



# CISCO

## COMMUNICATOR

A Newsletter for Chicagoland Construction Labor & Management Professionals

### End-of-Session Legislative Activity Brings Worker's Comp Reform *Budget Amendment Glitch Cause for Concern*

There was plenty of last-minute action, but the consequences of one item of *inaction* has many in the construction industry concerned. First let's take a look at what passed both chambers of the Illinois General Assembly as the Spring session adjourned May 31.

A **Worker's Compensation Reform** proposal billed as significant cost savings to the business community passed and it awaits Gov. Quinn's signature. Some of the changes to the system include cutting payments to physicians and hospitals, tightening review of injuries and limiting awards for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. Time will tell if these changes have an impact.

The most significant change to the Worker's Compensation Act is an entirely new section which addresses a collective bargaining "pilot program" which applies only to businesses involved in construction.

In essence, the Director of Labor shall designate two labor organizations to participate in a **collectively bargained worker's compensation** agreement.

According to the bill, the agreeing parties will file with the Commission, and the State shall recognize the agreement between the construction employer and the labor organization. The terms may include alternative dispute resolution to replace the procedural function of the Commission and this will include mediation, arbitration or other dispute resolution proceedings which may be final and binding.

Other key pieces to this "pilot program" are:

- 1) An agreed list of medical treatment providers may be an exclusive source of all medical treatment.
- 2) The use of a limited list of impartial physicians to conduct independent medical examinations.
- 3) The creation of a specific light duty modified return to work program.

- 4) A limited list of individuals for the establishment of agreed vocational rehab.

*(Continued on page 7)*

### CISCO Welcomes Four New Associate Members

CISCO would like to welcome aboard four dynamic companies that have recently joined as Associate members. This group includes:

**Culloton Strategies, LLC** - A media communications firm for top executives for sports, business, healthcare, nonprofits and politics with offices in Chicago and Naperville.

**Delta Dental of Illinois** - A not-for-profit dental service corporation that administers and underwrites dental benefit plans. It is the largest such provider in the country with offices in Chicago and Naperville.

**Kovitz Investment Group** - A Chicago-based investment advisory firm managing over \$1.8 billion in equity, fixed income and hedge fund investments for individuals and institutions.

**Navistar** - Based in Lisle, the company produces International® brand commercial trucks, mid-range diesel engines and IC brand school buses, and Workhorse brand chassis for motor homes and step vans. It is a private-label designer and manufacturer of diesel engines for the pickup truck, van and SUV markets.

# From *the* Desk of the Executive Director



Since the General Assembly completed its Spring Session work, all of the talk has centered around the consequences of inaction regarding a \$430 million budget amendment that has the capability of shutting down all state-wide construction projects. Let's hope that cooler and smarter heads prevail, and a resolution is reached by the time you read this article.

aimed at bringing everyone in our industry up to date on just what CBWC meant and how the process could work in Illinois. If the Governor signs this bill, contractors and workers will be one step closer to a system that brings labor and management together to create a compensation model that works to the benefit of contractors and workers.

Hopefully the approved pilot program will provide much needed relief to the union construction industry. We will closely follow future developments and report back on the CBWC progress.

On the other hand, there was news that came out of the session that could have both short-term and long-term impact on the union construction industry. A new worker's compensation reform package contains a specific section which addresses a collectively bargained worker's compensation (CBWC) "pilot program."

Other news involved passage of gaming expansion, which will provide for the construction of up to five land-based casinos; construction of a \$3 billion synthetic natural gas plant on the south side of Chicago; increasing the penalties for violators of the Prevailing Wage Act; and strengthening the existing executive order by making project labor agreements the policy of the State concerning capital construction projects under state agencies.

The pilot program in the bill calls for the Director of Labor to designate two labor organizations to participate in a CBWC agreement. The agreeing parties will file with the Commission, and the State shall recognize the agreement between the construction employer and the labor organization. The terms of the agreement may include alternative dispute resolution to replace the procedural function of the Worker's Comp Commission, an agreed list of doctors, the creation of a modified return to work program and agreed upon vocational rehabilitation.

Each of these bills will have a positive impact on the union construction industry by creating more construction jobs, ensuring that current laws are followed, and strengthening a platform for projects to be completed on time and on budget, within a high quality, drug-free environment.

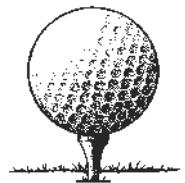
**John Brining**  
Executive Director

In 2009, CISCO, and partners on its Legislative Committee, developed an educational video campaign

## Mark Your Calendars for CISCO's Last Swing Golf Outing



Monday, September 12, 2011  
 Registration/Range: 7:00 a.m. • Shotgun Start: 8:00 a.m.  
 Cocktails/Lunch: 1:00 p.m.  
 \$85 per golfer; \$340 per foursome  
 Bloomingdale Golf Club  
 181 Glen Ellyn Road • Bloomingdale, Illinois



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# Presidential *Perspective*



Earlier this year, President Obama stressed the importance of education as a means of maintaining America’s competitive edge in the world. “Over the next 10 years, nearly half of all new jobs will require education beyond high school, many requiring proficiency in math and science,” Obama said.

The importance of education and the need to provide a quality workforce is exactly what we at CISO promote as we strive to attract men and women to the union construction industry. In order to maintain our competitive edge, we need to provide our youth every opportunity to pursue their dreams. To some that may mean acquiring a degree in engineering or architecture. To others it may mean pursuing a career in the building trades, or even continuing education and training for a promising tradesmen.

The value of an education is more important than ever. At our Annual Luncheon, I was extremely proud of the fact that we continue to provide scholarships and support the dreams of young men and women, especially in today’s tough economic times. The sense of accomplishment that I witnessed on the faces of the four students was inspiring, and the pride on the faces of the parents was rewarding. I thought the moment was a fantastic reflection on our young adults and the children of our union construction workers and contractors.

We’ve got to continue to have the best trained, best skilled workforce in the world, and the CISO scholarship program is having a positive impact and certainly doing its part.

Sincerely,

**John Burns**  
**CISO Board President**


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## 2011 Scholarship Winners Honored at 23rd Annual Luncheon

CISO announced its annual scholarship winners during its Annual Luncheon on April 28, 2011 at Maggiano’s Little Italy in Schaumburg, Illinois. **Matthew Carlton** was awarded the John E. Kenny, Jr. Founder’s Scholarship. Carlton, a graduate of Kankakee Valley High School, plans to major in Engineering. His father, Marvin Carlton, is a member of the Operating Engineers Local #150.

The three Joseph Sullivan Memorial Scholarships were awarded to: 1) **Maura Connors**, whose father John Connors is a member of IBEW Local #134 in Chicago, is a graduate of St. Ignatius High School. Maura will pursue a degree in English and Communications. 2) **Benjamin DeVries**, whose father Jeffrey DeVries is a member of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #21, is a graduate of Illiana Christian High School and has chosen English as his major at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. 3) **Taylor Maine**, whose father Richard Maine is affiliated with Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 501, plans to study Natural Resources at Colorado State. Taylor graduated from St. Charles North High School.



 Scholarship winners are (from left) Maura Connors, Benjamin DeVries, Taylor Maine and Matthew Carlton.

Matthew Carlton, Maura Connors, Benjamin DeVries and Taylor Maine were chosen from a field of 115 applicants. CISO congratulates its 2011 scholarship winners!

## Carrigan Applauds CISCO Accomplishments at Annual Luncheon


If there is one day of the year that Michael T. Carrigan, President of the Illinois AFL-CIO, sets aside for public appearances it is National Workers Memorial Day on April 28.

With 11 different events being held throughout the State on April 28 (The anniversary of the creation of the OSHA Act), Carrigan instead graciously accepted an invitation to speak to a crowded room of more than 240 CISCO members, labor leaders and guests during CISCO's Annual Luncheon.

"I always say," Carrigan began, "if you want to see a real professional labor-management group in action, you need to come and visit CISCO. They have set the bar extremely high."

Carrigan's remarks were part of a 20-minute address in which he recognized the principles that CISCO promotes, key industry leaders in the audience, and the men and women in the union construction industry that had lost their lives or had been seriously injured in a work-related accident.




 Michael T. Carrigan, President of the Illinois AFL-CIO, delivers his keynote address during the Annual Luncheon.

In that role, Carrigan spoke of a variety of reform bills that were being considered that included pension, worker's compensation, education, and public health and welfare.

He also highlighted the state legislature's efforts regarding gaming expansion and synthetic natural gas plants that would have a positive impact on the union construction industry and would help create construction jobs.



 From left: Tom Villanova, President, Chicago and Cook County Building Trades, Michael Carrigan, John Brining, CISCO Executive Director and John Burns, CISCO Board President.

Carrigan said that the anniversary of the OSHA Act should be remembered for its instituting stronger safety training laws in the United States and in Illinois, and also for the workers and their families.

As President of the Illinois AFL-CIO, one of the most important aspects of Carrigan's office is to carefully monitor the progress of state laws by urging passage of those that will positively impact the union construction industry, or helping to defeat/minimize the negative impact of other bills.



 CISCO Board Vice President Dave Henderson presents Maura Connors with her scholarship award.

The Luncheon was capped off with the presentation of the 2011 Scholarships Awards. To view a photo of the student winners, go to page 3. For more event photos, see insert page.

## 2011 CISCO Board of Directors

### Executive Board

#### President

John Burns, *Laborer's D.C. of Chicago & Vicinity*

#### Vice President

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Steven Cisco, *I.U.O.E. Local 150*

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Dan Divane, *Electrical Contractors Association*

Frank Furco, *IBEW Local 701*

Frank Lollino, *Underground Contractors Association*

Mark Maher, *Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters*

Rich Mathis, *Roofers Local 11*

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Richard Porter, *Mason Contractors Association*

Michael Prate, *RCEC*

## Penny-Per-Hour

### Contributors

Builders' Association  
Cement Masons Local 502  
Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters  
Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Assoc.  
Chicagoland Roofing Council  
Concrete Contractors Assoc. 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 Assoc.  
Teamsters Joint Council # 25  
Underground Contractors Association

## 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  
Chicagoland Roofing Council  
Chicagoland Sheet 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  
Northeastern Illinois Chapter  
National Fire Sprinkler Association  
Northern Illinois Chapter

Northeastern 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 # 25  
Underground Contractors Association

## Associate Members

AETNA Insurance Company  
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Brandywine Global Investment Mgmt.  
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Chicagoland Construction Safety Council  
CIGNA HealthCare  
Construction Employers' Association  
Consumer Health Services  
Culloton Strategies, LLC  
Delta Dental  
DuPage County Building & Construction Trades Council

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  
Kovitz Investment Group  
Labor Management Cooperation Committee of Chicago  
Labor Management Cooperative Committee of Northeastern Illinois  
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Russell Investments  
Sav-RX Pharmacy Benefit Mgmt.  
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UMB Asset Management  
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## Save The Date

### Mark Breslin Conference

September 27, 2011

IBEW Local 701 Training Center  
Warrenville, IL

CISCO, FCAC and PAMCANI are cooperatively developing a "doubleheader" seminar featuring Mark Breslin that will be open to all interested Chicagoland Trade Associations and Trade Unions.

Seminar #1 - "The Perfect Storm" - 2 p.m. - Aimed at Union Officials and Employer/Contractors.

Seminar #2 - "Alpha Dogs" - 5 p.m. - Aimed at rank-and-file workers; Contractors & Union Officials may attend.

Ticket information available by visiting [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org)

Registration Deadline is August 15.

For more information, call (630) 472-9411

# EDUCATION 70 CAREERS



**Johnetta Ryan,**  
*Director*  
Education-to-Careers

## Apprenticeship Coordinators Bring a Wealth of Knowledge

Since summer has arrived and the students have set their sights on fun in the sun, I thought we at CISCO should begin to feature in this column the tremendous group of Apprenticeship Coordinators who train the men and women who pursue a career in the various building trades.

Kicking off the first in a series of articles will be the Operating Engineers Local 150 and its Apprenticeship Coordinator Mike Rorex.

### Michael Rorex - Operating Engineers Local 150



Michael has more than 26 years of experience as an Operating Engineer working in various aspects of this craft. He has gained a wealth of knowledge through hands on experience, and has taken advantage of the opportunity to learn directly from the most highly skilled operators in the country.

He was fortunate to start his construction career during the 1970's in the Deep Tunnel Project - one of the largest civil engineering projects ever undertaken in terms of scope, cost and timeframe. This experience allowed him to take specific skills into the sewer and water industry. Understanding underground construction led him to the road and heavy construction arena. Using his educational experience from the Chicago Public School system and Joliet Junior College, he worked his way up to General Superintendent/Project Manager for one of the region's top contractors.

Next, his talents and skills were requested to be used through the Operating Engineers. Michael started in the local as a business agent and then advanced himself to

**CISCO Communicator**



 *The Operating Engineers Local 150 Training Center is located at 19800 W. South Arsenal Road in Wilmington.*

lead the state of the art training facility in Wilmington, Illinois. His foresight has allowed the training site to secure a training Alliance with OSHA, become an awrdee of a Susan Harwood Grant, participation within multiple industry associations, and the registration of two "green" apprenticeship programs.

Michael also participates on an international hoisting and portable training advisory board, apprenticeship investment board, and serves on the Board for the Operating Engineers Certification Program. For more information, contact Mike Rorex at (815)722-3201, or visit [www.asiplocal150.org](http://www.asiplocal150.org).



## Legislative News Gets Mixed Reviews From Construction Industry

*(Cont. from page 1)*

Failure to pass **House Bill 2189** could have a major impact on the state's economy and its continued recovery. The Senate attached \$431 million in social service appropriations to legislation containing public works, infrastructure and highway construction projects. The House refused to approve the amendment.

Inaction would force the suspension or cancellation of thousands of projects and the immediate loss of approximately 52,000 jobs, including 31,000 highway construction jobs. Unless action is taken, new and existing projects would not move forward after June 17. As of June 30, IDOT will no longer be able to accept, administer or disburse federal, state and local funds, impacting \$16.6 billion in projects.

In other legislative news, a labor-supported **gaming expansion bill** passed. Gov. Quinn said the bill may be "excessive," but would not say definitively whether or not he would veto it. The bill creates five new casinos in Chicago, Danville, Rockford, Waukegan and the south suburbs of Chicago. It also contains permits for slots and harness racing nine months a year at the Illinois State Fairgrounds; slot machines behind security checkpoints at O'Hare Airport; expansion of existing gaming positions and an option for riverboats to become land-based casinos.

Two **synthetic natural gas plants** planned for construction passed the General Assembly. Leucadia

(SB 1533), a \$3 billion plant to be built on the south side of Chicago, and Power Holdings (SB 2169), planned for Jefferson County in southern Illinois, passed both chambers. Each plant will create over 1,000 construction jobs and hundreds of permanent jobs.

**Project Labor Agreements** will soon become the policy of the state concerning capital construction projects under state agencies. The bill, which strengthens a 9-year-old executive order moves now to the Governor's desk for his signature.

Violations of the state's **Prevailing Wage Law** will be a criminal offense if Gov. Quinn signs a bill that was approved by both chambers. House Bill 3237 changes the penalty for violating the Act to a Class A misdemeanor (carrying a maximum one year prison sentence), and requires the Department of Labor to debar (prohibit from gaining work with the State) violators for four years.


Additionally, attempts to push further **public employee pension** cuts were thwarted as the General Assembly abandoned that effort.

Also, the legislature passed a **\$33.2 billion budget** that included cuts in several areas affecting working families.

And finally, state lawmakers completed its part of the **remap** effort by approving 18 new congressional districts, along with redrawing existing Senate and House districts.

## CISCO Making the Rounds: UCA Spring Showcase



 CISCO was one of more than 40 exhibitors that was on hand at the Underground Contractors Spring Showcase Tradeshow, April 14 at Signature Events in Woodridge. UCA Executive Director Dave Benjamin (right) and CISCO Board Member Frank Lollino (center), who represents the underground contractors on the board, stopped at CISCO's booth to say hello to CISCO Executive Director John Brining as they checked out the other exhibits.

# UNION CONSTRUCTION

## CISCO's Annual Luncheon







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June 2011

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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](mailto:gary@cisco.org)

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## New Information

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