Speaker Offers Insight Into State-Funded Construction During CISCO Annual Breakfast Meeting

Collaboration and partnerships combined to make a powerful two-word theme as CISCO hosted its Annual Meeting on January 28 at Maggiano’s Little Italy in Schaumburg. Approximately 150 members and guests attended the event and heard Keynote Speaker Jim Underwood, Deputy Director of Construction for the Illinois Capital Development Board, provide details on state-funded construction projects.

“We discuss issues that are relevant in the construction industry and monitor legislation that is pending that may affect anything in the construction industry,” Underwood said during his 20-minute presentation. “We value that partnership we have with the industry.”

Underwood is a big believer in Project Labor Agreements (PLA) and said they are used quite extensively on CDB projects. He explained both Governor Quinn and President Obama signed executive orders for the approval of PLAs on construction projects, as well as on federally approved funding projects.

He applauded CISCO for fostering joint commitment of local contractors and union labor to promote high quality, on time, within budget delivery on all projects. “When you do that, it makes our job a lot better. I appreciate all of your efforts of collaboration,” he said.

PRIDE IN CONSTRUCTION AWARDS

Following Underwood’s remarks, was the presentation of the 2010 Pride in Construction Awards. The winning entries and selections were:

**Educator of the Year** – Linda Hannah, New Skill Builders

**Labor Conciliator of the Year** – Ron Ward, Illinois Department of Labor

**Public Body of the Year** – City of Des Plaines, Mayor Marty Moylan

Winners for **Project of the Year** were:

1) New Construction, Chicago – **155 North Wacker Drive**

2) New Construction, Suburbs – **Lake County Central Permit Facility**, Libertyville

3) Rehabilitation – **JW Marriott**, Chicago, IL

4) Residential – **Casa Morelos & Casa Maravilla**, Chicago, IL

Congratulations to our 2010 winners and we look forward to seeing more spectacular construction projects at next year’s meeting. For more pictures of the event, turn to page 4.
As I addressed members and guests at our annual meeting, I specifically mentioned that CISCO continues to work on bringing together different interest groups so it can focus on securing union construction jobs in both private and government sector development.

Last year, and again in 2011, we will continue to forge ahead in that strategy. In some cases the end user has approached us for our help, and we have been quick to say yes and provide any and all resources. The goal, of course, is for that developer or investor or builder to choose our skilled union workforce in order to construct a high quality, within budget, on time project.

In my opinion, the future growth of our industry should focus on coalition building, and the further development of public/private partnerships. Some of the best and the brightest minds in finance, real estate, education, transportation and labor are located right here in the greater Chicagoland area.

Forming coalitions has already provided job-creating results in the form of Navistar’s relocation to Lisle and expansion to its Melrose Park facility, as well as the passage of both DuPage County’s $70 million bond issue and the College of DuPage’s $168 million no-tax-increase capital improvement referendum.

This year, CISCO has already begun to dig in and help other similar projects in our area. In Kendall County, we are working with the Fox Valley Building Trades to endorse a Solar Farm proposal south of Oswego. The municipalities of Yorkville and Oswego are key players in this venture as they would be two of the main beneficiaries of a high-output megawatt, green energy facility that would create thousands of construction jobs.

CISCO is also working with the Chicago & Cook County Building Trades (CCBT) to support the construction of Lake View Station in Cook County, a retail/residential project that will create 1,500 construction jobs.

CISCO also plans to keep an eye on two hospital projects being proposed for southern McHenry County, which could mean more jobs for that region.

In addition, CISCO will also continue working with the CCBT and other labor leaders on the Wrigley Field renovation project. Last year Cubs Chairman Tom Ricketts asked us to support their plan, and we intend to see it through in the hopes that another 1,500 construction jobs will be added to our ranks.

Nothing is more important in today’s environment than a job and we recognize that. By continuing to work together, we can strengthen the union construction market, and a more robust economy will surely follow.

John Brining
Executive Director

Mark Your Calendars for CISCO’s Annual Luncheon
Thursday, April 28, 2011
Registration: 11:00 a.m. • Lunch/Program: Noon
Tickets: $75 per person; $700 for table of 10
Maggiano’s Little Italy
1901 Woodfield Road • Schaumburg, Illinois

Keynote Speaker
Michael T. Carrigan, President, Illinois AFL-CIO
Registration
Call our office today - (630) 472-9411; space is limited
Site Selection Magazine, a corporate real estate and economic development publication, revealed in its latest issue that 205 corporate facilities located or expanded in the state of Illinois in 2010. According to the magazine’s editors, that puts Chicago and Illinois among the top 10 locations in the nation for corporate expansion.

I guess all of us in Illinois just got caught doing something right. I hope this ranking encourages businesses to take a longer look at the Chicago region and consider locating or expanding their businesses here, just like Navistar did with its move to Lisle and the expansion of its Melrose Park facility.

The other part of this story, and the part we in the union construction industry need to repeat over and over again, is that we are, and should continue to be, an integral part of these corporations’ success stories. Make no mistake about, our industry completed a large percentage of the quality, on-time, within-budget construction for these re-locations and expansion projects.

A large portion of the region’s overall success is that we provide the best skilled, most highly trained workforce in the world. Our training centers are providing our union brothers and sisters with the knowledge and tools to put up structures that have the latest technologies to meet environmental, energy and other building standards that are second to none. We are up to the challenge and we look forward to more work in 2011.

Sincerely,

John Burns
CISCO Board President

2010 LM-10 Filing Information

CISCO is in the process of compiling information to complete Form LM-10 with the U.S. Department of Labor, which requires us to report items given to union officials and employees exceeding the value of $250.

Among other amounts, the value of free tickets, as well as the difference between charged price and actual cost for attendance at events have contributed to these yearly amounts. Through our pricing structure and detailed attendance records, we have been able to keep everyone below the reportable level and were therefore not required to include any individuals in our LM-10 report.

If you have any questions, please contact Gary Karafiat at gary@cisco.org.

Member Database Update

As we continue to finalize plans for a newly designed Web site, our successful transition to smarter, faster ways of delivering and communicating news; and offering more convenient methods of registering for CISCO events, depends on updating our database.

Help us to update our member database. Please take a few minutes to send us your contact information to:

info@cisco.org

For more information about our new website, please contact Gary Karafiat at 630.472.9411 or gary@cisco.org.
CISCO's Annual Meeting
**2011 CISCO Board of Directors**

**Executive Board**

**President**
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Gary Niederkorn, IBEW Local 134
Joseph Pastorino, Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters
Richard Porter, Mason Contractors Association
Michael Prate, RCEC

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**Member Organizations**

Architectural & Ornamental
Ironworkers Local 63
Associated Steel Erectors
Association of Glazing Contractors
Boilermakers Local 1
Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen
District Council
Builders’ Association
Cement Masons Local 502
Cement Masons Local 803
Ceramic Tile and Terrazzo Local 67
Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters
Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Association
Chicago Painting & Decorating Contractors Industry Advancement & Promotional Fund
Chicago Roofing Council
ChicagoSheet Metal Contractors Association
Concrete Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Construction & General Laborer’s District Council of Chicago & Vicinity
Electrical Contractors Association of City of Chicago, Inc.

Electrical Workers Local 117, 134, 150, 461, & 701
Finishing Contractors Association of Chicago
Glaziers Union Local 27
Illinois Regional Insulation Contractors Association
Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association
Ironworkers Local 1
Insulators Local 17
Lake County Contractors Association
LMCC (IBEW Local 117, 150, 461 & NECA-NEIL)
LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 & ECA)
NECA-IBEW Local 701 LMCC
Machinery, Movers & Riggers Local 136
Mason Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Mechanical Contractors Association
National Electrical Contractors Association
National Fire Sprinkler Association
Northern Illinois Chapter
Northern Illinois Sheet Metal Contractors Association
Northern Illinois Painting & Drywall Institute
OP & CMIA Local 11
Operating Engineers Local 150
Painters District Council Local 30
Plasterers Local 5
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 501
Plumbing Contractors Association of Chicago & Cook County
Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Authority of Northern Illinois
Professional Flooring Installers Association
Residential Construction Employers Council
Roofers Waterproofers & Allied Craftworkers Local 11
Sheet Metal Workers Local 73
Sheet Metal Workers Local 265
SMACNA Chicago
Sprinkler Fitters Local 281
Teamsters Joint Council Local 25
Underground Contractors Association

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**Associate Members**

AETNA Insurance Company
Aflac
AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust
Amalgamated Bank of Chicago
ASB Capital Management
AthletiCo
Benefits Management Group
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
Bond Brothers & Co.
Brandywine Global Investment Mgmt.
Central DuPage Hospital
Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council
Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Association
Chicago Roofing Council
Construction & General Laborer’s District Council
Construction Industry Advancement & Promotional Fund
Concrete Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Electrical Contractors Association of City of Chicago, Inc.
Fifth Third Asset Management
First Midwest Bank
Fox Valley Construction Industry Advancement Program
Humana Health Care Plans
Hunt Insurance Group
Illinois Pipe Trades Council
I-M-P-A-C-T.
Invesco
Labor Management Cooperation
Labor Management Cooperative
Committee of Northeastern Illinois
Lake County Building & Construction Trades Council
M & T Trust Services
Martin Salvino State Farm Agency
Marvel Group Office Furniture
MB2 Advertising
Megment, Inc.

Middle States Electrical Contractors Association
Midland States Bank
Missouri Valley Partners
Multi-Employer Property Trust
NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC
Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc.
Principal Financial Group
Professional Benefit Administrators
Putnam Investments
Randall Investments
Rosenblatt
Russell Investments
Sav-RX Pharmacy Benefit Mgmt.
ScreenSafe
Secure Services, Corp.
Segal Bryant & Hamill Investment Counsel
Tasty Catering
UIC Info, Inc.
UMB Asset Management
Union Plus Mortgage

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**Penny-Per-Hour Contributors**

Builders’ Association
Cement Masons Local 502
Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters
Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Association
Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Association
Concrete Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Construction & General Laborers’ District Council of Chicago & Vicinity
Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association
Lake County Contractors Association
LMCC (IBEW 117, 150, 461, & NECA-NEIL)
LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 and ECA)
NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC
Operating Engineers Local 150
Professional Flooring Installers Association
Teamsters Joint Council Local 25
Underground Contractors Association

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**News & Notes**

Chicago & Cook County Building Trades Council
15th Annual Fundraiser
Monday, April 4
Operating Engineers #150 Hall
6200 Joliet Road
Countryside, IL
Activities Begin: 7:00 p.m.

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**Chicago Building Congress Table Top Tradeshows**

Wednesday, April 20
Union League Club
Chicago, IL
Exhibitor Setup: 9:30 a.m.
Doors Open: 11:30 a.m.
Information: 630.393.1313

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**CISCO Luncheon**

Thursday, April 28
Maggiano’s Little Italy
1901 Woodfield Road,
Schaumburg, IL
Registration: 11:00 a.m.
Lunch/Program: Noon
Students Reaping Benefits of City-Suburban Training Expos

Nothing tops the look on the faces of middle school and high school aged kids who are using a jackhammer or laying bricks for the very first time.

So far this winter, the curious looks and satisfied smiles have been on display plenty of times as 900-plus students participated in three different Hands On Training Expos in Chicago and the suburbs.

Most recently, more than 300 DuPage County students took part in CISCO’s two-day event at the Chicagoland Laborers’ Training and Apprentice Center in Carol Stream February 17-18. CISCO teamed with the College of DuPage’s Office of High School Partnerships to offer 11 different building trade stations.

In addition to the Tech Center of DuPage’s automotive, construction, pre-engineering/architecture and HVAC/residential wiring classes; building trades demonstrations were provided by the Ceramic Tile Finishers, Roofers and Waterproofers, IBEW Local 701, Plumbers & Pipefitters 501, the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters, the District Council of Bricklayers and the Laborers - event hosts for more than 10 consecutive years.

Other Hands-On Expos

CISCO lent a hand to the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters for the Chicago Construction Challenge January 15 at the CRCC Training Center on Union Avenue. Approximately 290 students participated in the event.

And in December, CISCO and the Chicago Public Schools put together another similar event at the Regional Council of Carpenter’s Training Center. At that event, 300 additional students took part in the demonstrations.
It appears that the Illinois Legislature will have to wait until May at the earliest before the Illinois Supreme Court hears oral arguments in the case which has put the state’s capital projects into legal limbo.

A January 26 Appellate Court ruling against the $31 billion omnibus Capital Bill set this process in motion. On February 1st, The Illinois Supreme Court granted a stay of the appellate court ruling. The stay allowed infrastructure projects to continue, while the Supreme Court began its research into the appellate court’s decision. The date of the Supreme Court hearing, to decide one way or another the constitutionality of the Capital Bill’s funding streams, appears headed into May based on recent deadlines for brief filings set by the high court for the Attorney General and the party which successfully won its appellate court case.

While the General Assembly has been waiting for the Supreme Court ruling to decide whether to re-enact the bill, the May timeframe may force their hand as the spring session is scheduled to conclude May 31 and the delay could place an entire construction season in jeopardy.

The Illinois Appellate court ruled that legislation containing the funding sources necessary to finance the construction plan violated a legal “single-subject” rule that requires each bill pertain only to a single subject matter. Some of the revenue streams ruled unconstitutional include the legalization of video gaming, tax hikes on liquor, increased sales taxes on soft drinks, candy, and health and beauty products.

Legislative leaders appear to be convinced that the Supreme Court will side with them. They feel the entire bill relates to enactment of the capital program - a single subject - and therefore does not violate that rule.

### Construction Challenge Promotes Construction Industry, Builds Teamwork

It was one for all and all for one as students teamed up to acquire hands-on experience in the construction industry. CISCO was on hand at the Construction Challenge held January 15 at the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenter’s Training Center at 2121 S. Union Avenue. The Construction Challenge saw 290 student participants learn various construction and engineering techniques, but more importantly they were educated about the industry while having fun with classmates.
New Information

NAME:_______________________________________
ORGANIZATION:_______________________________
ADDRESS:____________________________________
CITY:____________________________STATE:_______
ZIP CODE:__________________
PHONE:_________________FAX:_________________
EMAIL ADDRESS:______________________________

Would you like to receive any of the following items?

___“Build Your Future” Apprenticeship Program Guide
___“Union Construction” Bumper Sticker
___Pre-Apprentice “Basic Skills” Training Guide ($30 per book)
___Construction Video Library ($70 per set)

CISCO Communicator is published by the Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO). CISCO is a labor-management group bringing together unions of the building trades and construction contractor associations representing more than 140,000 construction workers and 8,000 contractors in the six county Chicago Metropolitan area.

CISCO MISSION STATEMENT

It is the primary mission of CISCO to strengthen the unionized construction market in the greater Chicago Metropolitan area. In support of this mission, CISCO will perform three major roles: 1) Serve as a forum to facilitate dialogue between contractors and building trades union leaders concerning mutual problems and concerns; 2) Serve as a clearinghouse for information on the local construction industry; 3) Serve as a promotional group to encourage union construction with the user community and the general public. As a joint labor-management organization, CISCO will focus on cooperative efforts to reduce problems and conflicts and enhance the competitiveness of union construction. Through its activities, CISCO will build trust between the parties and will foster the joint commitment of local contractors and union labor to high quality, on-time, within budget delivery on all projects.

Suggestions, story ideas, or comments should be directed to CISCO at: 2000 Spring Road, Suite 110, Oak Brook, IL 60523

Contact Us At: Toll-free 877-562-9411, (630)472-9411, Fax: (630)472-9413, or e-mail gary@cisco.org

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