## INSIDER NEWSLETTER

## Tailgate Talks with Your Crew Improves Jobsite Safety

On a job site, it's tempting to immediately start a task or resolve an issue with a "get 'er done" attitude. However, in doing so, you lose the opportunity to identify safety risks. When working as a team, you also need to discuss the risks of that job site. By discussing safety risks, you decrease the chances of someone getting injured.

The utilities sector is a higher-risk sector. Some of the most frequent worksite causes of injury and death are present in the utilities industry. These include slips and falls, collision with a moving object, and contact with dangerous substances.

According to statistics published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there is a range in incidence rates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses within the utilities sector. Water and sewer line-related injuries for the year 2020, for example, had an incident rate of 2.6 per 100 people. Utility system construction had an incident rate of 1.7 per 100 people for the same year. And oil and gas pipeline was the safest at 0.6. (The average for all industries is 2.9.)



According to statista.com, "In 2022, almost 177,000 people worked for utilities in the electric power generation sector in the United States." If we apply the incident rate for "utility system construction" (1.7 per 100 people), that means annually about 3,000 people employed in the sector are injuring themselves on the job. One of the easiest things companies working in the utilities sector can do to decrease worksite injuries and deaths is to talk with your employees every day about safety risks on the job site.

- **Length is key.** Toolbox talks should be brief. Even if the content is great, you will eventually lose people's attention.
- Be consistent. Although the talks need to be varied, the practice of talking about safety needs to be consistent to be effective. And consistent practice will lead to better safety talks.

# 2025 IMEA Annual Business Meeting & Vendor Expo

IMEA Annual Business Meeting & Vendor Expo provides an opportunity to learn from industry experts and network with peers. It attracts all levels of the Indiana utility professionals and staff from member communities, as well as IMEA staff. The conference features educational sessions on technical programs focused on the utility industry. It also provides an opportunity to collaborate with other utilities one on one during the IMEA business meeting.

To make sure that all guests are provided hotel room availability we ask that you reserve your room ahead of time. This way we can keep track of quantity and increase the group block if needed.

We need your voice to be heard & your experience of the Public Power Industry to share with others during the IMEA Annual Business meeting.

Registration is available! Visit www.imea.com / events.



Brent Jeffries, Bierer Meters' Lineworker Safety Tool Competence Workshop



Ed Kobeszka ,Grid Edge Monitoring Abstract ,



Lauralee Hites, Generations at Work



# TRANSFORMER THEORY CONNECTIONS

Welcome to Indiana Municipal Electric Association, the Statewide Trade Association of Indiana Municipalities.



Worksite Safety, OH and UG Transformer - construction and theory of operations



Electrical connections, vector diagrams, and transformer banking, troubleshooting

When: August 26 - 28, 2025

Where: St. Joseph's College Campus

1027 S. College Ave. Rensselaer, In. 47978 Registration is available!

www.imea.com / workshops





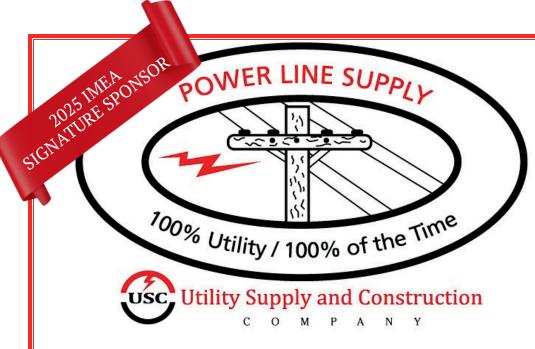
### **Careers in Public Power**

Public power is more to communities than just an essential utility. It is a source of unique and fulfilling career opportunities in your local community. Employees make a difference by serving their own neighborhoods and families. Talented high school, college and technical college graduates and even technology, environmental and public service professionals will find that competitive salaries aren't the only thing attractive about careers in public power.

Do you have important news or photos that you would like to share in our bi-weekly newsletters? Please email all news and photos to janel@imea.com

To post a classified ad to our jobs in Public Power page. Please email text to janel@imea.com.

INDIANA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION 176 W. LOGAN ST. #225 NOBLESVILLE, IN. 46060 765.366.5506 | www.imea.com



Visit us on the web at: www.uscco.com



# **YOUR FULL LINE UTILITY DISTRIBUTOR**

- T & D Construction Material Supply
- Rubber Goods Testing & Certification
- Tool Sales and Repair
- Technical Sales & Service
- Inventory Management and Barcoding

Emergency Service 24 Hours a Day 800-832-2297

Shawn Matthews

VP Southern Region Technical Sales 231-679-2102

Mark Nuce

Account Manager Northern Indiana/NW Ohio 317-417-7325 Jerrod Devers

Account Manager Southern Indiana/Kentucky/SW Ohio 317-281-5904 Jim Garbison Technical Solutions Consultant (317) 476-1657

Brad Means Technical Solutions Consultant (231) 872-5419

Cole Miller
Technical Solution Consultant
(317) 734-7357