membrane technology developed at Michigan State University which increases in water use efficiency up to 6 times, retains more inputs keeping them available to crops and dramatically increases biomass and crop yields. Attendees will learn how membranes work and how to make subsurface membrane installation available to their existing customers as well as many new customers who need this long lasting and low maintenance soil improving technology.

Mental Health Awareness: Depression & Suicide

Presented by: Virginia Beach Dept. of Human Services: Behavioral Health & Prevention Services

Many adults suffer from depression and even thoughts of suicide. Unfortunately, in the construction industry this is not talked about enough. Many people don't even know the signs of depression and others might be ashamed to ask for help.

In this seminar members will gain the knowledge and understanding about depression, suicide, and issues relating to mental health. Attendees will also learn how to get help for themselves or someone else suffering from depression or suicidal thoughts.

Associates' Night (Exhibition) : "LICA's American Revolution"

Friday, February 16 - 7:00 pm - 10:00pm

The theme of the Winter Convention is "LICA's American Revolution." Attendees and exhibitors are encouraged (but not required) to dress in theme on Associates' Night (exhibition).

Though no major battles took place in Virginia Beach, there is a consensus among historians that the Battle of Yorktown was strategically won right off the coast of Cape Henry. Until August of 1781 the British controlled the waterways of Virginia. But that changed after a two-day sea battle, when the French Fleet de-

feated the British. The Chesapeake was no longer controlled by the British and their army was left without reinforcements and supplies, forcing them to surrender on October 19, 1782.

LICA can celebrate that victory by dressing as: blue coats, red coats, commoners, wealthy landowners or even famous historical figures. Costume or not - exhibitors and contractors can network while enjoying a dinner buffet and a refreshing drink.





2024 National LICA Winter Convention

Virginia Beach, Virginia - February 13 - 17th

Tours

Tuesday, February 13 - 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Military Aviation Museum & Nauticus Maritime Museum and USS Wisconsin



Located in Virginia Beach the Military Aviation Museum is home to one of the world's largest collections of flying vintage military aircraft. Tour guides will take members through the purpose-built airport facility includes over 50 aircraft from the World War I and World War II-era.

Nauticus is a maritime-themed science center and museum, also known as the National Maritime Center. Battleship Wisconsin (BB-64), an Iowa-class battleship, was the second ship of the United States Navy named in honor of the 30th state. Battleship Wisconsin is one of the largest and last battleships ever built by the U.S. Navy. Explore its deck through a self-guided tour. **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN.**

Wednesday, February 14 - 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Guided Tour of Colonial Williamsburg & Merchants Square



Join us for America's largest living history museum. From 1699 to 1780, Williamsburg was the political, social, and cultural capital of Britain's largest, wealthiest, and most populous colony. It was here that George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and other Virginia Patriots debated the ideas - liberty, independence, and personal freedoms - that led to the founding of American democracy. Interaction with costumed interpreters of varied age, race, and social position provides a first-hand view of life when the town was the capitol of the Virginia colony.

Members will shop and have lunch on their own at Merchants Square, an 18th-century style retail village with more than 40 shops and restaurants. The shops offer everything from traditional and designer clothing to handmade candies, antique quilts, folk art and a variety of exclusive Williamsburg reproductions. The restaurants on Merchants Square offer choices from a quick sandwich to the freshest seafood, steaks, or contemporary American regional cooking. **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN.**





2024 National LICA Winter Convention

Virginia Beach, Virginia - February 13 - 17th

Convention Registration

Name _____ Name _____

Company _____ Name _____

City _____ State _____ Name _____

Email _____ Name _____

Early Bird Rate Postmarked by January 22, 2024	Price	# Attending	Total
Contractor Member, Spouse or Associate Member. Includes: Thursday Lunch, Friday Breakfast, Associates' Night, Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, Reception & Awards Banquet. Seminars & Meetings.	\$375.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under	FREE		
Registration postmarked after January 22, 2024			
Contractor Member, Spouse or Associate Member. Includes: Thursday Lunch, Friday Breakfast, Associates' Night, Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, Reception & Awards Banquet. Seminars & Meetings.	\$400.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under	FREE		
Tour Registration			
Tuesday, February 13 Military Aviation Museum/Nauticus	\$93.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under (2 & Under FREE)	\$50.00		
Wednesday, February 14 Colonial Williamsburg	\$96.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under (2 & Under FREE)	\$50.00		
Winter Convention Total (Registration plus Tours)	\$		

Accommodations:
Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront
3001 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach, VA
Room Rate: \$149/night (plus taxes & fees)
Call: (757) 213-3000 - Option 1
Group: LIC
Deadline: Monday, January 22, 2024

Make check payable to: LICA
3080 Ogden Ave. Suite 300, Lisle, IL 60532

Amount: \$ _____

Cardholder: _____

Card Number: _____

Exp.: _____ 3-Digit Code: _____ Billing Zip: _____



2024 National LICA Winter Convention

Virginia Beach, Virginia - February 13 - 17th

Fun on Your Own!

Walking Distance...

Virginia Beach Surf & Rescue Museum

2401 Atlantic Avenue Virginia Beach, VA

- Maritime History
- History of Coastal Communities

[Click here for complete info](#)

Beachside Social

2728 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach, VA

- Enjoy games while dining & enjoying cocktails.
- Shuffleboard, Bocce Ball, Boardgames
- Open 5 pm - 10 pm (12 am on weekends)

[Click here for complete info](#)

Virginia Beach Craft Beer Trail *(Multiple locations)*

Smartmouth Brewing *(walkable)*

313 32nd Street, Virginia Beach, VA

Bunker Brewpub *(walkable)*

211 21st Street, Virginia Beach, VA

[Click here for the complete Trail](#)

Virginia Beach Guided Beach Horseback Ride

26th & Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach, VA

- 30 minutes or 1 hour tour(s)
- No experience required

[Click here for complete info](#)

Monuments & Parks

Neptune's Park

31st and Atlantic Ave Virginia Beach, VA

- Outdoor park with King Neptune's Statue

Naval Aviation Monument Park

25th Street & 2500 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, VA

- 9 bronze statues depicting early local naval history, WWII & the modern day.

By Car...

Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center

717 General Booth Blvd, Virginia Beach, VA

- Sharks, Sea Mammals, Reptiles, Fish & More!
- Whale Watching Boat Tours
- Buy tickets online.

[Click here to buy tickets & more info.](#)

Cape Henry Lighthouse

583 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Fort Story, VA

- 4th Oldest lighthouse open to the public
- Open 10 am - 4 pm (Winter Hours)
- Must have a valid ID

[Click here for complete information](#)

Historic Homes

- Multiple homes that are a part of American history
- Thoroughgood House, Lynnhaven House, Francis Land House, & Ferry Plantation House.

[Click here for complete list & locations](#)

Golf Courses

- Local Golf Courses open year-round
- The Virginia Beach Golf Management operates some of the best public golf courses in the Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads area. This portfolio of five golf courses, offers challenging variety to all golfers. All five courses are unique and provide a perfect golf experience for any skill level.

[Click here for complete information](#)

Rudee Tours *(Wildlife watching, fishing)*

200 Winston Salem Ave. Virginia Beach, VA

- Whale watching
- Fishing
- Several trips daily

[Click here for complete information](#)



 informamarkets

EXHIBITS: JANUARY 23-25, 2024
EDUCATION: JANUARY 22-25
LAS VEGAS CONVENTION CENTER



WHERE LEGENDS ARE MADE



As the industry's No. 1 authority, we've stayed true to our mission to support the needs of concrete and masonry professionals. Today, we're working just as hard to deliver opportunities and strategic connections as we did on day one. Join us to see, touch and test state-of-the-art solutions that drive informed decisions and put your business on solid ground for the year ahead.

BUILD A LEGACY OF SUCCESS.



**LEARN MORE
ABOUT WOC**



**VIEW
INTERNATIONAL
EVENTS**

REGISTER NOW at worldofconcrete.com





It's a Change Order — What Could Possibly Go Wrong? A Lot.

By CRAIG MARTIN, Construction Attorney with Lamson Dugan and Murray

We've all signed Change Orders on projects, but how many of us actually read them? A recent case out of Texas emphasizes the importance of reading the Change Order before signing it. The Court held that the contractor waived its claim for \$25 million when it signed a \$1.3 million change order.

In this case, a contractor was hired to build 80 miles of a natural gas liquid pipeline. The contract was relatively standard, and the change order provision required the contractor to notify the owner within seven days of the date the contractor knew or reasonably should have known of the need for a change order. The change order provision also stated that any such change orders constituted a full and final settlement and shall be deemed to compensate the contractor fully for such change.

The contractor experienced problems on the project, which required additional boring. In January 2019, the parties executed a Change Order addressing the expanded scope of the project. Under this Change Order, the owner agreed to pay an additional \$1.3 million "as full and complete compensation" for additional equipment, labor, tools, rental, mobilization, and all other potential costs or expenses to complete the additional work. The Change Order also provided:

"[Contractor] reviewed all necessary information related to the changes contemplated by this Change Order and the calculation of the lump sum Contract Price. [Contractor] hereby represents and warrants that such information is adequate and complete in order for [Contractor] to enter into this Change Order. Accordingly, [Contractor] hereby (i) agrees that after the execution of the Change Order it shall have no right to claim or seek an increase in the Contract Price or an adjustment to the Project Schedule and guaranteed completion dates based upon information [Contractor] knew or should have known or events occurring before the date of the Change Order and (ii) hereby waives and releases [Owner] from and against such claims."

The contractor continued the work but then submitted additional change orders based on weather delays and additional boring that was required. The owner refused to pay, arguing that when the January 2019 Change Order was paid, the contractor knew of weather delays and that additional boring would be required but failed to include those amounts in the approved Change Order.

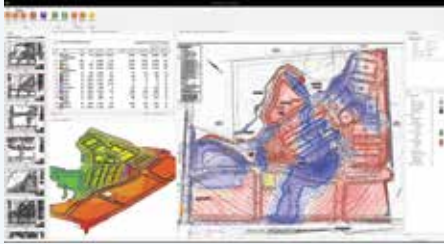
The parties sued each other—the contractor demanded payment for the additional work and weather delays, while the owner argued that the contractor waived its claims based on the signed Change Order. The trial court closely reviewed the contract and the change orders and ruled in favor of the owner. The court found that in January 2019, at the time of the signed Change Order, the contractor knew of the potential for additional boring and weather delays not addressed in the Change Order. And, because of the very broad release language in the Change Order, the contractor waived any rights it had to demand more compensation for the additional boring and unclaimed weather days.

Takeaway: Change Orders must be reviewed very carefully. Because the contractor knew of additional boring that would take place and unclaimed weather days, not covered by the Change Order, they should have added language allowing for more change orders. Something as simple as "except for those change orders submitted but not yet approved" might have saved millions of dollars. The contractor also could have delayed the execution of the Change Order until it submitted claims for the additional boring and known weather delays. ■

Craig Martin is a construction attorney with Lamson Dugan & Murray, LLP law firm in Omaha, Nebraska, and a member of the collaborative Johnson Team. The Johnson Team consists of a group of specialists serving LICA members on matters of significance – planning, protection, and preservation of their businesses and families. If you have any questions, Craig's e-mail is cmartin@ldmlaw.com.

Market Watch

InSite Software Announces Elevation Pro



InSite Software premiered the latest generation of Elevation Pro. The software is, “a totally new product that revolutionizes the sitework sector,” said Steve Warfle, president and chief product officer for Insite Software. “Our development team started working with customer focus groups, strategizing with industry partners, and studying the competitive landscape. We figured out what features today’s modern earthwork estimators require to increase production and minimize the wages spent on takeoff and modeling.”

InSite created this new tool that, “Will earthwork contractors more accurate, productive and profitable,” Warfle said.

insitesoftware.com

DEVELON Previews Its New Compact Track Loader

DEVELON, formerly known as Doosan construction equipment, offered visitors to CONEXPO-CON/AGG a preview of its new DTL35 compact track loader, the latest addition to the company’s lineup of compact construction equipment.

The 116-horsepower compact track loader is the company’s first entry in this product category for the North American construction market. Thomas Lee, director of product management at DEVELON, says the addition of compact track loaders is another sign of the company’s commitment to its dealers and customers in North America to continue expanding its equipment offering.



na.develon.ce.com

MOROOKA

WE KEEP AMERICA ON TRACK

Find a dealer near you at MOROOKACARRIERS.COM



Money, Money, Money ...

By NICK YAKSICH, LICA Director of Government Relations

I grew up outside of Washington, DC, and my mom, a teacher, was always looking for the opportunity to take us to a museum or monument to “expand our horizons.” When she would ask the five of us where we wanted to go, the unanimous choice was always the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. It’s located right next to the Washington Monument. That’s where they print piles of money as far as you can see.

Every elected official and lobbyist in town knows where the money is printed and knows they have to work the legislative process to secure funding for their interests. As the fiscal year comes to an end (thanks to an extension), most of the talk in Washington is about how much and where the money is going.

Funding the Government

An extension to figure out how to fund the government and avoid a government shutdown is front and center for Congress. The new House Speaker, Mike Johnson (R-LA), has his work cut out for him as he tries to appease his majority, who elected him most importantly to hold the line on spending.

The current short-term federal spending bill expires in late November. So, the Johnson-led House will have to reach an agreement with the Democratic Senate and the Biden White House on a longer-term spending deal, which could run until the end of this fiscal year on September 30, 2024.

The proposed House spending bills are generally at much lower levels than those written in the Senate, usually with bipartisan input from Republicans in the minority, along with the Biden White House. Each offers multiple opportunities for clashes with the House GOP majority, which played a major role in opening up the speakership in the first place, with the chamber’s most conservative Republicans leading the successful expulsion of Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) from the position, whom they considered insufficiently committed to cutting government spending. Funding the government is one of the Speaker’s first big tests in holding his majority together.

Funding International Support

The Biden administration asked Congress in late October to approve a massive \$106 billion package of emergency aid for Israel and Ukraine, as well as funds for the southern U.S. border and other humanitarian needs.

Speaker Johnson’s decision to force a stand-alone vote on aid for Israel, separating it from the request for funds for Ukraine and coupling it with spending cuts, has set up a confrontation between the House and Senate over how to fund U.S. allies during conflicts.

Mr. Johnson, the Louisiana Republican who has personally voted against sending military aid to Kyiv, released a \$14 billion aid bill for Israel in response to the administration’s proposal. It includes a provision that would rescind the same amount of money earmarked for the Internal Revenue Service as part of the Inflation Reduction Act, a key piece of President Biden’s agenda.

While a bill to help fund Israel in its war against Hamas would likely have mustered an overwhelming bipartisan vote, Mr. Johnson went one step further, injecting a provision that would roll back a top priority of Mr. Biden and Democrats, which experts said would increase the nation’s debt.

Funding the Farm Bill

Although it’s an authorization bill and not a funding bill (the farm bill provides the authority to spend funds on agriculture programs over a determined time period), Congress must take action and pass a farm bill to keep critical funds flowing to agriculture and nutrition programs.

The top Republican on the Senate Ag Committee, Senator John Boozman, says he doesn’t know whether the extra money Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow has identified for the next farm bill will be enough to bolster commodity programs and crop insurance. Stabenow said she expects to have up to \$5 billion in additional funding in the bill but didn’t identify the source of where she will get the funds, and Boozman said he doesn’t know where the funding comes from.

Boozman and his House Ag counterparts continue to wait for cost estimates from the Congressional Budget Office on possible program modifications. Boozman still has fundamental differences with Stabenow over what to do about the main commodity programs.

“We’re trying to figure out what needs to be done and getting it scored,” Boozman said. “So, we’re not ready to say what it’s going to cost to get the risk management tools up to the latest level of inflation.”

Meanwhile, significant funds are already flowing to farm states. President Biden and Ag Secretary Tom Vilsack recently visited a Minnesota farm to announce \$5 billion in funding for projects across rural America. The announcement includes \$1 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funding for conservation projects in 35 states through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

The President also announced \$145 million in funding from the Rural Energy for America Program, or REAP, to benefit 697 small businesses and farms across 44 states. Vilsack says the projects will help small businesses and farms lower utility costs, as well as position farmers to “take full

advantage” of additional IRA funding for transitioning rural electric cooperatives from fossil-fuel-based electricity to more renewable power.

Rural infrastructure will also get a boost with \$1 billion in new funding for power production and water and wastewater projects. An additional \$274 million from USDA’s ReConnect program will go toward rural broadband projects in nine states.

There’s also \$2 billion for communities in 10 states where the Administration established the Rural Partners Network in areas of persistent and deep poverty.

Throw Some Money at a Problem

Many buzzwords are used by elected officials and lobbyists to request more funding for their programs: “strengthen,” “bump up,” “expand,” and “invest,” to name a few. I remember a Republican congressman once telling me he considers any funds spent outside his district as foreign investment. With the domestic and global challenges facing the Administration and Congress, it’s a safe bet that the printers at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing will be working day and night for the foreseeable future. ■

The advertisement is divided into three main sections. The top section shows three screenshots of software interfaces: 'GCS: PIPE' showing a cross-section of pipe installation, 'GCS: DIRT' showing a 3D terrain map, and 'TERRACE & WATERWAY BUNDLE' showing a cross-section of a waterway. Below each screenshot is a brief description of the software's function. The bottom section features two images of agricultural machinery: a blue tractor with a tillage implement on the left and a yellow tractor with a waterway machine on the right. At the bottom, there is a call to action and contact information for GeoLogic Computer Systems and AGPS.

GCS: PIPE
For Subsurface Drainage
Install tile using GCS's DAO (Depth at Optimum) technology

GCS: DIRT
For Surface Drainage
Shape land to prevent ponding and optimize surface drainage

TERRACE & WATERWAY BUNDLE
For Terracing and Waterways
Enter cross section information in the field to go from survey to cutting grade in minutes

Call us today for details

GeoLogic
Computer Systems

AGPS For all of your tilling, ditching, leveling, and shaping needs
989-640-2347 | www.agpsinc.com

CONEXPO-CON/AGG Announces “SuperBowl® Tickets Sweepstakes”

North America’s largest trade show, has launched a “Super Bowl® Tickets Sweepstakes” in honor of the City of Las Vegas hosting its first Super Bowl, to be held at the new Allegiant Stadium for Super Bowl® LVIII in February 2024. CONEXPO-CON/AGG has called Las Vegas home since 1996 and most recently brought 139,000 construction industry professionals to the city this past March. To help celebrate the Super Bowl in Las Vegas, the sweepstakes Grand Prize will offer two tickets to attend the Super Bowl, including airfare and hotel accommodations.

Renowned for its dynamic mix of construction equipment, technologies, networking and education opportunities, CONEXPO/CON-AGG is the premier event for construction professionals and is committed to taking the construction industry to the next level. This Super Bowl giveaway recognizes Las Vegas for its prowess in hosting the largest and most spectacular gatherings, aligning with CONEXPO/CON-AGG’s mission to create an unparalleled event that leaves a lasting impact on the construction industry.



Since Las Vegas has been home to CONEXPO-CON/AGG for nearly 30 years, its organizers couldn’t imagine the first Las Vegas Super Bowl® not having their fans in attendance.

One randomly selected winner will receive:

- Grand Prize: Two (2) tickets to Super Bowl® LVIII on February 11, 2024, in Las Vegas, Nevada;
- Two (2) complimentary round-trip flights to and from Las Vegas, Nevada; and
- Three night stay in complimentary deluxe hotel accommodations selected by Sponsor, which includes round-trip gameday transportation

People who are feeling lucky can enter at conexpoconagg.com/sweepstakes by December 15th, 2023

No purchase is necessary to enter or win, and the sweepstakes is void where prohibited by law. Visit CONEXPOCON-AGG.com to see official rules, terms, and conditions.

About CONEXPO-CON/AGG

Held every three years, CONEXPO-CON/AGG is the must-attend event for construction industry professionals. The show features the latest equipment, products, services and technologies for the construction industry, as well as industry-leading education. CONEXPO-CON/AGG is owned in partnership with NRMCA, NSSGA and AEM and managed by AEM. The next CONEXPO-CON/AGG will be held March 3-7, 2026 in Las Vegas, Nevada. For more information on CONEXPO-CON/AGG, visit <https://www.conexpoconagg.com>.

About the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)

AEM is the North America-based international trade group representing off-road equipment manufacturers and suppliers with more than 1,000 companies and more than 200 product lines in the agriculture and construction-related industry sectors worldwide. The equipment manufacturing industry in the United States supports 2.3 million jobs and contributes roughly \$316 billion to the economy every year. ■



BRON ADD ON PLOW MODELS:

- 375—66” cutting depth
- 400—78” cutting depth
- 750—90” cutting depth
- RC 750—90” cutting depth



1954 N Linn Avenue Phone: 641-394-3141
New Hampton IA 50659 Fax: 641-394-3823

www.mitkollc.com

Employer Responsibilities in Winter Weather

By THE LICA SAFETY PORTAL, Zywave Resource Library

Snow days were a highlight of winter when many of us were children, but now winter weather presents a host of difficulties for employers. There are safety concerns, OSHA regulations to comply with, potential liability risks, attendance confusion and pay-related issues to address. It's important to be prepared for all scenarios associated with inclement weather before the weather arrives, and to make sure employees are properly informed of all relevant policies and procedures.

Working in Adverse Conditions

Your biggest concern should be the safety of your employees. This is especially important for any job in which employees work outside or are exposed to the weather conditions throughout the day.

Cold Stress

Working in the extreme cold can be dangerous for employees, and precipitation and wind exacerbate that danger. OSHA has issued guidelines offering precautionary measures to prevent cold stress, which can lead to tissue damage, hypothermia, frostbite and trench foot – conditions that can cause serious injury or death. Factors that contribute to cold stress are: cold air temperatures, high velocity air

movement, dampness of the air, and contact with cold water or surfaces. Therefore, it is important to remember that even temperatures of 50° F with enough rain and wind can cause cold stress.

Preventing Cold Stress

There are several precautions that employees should take while working in cold or dangerous weather:

- Take breaks to get warm
- Drink plenty of liquids, but avoid caffeine and alcohol
- Avoid smoking, which constricts blood flow to skin
- Be aware of any cold weather related side-effects that their medication may have
- Know and understand symptoms of cold-related illnesses and injuries
- Stretch before physical work to prevent muscle pulls and injuries
- Wear protective clothing:
 - At least three layers: something close to skin to wick moisture away, an insulation layer, and an outer wind and waterproof layer (outer layers should be loose to allow ventilation and prevent overheating)



NATIONAL LICA
PARTNERS WITH
BIGIRON

DECEMBER 20TH
FOCUS AUCTION

2024 AUCTION DATES
MARCH
JUNE
SEPTEMBER

LICA MEMBER BENEFITS
SPECIAL PRICING
MAXIMIZE EQUIPMENT SALE RETURNS
FULL SERVICE
NO TRANSPORTATION COSTS

CONTACT TIM KIPPER 402.802.5028

BigIron
BIGIRON.COM
800.937.3558

Land Employment Contractors
of America
LICA
LIGA OF PROFESSIONAL
CONTRACTORS
EST. 1958

- Hat or hood
- Insulated boots
- Gloves – not only can the cold cause injuries to exposed skin, but cold hands also make one more prone to injury when handling machinery or other objects (Note: OSHA requires employers to pay only for protective gear that is out of the ordinary; employees are responsible for everyday clothing like those listed above.)

Proper Training

Winter weather can cause unusual conditions and higher risks, so it is important to train employees on safety procedures. They should understand the danger of exposed skin, insufficient protective wear and cold/wet/slippery equipment. Employees also should be trained to recognize cold-weather illnesses and injuries in themselves and co-workers, and should be aware of how to treat such incidents.

Driving on Company Time

Another concern regarding winter weather is employees who drive a company car or vehicle as part of their workday. Driving in severe weather can be extremely dangerous, so it is important to take precautions. All vehicles should be given a safety check by a mechanic before the bad weather hits, and they should also be equipped with emergency materials such as a snow scraper, blanket, first aid kit and flashlight.

In order to protect your company against liability, any employees who may drive in bad weather on company time should

be trained in safe, cautious driving techniques and what to do in case of an accident.

All of these cold and inclement weather provisions should be included in your safety plan, and discussed before and during the onset of such weather.

Pay-related Issues

Pay issues arise when weather forces your business to close for any length of time or prevents employees from making it to work even if your business remains open.

For non-exempt (typically hourly) employees, you are only required to pay them for the hours they actually work.

Exempt (typically salaried) employees are a different situation. If an exempt employee works any part of the day, you must pay them for a full day. Similarly, if the business is closed for the day, you must also pay them (unless the business is closed for a week or more).

Be Prepared

Employees should be informed of your company policies related to inclement weather – safety, attendance and pay-related. You should have an established communication method to inform your employees of a business closing or delay. When bad weather is coming, address all your policies again, remind employees of communication channels to address attendance and plan for the worst potential outcome to ensure your company is prepared for the weather. ■



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

Since 1917, BITCO has provided customized insurance programs and services to support the backbone of the American economy. We've protected our customers through the ups and downs of the American economy for over a century.

Looking for a carrier who values long-term relationships, understands your business, and affords you the peace of mind that comes from placing your insurance with a company that is part of one of America's 50 largest shareholder-owned insurance related businesses? Look no further.

We are committed to you and are here for the long run. Visit BITCO.com to learn more and find a specialist agent near you.

1-800-475-4477
BITCO.com



Home Office

Davenport

Regional Offices

Dallas
Atlanta
Pasadena

All programs may not be available in all states.

Branch Offices

San Antonio
St. Louis
Des Moines
Indianapolis
Little Rock
Charlotte
Denver

Service Office

Nashville

Service Locations

Milwaukee
Pittsburgh
Portland
New Orleans
New York, New York
Oklahoma City
Anchorage
Houston
Lubbock
Omaha

Insurance contracts are underwritten and issued by one or more of the following: BITCO General Insurance Corporation and BITCO National Insurance Company (domiciled in Iowa), rated A+ (Superior) by A.M. Best, A2 Stable by Moody's, and A+ Strong by Standard and Poor's.



OLD REPUBLIC INSURANCE GROUP

Utility Expo 2023 Draws Record-Breaking Attendance

By SANDRA MASON, APR DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Utility Expo made its triumphant return to Louisville, Ky, with a record-setting gathering of over 21,000 utility construction professionals from all 50 states and 60 countries, converging at the Kentucky Exposition Center. These industry experts came together to experience firsthand the latest equipment and cutting-edge technologies that bolster the utility sector. This remarkable event drew an unparalleled assembly of industry leaders, decision-makers, and stakeholders, firmly cementing its position as the foremost event in the sector.

“From every perspective, this year’s Utility Expo surpassed all expectations, offering an abundance of sights and experiences for attendees,” said John Rozum, The Utility Expo show director. “Our goal is to bring utility pros together with exhibitors and equipment manufacturers to advance the utility industry and showcase how the equipment, products and technologies help keep our communities working and thriving.”

The Utility Expo, the largest trade show in Kentucky and third largest show in North America, featured over 900 exhibitors showcasing the latest products and solutions for the utility construction industry. Exhibits covered a record 1.5 million net square feet and included the show’s signature interactive product demonstrations. Registered attendance of over 21,000 smashed the previous attendance record set in 2019.

The Relationship Between the Utility Industry and The Utility Expo

The construction of utility infrastructure plays a pivotal role in modern society, offering a multitude of benefits that are indispensable to society’s well-being and progress. At its core,



modernized utility infrastructure provides reliability, ensuring a consistent provision of essential services like electricity, clean water, and Internet connectivity to homes, businesses, and industries. This reliability, in turn, forms the foundation for economic growth by facilitating industrial production, attracting businesses, and generating employment opportunities.

Utility construction professionals flock to The Utility Expo as it serves as an unrivaled hub for networking opportunities within the industry, fostering invaluable relationships that can drive their careers and businesses forward. Moreover, attendees are drawn by the promise of gaining profound industry insights. This event serves as a conduit to the latest trends, innovations, and best practices in utility construction, ensuring participants remain on the cutting edge of their field.

Agri Drain CORPORATION
America's Most Complete Manufacturer and Supplier of Water Management Products

Water Quality Inlets, Grates, Catch Basins, Rat Guards, Flap Gates, Bar Guards, Smart Drainage System*

Call for a FREE catalog or visit our website to view our full line of products.
800-232-4742 ■ 641-742-5211 ■ www.agridrain.com

“I like coming to The Utility Expo so I can put a face to a name when talking with vendors,” said Ryan W. who works for a utility company in New York. “We get to see what is new that will help make the job easier and safer.”

The equipment showcased by the exhibitors offered a firsthand look at the newest tools and machinery, allowing professionals to test and assess their relevance to their work. Educational sessions and workshops equipped attendees with training and certifications that elevated their skillsets and career prospects. The Utility Expo is a dynamic nexus where networking, knowledge, innovation, and business opportunities converge, making it a must-attend event for utility construction professionals.

“By all measures, this was an outstanding Utility Expo with more to see and experience than ever before,” said Jim Glazer, The Utility Expo show chair and President of Elliott Equipment Company. “The Utility Expo is always a tremendous opportunity to make lasting industry connections and take advantage of education that helps participants continue to grow and stay competitive. At Elliott Equipment Company, we look forward to this important event for our industry where we can show off our equipment and products we offer the industry.”

The Utility Expo is the largest event for utility professionals and construction contractors seeking comprehensive insights into the latest industry technologies, innovations, and trends. The show is best known for equipment test drives and interactive product demonstrations.



“We came to The Utility Expo to see what’s new,” said Jason B., a utility contractor from North Carolina. “We want to see what we can improve on and what we can do better for our customers.”

Expanded Educational and Networking Opportunities

Offering valuable information and insights on the latest trends, innovations and best practices is a hallmark of every edition of The Utility Expo. This year’s show featured an education lineup that provided a mix of field classrooms, educational workshops, and free sessions talking about everything from new technologies, traffic safety, underground utility locating and sessions that allowed for participants to earn professional development hours (PDHs).

“Our education offerings at the show range from peer-to-peer demos to professional instruction to free drop-in sessions,” said Rozum. “Whether you prefer to learn in the classroom or in the driver’s seat, The Utility Expo has you covered.”

An Emphasis on Safety

While safety has always been at the forefront of The Utility Expo’s education lineup, this year the show joined forces with three other organizations to bring an expanded lineup of offerings.

As part of the new Safety Symposium, the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) brought a wealth of safety-related educational workshops to the show. In addition, certification training related to flagger certification and traffic control technician, were also offered.

The Utility Expo also collaborated with the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA), to bring the NUCA Lounge to the show, that served as a welcoming central gathering point for its members attending The Utility Expo. NUCA also offered a confined-space-entry safety course for attendees at the show.

Peer-to-Peer Experiences

This year saw the return of The Jobsite, from Planet Underground that hosted hourly, free peer-to-peer demonstrations of Predictive Analytics Software, Electromagnetic (EM) locating, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE), Underground RFID Marking Devices, and GIS Mobile Applications.

The Jobsite allowed attendees to experience exactly what it’s like to work on a site, but also spread the word about the importance of damage prevention and how equipment can play an important role in protecting underground utilities.

According to Gus B. from Arkansas, who has attended the event since 2017, he enjoys The Utility Expo because he can see the latest and greatest tech and learn new tools and equipment.

“We see new tools and equipment and learn about new processes,” said Gus. “Every year we pick up something good that helps our company and makes us do a better job for our customers.” ■



National LICA Benefits

Exclusive for LICA Members!



Heavy Equipment Benefits

Caterpillar Extended Powertrain Protection Program

- Powertrain covered up to 3 years or 5,000 hrs.
- Covers parts & Labor for powertrain component failures, caused by defects in materials or workmanship.
- Contact your CAT dealer for complete details.

Sunbelt Rentals Discount

- 10% Discount on Rentals
- \$500 maximum discount
- Present flyer at time of rental

Email: anational.lica@gmail.com



Health Insurance

The LICA Health Plan

- Group Health Plans for small or large groups
- Competitive rates & benefits
- Service & support

Visit www.worldinsurance.com/lica to get started OR

Call: 973-871-1512



Equipment Auctions

The LICA Member Auction Benefit

- (4) scheduled LICA member auction dates.
- Special member rates with no added fees
- Full service - BigIron handles everything

Contact Tim Kipper

Call: 402-802-5028

Email: Tim.Kipper@bigiron.com



Safety Tools

aQuiRE: Contractor Training

- Online training videos
- Audit templates
- Inspection forms
- Safety forms
- Free trial for LICA Members

Email: info@cahillresources.com

Call: 716-364-3022

Custom OSHA Compliant Safety Program

- Certified safety professionals
- OSHA inspection assistance
- Safety & health trainings
- LICA members get a 10% discount

Contact: Al Osche

Call: 412-752-6387

Email: albert.osche@lancastersafety.com

Spotcast: The Video Sticker

- QR Code stickers unique to your company
- Scan sticker & record a safety/instructional video.
- Recorded video plays when scanned by next user
- LICA members get 10 stickers free

Email: lica@safer.me

Call: 512-846-3011

The LICA Safety Portal

- Online safety portal
- Search safety articles
- OSHA requirements
- Safety forms
- Ready to download & print

Email: anational.lica@gmail.com



Time Tracking Tools

BusyBusy: Tracking Software

- 30% Discount for LICA members for the 1st year
- Time and equipment tracking
- Scheduling and Daily reports

Visit BusyBusy.com

ConX: Labor Sharing

FREE for LICA Members, use code: Q2SQBVHW

- Borrow workers by searching ConX Database for extra labor
- Loan employees out for a small profit during slow work times.

Email: BradL@CONX-USA.com

Website: CONX-USA.com

\$ Member Discounts \$

Clean Fire New Member Discount

- \$50/Case Discount
- Clean Fire Diesel fuel additive
- Reduced emissions & optimum performance

Call: 402-693-2424

Email: cleanfiredist@gpcom.net

5% Discount on Big Switch Products

- Big Switch is USDA biopreferred compost sediment filter
- Erosion/Sediment control
- Stormwater Mgmt. & slip repair

Call: 724-681-4414

Email: Joe@greco.tc

Space Pen

- Members get a 25% discount.
- Writes upside down

Website: Spacepen.com

Use Code: LICA320

The LICA Contractor Magazine

- Free to LICA members
- Published 6 times/year
- Stories about contractors
- Latest industry, legislative & legal news.



Benefits from Machinery Trader

Get Started with any of these Benefits from Machinery Trader by calling:
1-800-247-4898

Buy & Sell Equipment with the Inventory Management System

- List & sell on LICANational.org for FREE
- FREE cloud-based Inventory Management System
- Machinery Trader representative will help with setup.
- List equipment (for a fee) on sites like Machinery Trader.

Advertising Discount

- 50% OFF first 2 months of advertising (with 4 month commitment)
- Auction Time, Machinery Trader, & Tractor House

Premium Hosted Website

- Discount on a new custom website
- FREE web banner advertising (on MachineryTrader.com)
- Priority level service & data backup

eCommerce Benefit: Sell from your Website

- Sell directly from your website
- Invoicing made easy
- Emails to buyer & seller after sale

LICA Beef Benefit

- 25% off at Piedmontese.com
- Discount code: LICA
- Gourmet steaks

Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition

ADMC Membership Discount

LICA members receive 50% off Bronze & Associate membership.

- Industry Networking
- Education & Training
- Recognition

Email: jhansen@admcoalition.com
<https://admcoalition.com/join-admc/>



Petrocon Savings

To start saving with any of these benefits contact:

Call: 866-548-8750 · info@petrocon.org

Petrocon Commodities Program

- National Oil Program
- National Tire Program
- National Antifreeze Program

Petrocon CAT Parts Replacement Program

- CAT Aftermarket Replacement Parts
- Expected Savings 20-40% over OEM parts

Pistons & Piston Kits

- CTP Crown & Skirts
- CTP Pistons meet most Rigor & Stringent Specifications

Cooper Tire Program

- Discount with Cooper Tire & Rubber Company
- Replacement Commercial Truck Tires



Emergency Transport

MASA: Medical Transport Solutions

- MASA provides emergency transportation solutions.
- Covers your out-of-pocket medical transport costs

Call: 314-540-5729

Email: azink@masamts.com



Business & Family Finance

Business & Family Legacy Planning

When it comes to putting a “ribbon around your affairs,” The Johnson Company has the wisdom, passion & skills to put the foundation you desire in place.

- No fee for initial consultation
- Business Succession, Exit & Continuation Plans
- Family Business & Estate Planning
- Buy-Sell Reviews & Arrangements
- Key Employee Retention
- Tax effective “idea merchants.”

Call: 402-944-2331 Email: nan@thejohnsoncompany.net



National LICA Website

LICANATIONAL.ORG

At LICA we pride ourselves on offering our members a plethora of benefits that help your business and family. The National LICA website, LICANational.org, is a benefit within itself - and is available 24/7.

- Sell & purchase used equipment
- Legislative Updates
- Upcoming event details
- State Chapter contact information
- And of course....full list of National Benefits

Scan the QR Code with your phone's camera to see the National LICA Benefits. Each benefit has a downloadable flyer that contains details on the benefit and contact information to get started.



Land Improvement Contractors of America

3080 Ogden Ave., Suite 300 Lisle, IL 60532

Phone: (630) 548-1984 Email: anational.lica@gmail.com

National Membership Drive

January 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023

ConExpo	Connecticut	1	ConExpo	Maryland	1	ConExpo	North Carolina	1
ConExpo	Florida	1	ConExpo	Michigan	1	Nate Cook	Ohio	1
ConExpo	Georgia	1	Unidentified	Minnesota	4	Paul DeMuth	Convention	1
Ryan Arch	Illinois	1	Gerald Bauer	Missouri	1	Insurance	Unidentified	3
Jon SeEVERS		1	Debbie Dickens		1	Unidentified		1
Drainage Workshop		2	Rob Liles		1			
ConExpo		1	Gene Rotert		1			
Insurance		1	Web/insurance		2			
Unidentified		2						
Web	Indiana	2	Apprenticeship Program	New Jersey	145	Jerry Biuso	Oklahoma	1
Unidentified		1	Buddy Freund	Insurance	1	Justin Hoover		
			Insurance	Web	6	Joanie Micsky		
			Web		2	Chris Moore	Pennsylvania	2
ConExpo	Iowa	2				811Show		1
Insurance		1	Jerry Biuso	New York	1	ConExpo	Texas	1
None		1	ConExpo		3			
			Insurance		4		Utah	
			Unidentified	Nebraska	8	ConExpo		1
ConExpo	Kansas	2					Wyoming	
Convention		1	Ray Cooney		1	ConExpo		1
Unidentified		2	Jim Group		1	Total		230
			Unidentified		1			



Inter-Drain

“Excellence by Experience”

Bower's Great Lakes Inter-Drain, Inc.

Your Dealer for Inter-Drain Plows, Trenchers and Parts

1912 W McPherson Hwy, Clyde, OH 43410 • 419-547-2379

sales@bowersglid.com • www.greatlakesinterdrain.com

Membership Application

Company Name _____

Member Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

Fax (_____) _____ Email: _____

LICA Sponsor _____

Contractor (Type of Business)

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CR | Crane Service | <input type="checkbox"/> OSW | On Site Waste Treatment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DI | Drainage/Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> PA | Paving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EC | Erosion Control | <input type="checkbox"/> PD | Ponds or Dams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMC | Earthmoving/Land Cleaning | <input type="checkbox"/> R | Reclamation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXG | Excavating/Grading | <input type="checkbox"/> SEP | Septic Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GR | Gravel/Rock Production | <input type="checkbox"/> SP | Site Preparation/Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HD | Hardscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> SWU | Sewer/Water/Underground Utilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LL | Land Leveling | <input type="checkbox"/> TH | Trucking or Hauling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LS | Landscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> TW | Terraces or Waterways |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODW | Open Ditch Work | <input type="checkbox"/> WM | Water Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SA | Dealer, Service Co., Government Agency, Consultant, Insurance Agency | | |

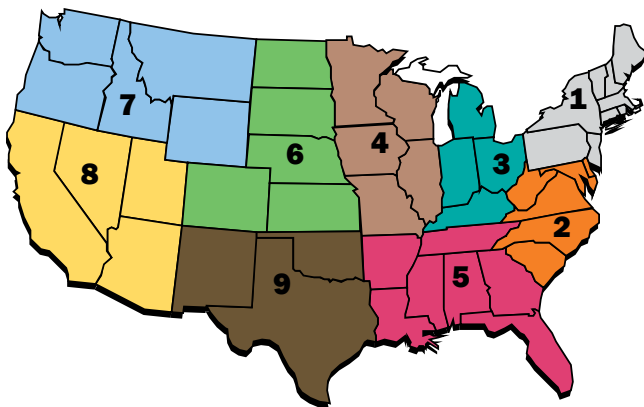
Application is for (Check One)

- Active Contractor Member (Annual Dues)..... Vary by State Chapter
Active Land Improvement Contractor.
- Company Associate Member (Annual Dues)..... Vary by State Chapter
Person or companies manufacturing or selling materials, equipment or services to active contractor members.
- Supporting Member (Annual Dues)..... Vary by State Chapter
Person(s) or associations interested in LICA.
- National Associate Member \$300.00
- Member-At-Large..... \$195.00
Contractors in state without chapters

Signature _____ Date _____

Please contact your state chapter for annual dues and additional information. See page 34.

**To become a national associate please contact:
National LICA, 3080 Ogden Avenue, Suite 300, Lisle, IL 60532
Phone 630-548-1984 • Fax: 630-548-9189
Email: nlica@aol.com • Website: LICANational.org**



STATES WITH MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

- California
- Massachusetts
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Wyoming

■ ARKANSAS LICA

National LICA
3080 Ogden Ave.
Lisle, IL 60532
Phone: 630-548-1984
Email: nlica@aol.org



■ MICHIGAN LICA

Sarah Cook
4780 E. Townsend Road
St. Johns, MI 48879
Phone: 517-282-1083
Email: scook@
michiganlica.org



■ NORTH DAKOTA

Eileen Levy
National LICA
3080 Ogden Avenue
Lisle, IL 60532
Phone: 630-548-1984
Email: nlica@aol.com



■ FLORIDA LICA

Matt Palmer
290 Mount Vernon Dr.
Venice, FL 34293
Phone: 941-223-0762
Email: mcmpalmer@
aol.com



■ MINNESOTA LICA

Jennifer Breberg
2570 130th Street
Dawson, MN 56232
Phone: 320-226-6398
Email: mnlica2@gmail.com



■ OHIO LICA

Amy Gerten
8603 Road 5
Leipsic, OH 45856
Phone: 419-943-2965
Email: ohiolica@gmail.com



■ ILLINOIS LICA

Ryan Arch
112 Exchange St. Suite 2
Galva, IL 61434
Phone: 309-932-1230
Email: ryan@illica.net



■ MISSOURI LICA

Andrea Rice
410 Madison Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Phone: 573-634-3001
Cell: 660-414-5482
Email: LICAMissouri@
gmail.com



■ PENNSYLVANIA LICA

Joanie Micsky
775 Mercer Road
Greenville, PA 16125
Phone: 724-866-1082
Email: pennsylvanialica@
gmail.com



■ INDIANA LICA

Nanci Gutwein
P.O. Box 425
Francesville, IN 47946
Phone: 219-204-1722
Email: indianalica@
gmail.com



■ NEBRASKA LICA

Kira Cooney
1000 27th Road
Walthill, NE 68067
Phone: 402-870-0582
Email: kira.cooney@
nelica.com



■ SOUTH DAKOTA LICA

Toby Crow
1600 W. Russell Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Phone: 605-271-0292
Email: accounting@sdagc.org



■ IOWA LICA

Kelby Kiefer
900 Des Moines St.
Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: 563-202-0682
Email: director@ialica.com



■ NEW JERSEY LICA

Buddy Freund
P.O. Box 166
Succasunna, NJ 07876
Phone: 973-630-7600
Email: buddy@
govisionstrong.com



■ VIRGINIA LICA

Kim Johnson
7337 Kennedy Road
Nokesville, VA 20181
Phone: 703-753-7231
Email: kandcj3@gmail.com



■ KANSAS LICA

Jon Ungerer
850 US Highway 77
Marysville, KS 66508
Phone: 785-221-8697
Email: jungerer@
kansaslica.com



■ NEW YORK LICA

Maura Dibble
3330 Pratt Road
Batavia, NY 14020
Phone: 585-219-4802
Email: nylica@
rochester.rr.com

■ WISCONSIN LICA

National LICA
3080 Ogden Ave.
Lisle, IL 60532
Phone: 630-548-1984
Email: nilca@aol.org

BRON 585

SELF-PROPELLED DRAINAGE PLOW

**AUTO STEER READY
LOW GROUND PRESSURE
CAT OR CUMMINS ENGINE**

- ▶ Five Core Self Cleaning Package that is Stage V Compliant
- ▶ Robust DL850 Plow Standard
- ▶ HD Drives Package complete with Extended Warranty
- ▶ Optional Camera System
- ▶ Machine Telematics Standard
- ▶ Oscillating Track Frames & Body Tilt Standard
- ▶ Best in Class hydraulic filtration



FACTORY RECONDITIONING

- ▶ 150 point machine inspection
- ▶ All fluids sampled
- ▶ Internal inspection of all drivetrain components
- ▶ Detailed quote for suggested repairs
- ▶ Factory trained technicians complete repairs
- ▶ Post repair testing
- ▶ 6 month parts only warranty assigned




THE BRON TOTAL PACKAGE

- ▶ Repairs on all Drainage Plows & selected Construction Equipment
- ▶ Road service for all BRON Products & other selected Equipment
- ▶ Custom fabrication
- ▶ New & Used Equipment Sales
- ▶ Parts & Service all BRON products
- ▶ Selected all makes parts for construction equipment
- ▶ Certified rebuilds on BRON products
- ▶ Parts facilities in Woodstock ON, Marine City MI, and LeRoy MN



 873 DEVONSHIRE AVE.,
WOODSTOCK ON N4S 3B6
1.800.263.1060 | ON: 519.421.0036

DEALERS WORLDWIDE
Visit us online at www.rwfbro.com

610 MAIN ST. W, LEROY MN 48039 
6340 KING RD. MARINE CITY, MI 55951
MN: 507.547.2864

INSURANCE ELEVATED.
BEYOND DEDICATED.

➤ WE'RE ALL IN.



You've worked hard to construct a reliable business.

We're trusted partners equally committed to protecting your business and reputation.

As the carrier of choice, we're proud to offer LICA members a special opportunity to participate in our trusted state LICA insurance program.

- Simple insurance solutions tailored to your needs, including comprehensive risk control.
- Compassionate, person-centered customer service continuing long after a contract is signed.

Visit ufginsurance.com to find an agent today.

