

URCA Viewpoint

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NEWS AND VIEWS FOR THE UNION ROOFER

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(DOI) Adopts (WCIRB) Recommendations

At the November 16, 2012 public hearing, the Department of Insurance approved the changes recommended by the Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau applicable to the construction trades.

1) The "split (dual) wage" threshold value for roofing will remain at \$23.00 per hour; 2) Requires that all policyholders who report payroll in a high wage/low rate classification be audited not just those whose premiums amount to \$10,000.00 or more. In the past, over 20,000 policies escaped audits and this new requirement fills a void that has been long overdue and reduces the potential for fraud. To minimize the administrative bur-

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URCA Member Contractors Provide Craftsmanship to the 2012 Q Award Recipient

Providence Holy Cross Medical Center, Mission Hills, CA was the recipient of The Alliance for Quality Construction's 2012 "Q Award" for construction of its 138-bed patient care South Wing. The new South Wing was constructed as the medical center celebrated its 50th year. The project was union built by Swinerton Builders and designed by HMC Architects.

Accepting the award on behalf of Providence Holy Cross Medical Center was its Chief Executive Larry Bowe. During his acceptance speech, Mr. Bowe



Left to right, Larry Bowe—Chief Executive Providence Holy Cross Medical Center; Mitchell Englander—Los Angeles City Councilman; Ron Johnston—Exec Director URCA, and Dave Chapman—President Chapman Coast Roof Company.

announced that he is proud of the Medical Center being voted among the best hospitals in the nation and the new wing will allow the Center to continue exceptional services to the surrounding communities. "At 377

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Ronald D. Johnston, Ph.D.
Executive Director



Robbie Hunter-State Building and Construction Trades Council of CA during the 2012 Q Award event.



Members of Chapman Coast Roof Company at Q Award luncheon.

2012 was a very successful legislative year for URCA and the subcontractor community as a whole. Your association targeted the following bills and provided letters to legislators as well as oral testimony before several committees to advocate the association's position.

AB 1145 (CEDILLO)- OPPOSE

Relates to the workers' compensation system. Provides certain provisions concerning injuries that cause permanent partial disability. Provides for Supplemental Job Displacement Voucher (SJDV) and retraining. This bill would be detrimental to the business community with additional and onerous administrative hurdles. It forces businesses to navigate a two-tiered system containing separate job offer dates, separate notification dates and differing voucher benefit amounts based on an arbitrary date of injury. This bill would open a "Pandora's Box" of additional litigation and escalated costs during a time of economic downturn. Vetoed by Governor.

AB 1671 (HUFFMAN)- SUPPORT

Amends existing law that prohibits the DOT from withholding retention proceeds when making progress payments for work performed by a contractor. This bill "mirrors" the language of SB 293 (Margett) that was chaptered into law in 2008 mandating "zero" retention on DOT projects with a "sunset" provision of January 2014. This bill extends the

sunset provision to January 2020.

Signed into law by Governor.

AB 1794 (WILLIAMS)- SUPPORT

This bill would make it a misdemeanor and a cause for disciplinary action for a licensed contractor to fail to notify his or her workers' compensation insurance carrier within 20 days of hiring an employee. This bill was dramatically amended on May 25th to remove the requirement to report to insurers. It simply requires reporting of a new hire to the EDD and authorizes the EDD to share employment information with the Joint Enforcement Strike Force, CSLB and SCIF. Signed into law by Governor.

AB 2219 (KNIGHT)- SUPPORT

Sponsored by the Roofing Contractors Association of California (RCAC), this bill extends, indefinitely, existing law that requires every licensed contractor, or applicant for licensure, to have on file at all times with the CSLB a current and valid Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance or Certification of Self-Insurance. Also, it requires a contractor with a C-39 roofing classification to obtain and maintain workers' compensation insurance even he or she has no employees. Furthermore, it requires all workers' compensation insurers to perform in-person audits on all policies against a company's payroll records to ensure that under-reporting is not taking place. Signed into law by the Governor.

2013 California Energy Code Adopted

At its meeting held on May 31, 2012, the California Energy Commission unanimously adopted the final version of the 2013 "Building Energy Efficiency Standards" i.e. the California Energy Code.

As it applies to low-sloped non-residential buildings, the minimum aged reflectance of roofing products will be increased from 0.55 to 0.63. The minimum emittance will be 0.75. These standards will apply to all

16 climate zones. Roofing contractors will continue to be able to make reflectance/insulation trade-offs, both above and below the roof deck and a new table has been added to the Code to facilitate the process. Also, CEC staff indicated that free trade-off tools will be available on the CEC website.

The "cool roof" requirements for low-sloped, high rise residential and hotel/motel buildings remain unchanged and continue to apply only

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Q Award Continued

beds, the Center becomes one of the largest hospitals in the Greater Valley Area," said Bowe.

URCA member contractor Chapman Coast Roof Company provided roofing installation. According to company president Dave Chapman, their craftsmen were on the job immediately after the building's framing was in place. Chapman Roof installed a complete watertight but temporary hot asphalt roof to allow weather protection for the other crafts to commence internal construction. Later, Chapman Roof removed the temporary roof and installed a multi-level single-ply cool roof totaling 500 squares, or approximately 50,000 square feet. Approximately 3,000 man hours were needed to complete the project.

"We entered the project knowing the final result was for the South Wing to qualify as a LEED structure," said Chapman. "With the guidance of the general contractor, Swinerton Builders, we worked diligently around the schedules of other trades, while not disturbing the daily hospital operations."

URCA member contractor Courtney Waterproofing of Orange County, CA provided the structure's waterproofing services. The Courtney crew was on site for several weeks and also had to abide by the strict guidelines of not disturbing the hospital's daily operations.

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitchell Englander shared a poignant story of his sister pass-

ing away in another area's hospital emergency room lobby due to a lack of staff and services. He was determined that no one should ever experience a lack of life-saving treatment when needed. He pledged to work diligently toward the expansion of Holy Cross Medical Center, and did so successfully.

LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council Executive Secretary, Robbie Hunter, addressed the crowd as to the incredible cooperation between government, labor and management to construct the Medical Center. Hunter explained that during the seeming mayhem of construction, the hospital remained open and undisturbed.

Jerry Mejia, lead construction manager of the project for general contractor Swinerton Builders-OC/IE, presented a project start-to-finish slide presentation. He stated that over



Jerry Mejia—Construction Manager Swinerton Builders-OC/IE

1 million man-hours were spent on the project. The original plans called for a LEED Certified building, but it became a LEED Silver Certified structure. This certification included low mercury fluorescent lamps, cool roofing, an installed drip irrigation system, implementation of a water bottle reuse program (drinking fountains also

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DOI Recommendations Continued

den, this requirement would apply only for new business and renewal business that have not been subject to a physical audit by the insurer for the prior two policy years. This change would be effective with respect to new and renewal policies as of the first anniversary rating date of a risk or after January 1, 2013; 3) Stipulates that an employee's unpaid meal break does not need to be recorded in time cards or time books if the meal period represents a time in which all of the employer's operations at the job site cease for a uniform unpaid meal break period.

2013 Code Continued

in climate zones 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15. The standards for low-sloped, low-rise residential building are now 0.63 reflectance and 0.75 emittance, but continue to apply only in zones 13 and 15.

Weight has been eliminated as a factor in steep-sloped "cool roofing" requirements. Non-residential buildings must have roofs with an aged reflectance of at least 0.20 and an emittance of 0.75 or greater. This standard will apply in all 16 climate zones. Low rise residential building roofs must meet the same requirements, but they will only apply in climate zones 10 through 15.

The new 2013 Energy Code does not go into effect until January 2014. In the interim, CEC staff will compose and publish the residential and non-residential compliance manuals that





Viewpoint

Q Award continued

utilization of low emission finishes, paints/coatings, carpet, composite wood, and adhesive sealants, and over 80% of construction waste was recycled. In addition, 10% of construction materials were recycled materials and 50% of new wood materials were FSC certified.

The new 132,000 square foot expansion is one of the first LEED-certified hospital buildings in the state and the only one in California

to receive a Silver rating from Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design's Green Building Rating System. Providence Holy Cross Medical Center was recently named to the U.S. News and World Report's list of the nation's top hospitals.

The state of the art facility includes the first 12-bed neo-natal intensive care unit serving north San Fernando/Santa Clarita

Valleys, a new Women's Pavilion, including additional Labor & Delivery rooms, Post Partum rooms and C-Section suites, an expanded gastroenterology lab, a staff lactation lounge and a chapel. The South Wing was built in accordance to California's most recent seismic safety guidelines, and is expected to not only withstand an 8.0 magnitude earthquake, but to remain

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Viewpoint

2914 E. Katella Avenue, Suite 202
Orange, CA 92867

Q Award continued

operational to continue to treat existing patients as well as the injured.

Immediately after the Q Award presentation, all attendees enjoyed a luncheon on the Medical Center grounds. Attendees to the 2012 Q Award were construction industry, labor and management leaders, and property owners, along with proud Medical Center staff.

The mission of the Union Roofing Contractors Association is to promote quality construction utilizing highly trained and skilled employees. The URCA is dedicated to the highest standards of professional integrity.

URCA

2914 E. Katella Ave., Suite 202

Orange, CA 92867

(714) 628-3916 Fax (714) 628-3927

Website: URCA.org



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