

MIDWEST INSULATION CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION 16712 ELM CIRCLE OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68130



VOLUME 56 NO. 01 JANUARY 2022



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS MONTH:

- Winter Meetings.
- President's Message.
- Dues and Advertising Rates for 2022.
- Legal Counsel's COVID-19 Update.
- APi Distribution & ASDCO Merger
- MICA Future Meeting Dates.
- U.S. Department of Labor Announces Annual Adjustments to OSHA Civil Penalties.
- U.S. Department of Labor Reminds Specific Employers to Submit Required 2021 Injury, Illness Data by March 2, 2022.
- Dodge Momentum Index Declines in December.
- U.S. Economy Grows in Fourth Quarter, But Investment in Structures Declines Again, Says ABC.
- Construction Firms Foresee Growing Demand for Most Types of Projects, As 74 Percent of Firms Plan to Hire in 2022 Despite Supply Chain and Labor Challenges.

WINTER BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Board of Directors of MICA and committees held their winter meetings on January 21 & 22, 2022, in Scottsdale, Arizona. The committees that met on January 21st were the Merit Shop, Labor, Promotion & Membership, Safety & Environmental, and the Past Presidents' Planning Committee.

The Merit Shop and Labor committees reviewed the workloads within the MICA region. They discussed business issues that the insulation contractor is dealing with including the manpower needs and training.

The Promotion and Membership committee discussed several ways to promote MICA and the insulation industry to the business community. The committee will be working closely with the new management association group to broaden MICA's search for new contractor members and to continue to develop value adding programs to our member firms.

The Safety & Environmental committee reviewed the application process for the 17th annual "Safety Best Practices" award. The committee agreed to simplify the application process. The committee will develop specific questions for particular sections of a company's safety program that will be under review. The committee anticipates that the questions being asked will be more concise and clear in the requirements about a company's safety program. Notice of the award application process will be sent to the members in late February/early March of this year.

The Past Presidents' Planning committee met and reviewed MICA's Vision Statement and Strategic Initiatives. The past presidents are asked to identify and discuss emerging issues facing the insulation industry and the MICA members. As new issues are identified, the past presidents review the vision statement to see if a new strategic initiative needs to be added or existing initiatives removed. No new initiatives were added at this meeting.

The Board of Directors met on Saturday, January 22, 2022. Part of the agenda was to approve the technical programs for the 65th annual spring convention of MICA. This convention will be held June 19 to 22, 2022, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort in Bonita Springs, FL. Create memories that will last a lifetime at the award-winning tropical resort near Naples, Florida. Enjoy exclusive access to five water slides, four refreshing pools, a lazy river, and a secluded private island. From family retreats to romantic escapes, this Southwest Florida resort in Bonita Springs offers endless excitement in a beautiful setting. Explore the beauty and culture that surrounds the resort. Discover the many local art galleries, museums, shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues found minutes from the property. Take your adventure to the water with chartered fishing trips and excursions through the Everglades. Children and adults alike will find plenty of activities to keep them busy during the free time. This is one of those unique experiences that you should not miss. Begin now to plan your participation at our 65th annual spring convention.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD AD HERE

Affordable Yearly Rate

Contact the MICA Office for Details



allied insulation supply

Primary Insulation Distributor

Adhesives & Mastics Calcium Silicate Custom Fabrication Duct Wrap/Board EIFS

Facings Fiberglass Pipe Insulation Fire Stop Materials ISO Board Metal Building Insulation

Metal Fittings & Jacket Fiberglass Batt & Board Mineral Wool Batt & Board Pipe & Tank Polystyrene Board **PVC Fittings & Jacket** Sealants

800-242-9970

milwaukee • davenport • omaha • wausau

"If it's insulation we stock it!" www.alliedinsulation.com

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD AD HERE **Affordable Yearly Rate**

Contact the MICA Office for Details



VIMASCO CORPORATION

SERVING THE INDUSTRY SINCE 1955

- Mastic—Fire Protective Coatings
- Nuclear Grade Adhesives and Coatings for Power Plants and the Military
- Cable Coating
- Chinking & Caulking

CALL ANGELA TODAY P.O. BOX 516, NITRO WV 25143 PHONE (800) 626-8288 * FAX (304) 755-7153

WWW.VIMASCO.COM

Highest Quality - Superior Customer Service - On Time Delivery

Or Contact 317-459-4030



SSL II® WITH ASJ MAX FIBERGLAS™ PIPE INSULATION



Bryan Bergquist MN, ND, SD, West WI • 763-567-1773 Bryan.Bergquist@owenscorning.com

Jacob Aelker NE, OK, KS, AR, MO, West IA • 419-906-0062

Tom McGettigan

Tom.McGettigan@o



Learn more at www.owenscorning.com/mechanical

Quality Insulation Fabrics and More...



145 Lehigh Ave, Lakewood, NJ 08701 800-631-5399 732-634-5700 www.alphainc.com

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD AD HERE

Affordable Yearly Rate

Contact the MICA Office for Details

M.W. OTTINGER SALES

Manufacturers' Representative

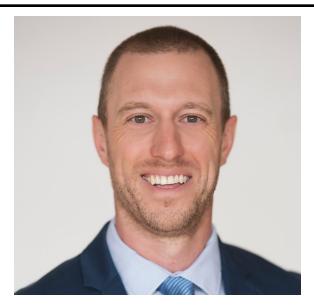
Minneapolis, MN - Serving the Upper Midwest

Contacts: Miles Ottinger, mwottinger@gmail.com Mitch Ottinger, mitch.ottinger@gmail.com Website: www.mwottingersales.com

Representing:

- ★ AMERICAN SEALANTS, INC. (ASI)
- **★ INSPECTION POINT SEALS**
- Inspection Plugs for Valves and Piping
- **★ INSULATION COMPONENTS** iShields, Insulated iShields, iBlocks, iTools
- **★** METAL TEXTILES CORP.
- **★ MID-MOUNTAIN MATERIALS**

Woven Textiles, Coated Fabrics, Welding Cloth



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TO: THE MICA MEMBERSHIP

I hope you all were able to enjoy the Holiday Season and have had a great start to 2022! The MICA Board met in Scottsdale, AZ, in January to work on the program for the June Convention, along with a few other items during this year of transition from long-time executive secretary, Tom & Cindy Shimerda, to The Association Office management team.

The Board is very excited to finally be able to hold the annual convention this year after missing out the last two years due to COVID. The site in Florida is beautiful, the program will be stellar, and the social opportunities will be plentiful. I am excited to see everyone there – especially with this year being the final convention for Tom & Cindy. It will be a bittersweet farewell for the two of them, and we hope that everyone can attend this year.

Last month I spoke about pushing yourself past that comfort level during the holiday season. Expanding on that idea is the topic of the "comfort crisis". As I sit here writing this message, the high today in Wisconsin is -5 degrees with a windchill of -30 degrees. Nothing about temperatures that cold is "comfortable"... however, there are a lot of things in our world to make our lives more and more comfortable. Remote start on the vehicle, heated seats in the car, even heated steering wheels to make sure we don't have any discomfort in our commute. When we get home, we pull the vehicle into the attached garage, sit on the soft couch, watch TV from any one of 500 channels or an endless selection of entertainment on demand.

Our world today is full of creature comforts and technologies that certainly make our lives easier, more efficient and more adaptable. However, many of these same benefits take away natural difficulties and hardships that our bodies and minds use to grow and develop.

The book by Michael Easter entitled "The Comfort Crisis: Embrace Discomfort to Reclaim Your Wild, Happy, Healthy Self" is a fantastic read that follows the author as he embarks on a month-long, first-time caribou hunt in the dead of winter in the Alaskan Artic Wilderness. The author encompasses the story of the hunt with a plethora of facts, studies, and interviews from a number of experts around the world that educate us on the different aspects of our lives and how they are negatively affected by today's creature comforts. By stepping outside of these comforts, and challenging ourselves with some forms of discomfort, we are able to better our physical health, mental health and relationships immensely.

My request to you this month is to find something that is challenging/uncomfortable and accomplish it, then reflect on how you felt physically and mentally after that given thing. It could be something as simple as staying off social media for a couple days in a row; running farther than you ever have by just 1 more mile; staying away from processed/fast foods for 1 week; leaving the TV off for a few nights and reading a book or playing some games with your kids.

My family and myself have found ourselves accomplishing a number of small challenges and truly enjoying the journey as we keep improving ourselves through each one.

Sincerely,

Rudy Nigl MICA President





RIDGLOK®

TANK INSULATION PANELS

MCI-RIDGLOK.com









- Labor Savings
- Small Crew Size
- Minimal to NO Welding
- Minimal Specialty Tools
- No Scaffolding
- Pre-Fabricated Panel
- High Wind Designs
- Longest Lifespan
- Easy Repairs
- Minimum Maintenance
- Freeze Protection
- Strong Weather Barrier





ALL INDUSTRIES—ALL TANKS





Aerofix[®]

Insulated Pipe Supports

HVAC | Refrigeration | VRF | Chilled Water Hot and Cold-Water Piping



282 Industrial Park Road Sweetwater, TN 37874 423.337.2493 Fax: 423.337.7675 Toll Free: 866.AEROCEL

www.aeroflexusa.com

Aerofix® patented insulated pipe supports are high-strength, load-bearing, closed-cell insulation fittings. Will not compress or crush under loads imposed by active piping systems at pipe hanger and strut clamp locations. Composed of rigid closed-cell, lightweight, polymeric foam and lined with closed-cell EPDM rubber. Aerofix is encased in a zero-perm, weather-proof, corrosion-proof EPDM polymer membrane with a high-performance pressure-sensitive closure system.

Hermetically seals piping against vapor drive. Prevents thermal bridging and the potential for corrosion under insulation (CUI) when installed with Aerocel® EPDM closed-cell elastomeric pipe insulation, adhesives and zero-perm Protane®

LEED-Contributing: GREENGUARD
Gold Certified, Environmental Product
Declaration (EPD) and Health Product
Declaration (HPD).

Wide range of ID's (1/4"- 12" IPS) and thicknesses (1/2" - 2").



phone 800-654-0409 • fax 417-359-9899 WWW.pic-plastics.com

Industry leading customer service

Quickest turn around time

White indoor/outdoor UVR

E-84 low smoke approved

No up charge for color

18 Colors

PIC Plastics, Inc 2232 North Garrison Ave Carthage, MO 64836





BOARD SETS DUES AND ADVERTISING RATES FOR 2022

At its October meeting, the Board of Directors of MICA approved MICA's operating budget for 2022. In its deliberations, the Board voted a modest \$25.00 increase in the annual membership dues for contractor and associate member firms. The Board is very cognizant of the current state of the economy and wants to keep MICA affordable to all current and prospective members. The Board felt that it was prudent to approve a modest increase in the dues structure as it begins to implement a strategic transition in the association's normal operations. Contractor member annual dues for 2022 are set at \$775.00. The annual dues for associate member firms is \$575.00. The 2022 membership renewal notices have been mailed to all current member firms. We are anticipating 100% renewals and look forward to your continued participation in MICA in 2022.

Advertising in the MICA Messenger continues to be an excellent forum to reach the membership on a monthly basis. As such, advertising rates for 2022 remain the same as in 2021. The advertising renewal contracts and applications for advertising for those who are currently not advertising in the newsletter were mailed to the associate member firms. Contact the MICA office if you need an electronic copy of your dues or advertising invoices.

If you have not placed an ad in the newsletter or if you have advertised in the past, 2022 would be a great year to start advertising in the newsletter. Just call the MICA office, and we will get you started.

LEGAL COUNSEL'S COVID - 19 UPDATE

MICA's legal counsel, Gary Auman, has been tracking the ongoing events surrounding OSHA's ETS for Vaccination and Testing. Gary's update below was emailed to the MICA membership. It is reproduced below for those who may not be on our email list.serv.

Effective today, January 26th the OSHA ETS for COVID-19 for employers with more than 100 employees is withdrawn. OSHA made this announcement on January 25th in the Federal Register, stating:

Although OSHA is withdrawing the Vaccination and Testing ETS as an enforceable emergency temporary standard, OSHA is not withdrawing the ETS to the extent that it serves as a proposed rule under section 6(c)(3) of the Act, and this action does not affect the ETS's status as a proposal under section 6(b) of the Act or otherwise affect the status of the notice-and comment rulemaking commenced by the Vaccination and Testing ETS. See 29 U.S.C. 655(c)(3).

Notwithstanding the withdrawal of the Vaccination and Testing ETS, OSHA continues to strongly encourage the vaccination of workers against the continuing dangers posed by COVID-19 in the workplace.

That statement, along with Labor Secretary Marty Walsh's comments following the Supreme Court's decision to stay the ETS, clearly indicate that OSHA will aggres-

(Continued on page 9)





SERVICE FROM 29 LOCATIONS

800 West Fairmont Drive, Suite 2 Tempe, AZ 85282 480-967-1881

3133 S. Dodge Blvd. Tucson, AZ 85713 520-777-0303

18825 Railroad Street City of Industry, CA 91748 626-626-2700

130 Mason Circle, Suite B Concord, CA 94520 925-691-9880

3008 Orange Grove Avenue North Highlands, CA 95660 916-978-9071

7328 Trade Street, Suite 200 San Diego, CA 92121 858-530-0414

14200 East 33rd Place Aurora, CO 80011 303-371-0505

2802 Independence Road, Suite F Iowa City, IA 52240 319-248-7602

5810 East Avenue Countryside, IL 60525 708-352-9663

3530 Developers Road Indianapolis, IN 46227 317-782-1144 108 Westhampton Drive Lexington, KY 40511 859-254-0399

6095 East River Road Fridley, MN 55432 763-502-9977

5201 E. Front Street Kansas City, MO 64120 816-920-5900

1170 Central Industrial Drive St. Louis, MO 63110 314-776-2002

3555 Ponderosa Way, Unit E Las Vegas, NV 89118 702-891-5333

2630 Glendale Milford Rd Cincinnati, OH 45241 513-563-8200

4755 West 150th Street, Suite E Cleveland, OH 44135 216-362-7338

2245 Westbelt Drive Columbus, OH 43228 614-345-0804

3223 NW Guam Street Portland, OR 97210 503-248-9662

5043 Martin Luther King Jr. Freeway Fort Worth, TX 76119 817-617-4383 2745 Market Street, Suite 100 Garland, TX 75041 972-278-4900

4411B Darien Street Houston, TX 77028 713-675-1811

2701 Gattis School Road, Suite 110E Round Rock, TX 78664 512-582-0929

8559 NE Loop 410, Suite 132 San Antonio, TX 78219 210-610-9950

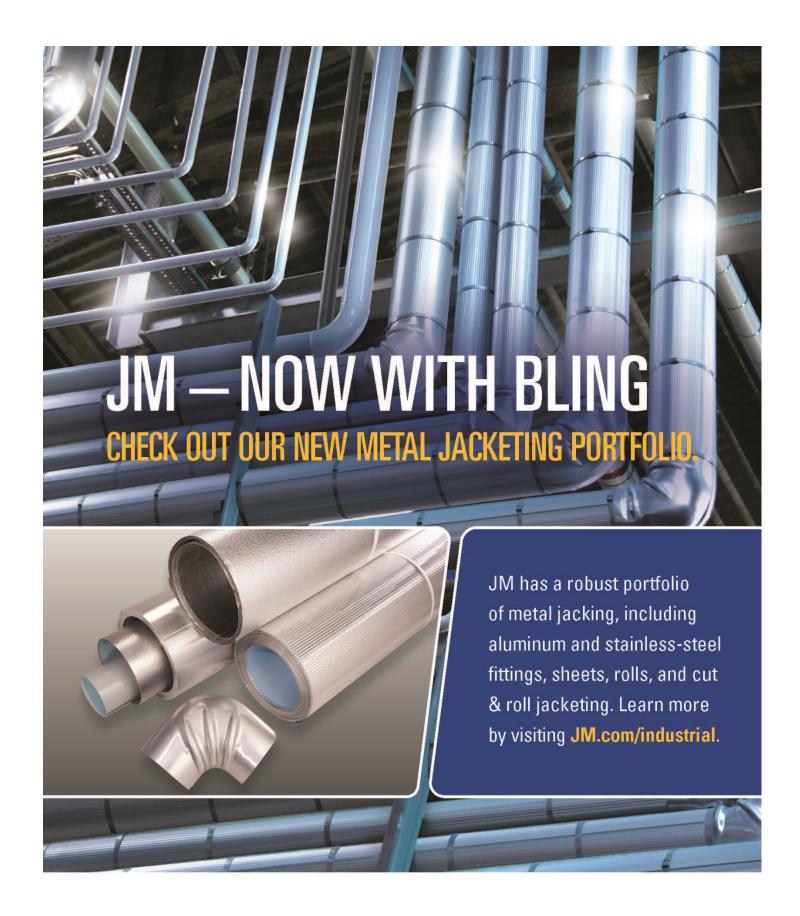
21840 76th Avenue South Kent, WA 98032 425-251-6750

308 Chenoweth Street Mount Vernon, WA 98273 360-399-6627

1017 North Bradley Road, Suite B Spokane Valley, WA 99212 509-893-3411

2929 Walker Drive Green Bay, WI 54311 920-406-4100

823 South 60th Street, Suite R1 Milwaukee, WI 53214 414-258-9333







(Continued from page 6)

sively enforce safeguards to protect employees in the workplace. So, where are we now?

The National Emphasis Program (NEP) for COVID is still in place. The NEP essentially gives OSHA probable cause to enter any workplace and at the very least ask to see the employer's COVID protection program. In the last paragraph of his statement Secretary Walsh stated that "OSHA will do everything in its existing authority to hold businesses accountable for protection workers, including under the COVID-19 National Emphasis Program and General Duty Clause." This applies to ALL employers, not just those with over 100 employees.

In light of the preceding all employers, large and small, must have a COVID protection plan in place. That plan must include feasible steps and controls to protect employees from COVID-19. At a minimum this requires complying with the CDC guidelines and any state or local healthcare requirements for business.

For now, we believe that most COVID enforcement activities by OSHA will be in responses to employee complaints. Please remember that any citations issued for COVID violations will be issued under the General Duty Clause. All General Duty Clause violations are cited as serious. OSHA will not negotiate a General Duty Clause

violation down to Other Than Serious. If you are so cited you will have two options - accept the citation as issued and try to negotiate a lower penalty or defend the citation before the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

API DISTRIBUTION & ASDCO MERGER

We are excited to announce, APi Distribution & ASDCO are merging companies to become Tenet. As we collaborate through this journey, we continue to create a dedicated team led by experts who foster deep relationships with our customers and vendor partners. This integration will bring more value to our partners by leveraging our two companies' combined capacity, capability, geographic footprint, and product offerings. We are on track to launch the new brand and company on January 1st, 2022.

To develop clear and concise messaging, you can find our latest updates below:

- APi Distribution & ASDCO continue to operate as separate companies until Dec 31st.
- Unless communicated, your current contacts have not changed
- We will be updating our website to include a more extensive product offering

(Continued on page 11)



Serving Commercial, Industrial, Marine and OEM Markets

SPI - A global leader in the distribution and specialty fabrication of insulation products for Thermal, Acoustic, Fire Protection and Refractory applications. From the first contact to project completion, you'll benefit from our extensive product offering, superior service and value.









Experience The SPI Advantage





SPI - Specialty Products & Insulation C/O Dunes Point Capital 411 Theodore Fremd Ave., Suite 125 Rye, NY 10580

> Phone: 855-519-4044 www.spi-co.com

COST EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION

for Your Business

- OSHA
- Workers' Comp Defense
- Labor & Employment Law
- Construction Law



Gary W. Auman

Auman Mahan + Furry

www.amfdayton.com • (937) 223-6003

(Continued from page 9)

- Any shared location (between APi Distribution & ASDCO) will merge to operate as one
- Our warehouse in Arden Hills has been under construction to allow for more office space and collaboration.
- Tenet officially has a logo, mission, vision and values to guide our company.
- We have a new warehouse in Billings, MT
- We have updated our Terms & Conditions and have sent out new credit applications to all partners

Some updates you will notice include our email addresses, our website link, a few address updates, more product categories, new team members and more warehouse locations... to name a few. This is why we felt it was important you were made aware of these updates.

Our dedication to our customers and relentless efforts to have the products you need for your job site will not change. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out directly to your sales representative or us.

Why Tenet?

Tenet is a belief or a principle held true. As a company name, it demonstrates our unyielding commitment to the intimate, responsive, expert-level service our company can promise — one that lives in the organization's DNA. Lastly, it is a palindrome, which means it is the same forwards and backward, which gave us an excellent logo design.

1238 Grey Fox Rd, Arden Hills, MN 55112 | 651-604-2836 | www.tenetsolutions.com

FUTURE MICA MEETING DATES

2022 Winter Meetings — January 20 — 23, 2022, Hyatt Regency The Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch, Scottsdale, AZ.

65th Annual Spring Convention — June 19 — 22, 2022, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort, Bonita Springs, FL.

Fall 2022 Annual Fall Business Meeting — October 13 & 14, 2022, Omaha Marriott Downtown, Omaha, NE.

2023 Winter Meetings — TBD

66th Annual Spring Convention — June 19 — 22, 2023, Cheyenne Mountain Resort, Colorado Springs, CO.

68th Annual Spring Convention — June 16 — 19, **2025**, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort, Bonita Springs, FL.

MICA MEMBER ADDRESS/INFO. UPDATES

Be sure to inform the MICA office of any changes or corrections to your listing for either the MICA Directory, e-mail correspondence or mailing address. Even if you update your company listing on the MICA website, please inform the MICA office of the changes. We try to be as current as possible with your help.



ISO 9001:2015 Certified Quality Management System







High temperature solutions for refinery, power, nuclear, military, marine, OEM, heat protection, aerospace and automotive applications.

High Temperature Textiles Accessories

Woven Fiberglass Fabrics Knitted Wire Mesh Silicone Woven Fiberglass Tapes Tie Wire

Vermiculite & Acrylic Coatings **Custom Fabricated**

Welding Blankets Welding Gloves

Laminates Silica

Needle Punched Mats Welding Curtains

Integrated Marketing Group 528 W. Briardale Ave. Orange, CA 92865

www.integratedmarketing-group.com

VALUE ENGINEERED PRODUCTS



NEW SEISMIC SHIELD®



- Most sizes ship in 2 3 days
- · Rounded safety corners
- Seismic grip tabs that are centered for easy alignment
- Friction fit to the strut or fasten to the clevis hanger

Value Engineered Products | Denver, Colorado 303-715-9990 | sales@valueng.com | www.valueng.com

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ANNOUNCES ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS TO OSHA CIVIL PENALTIES

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor announced adjustments to Occupational Safety and Health Administration civil penalty amounts based on cost-of-living adjustments for 2022.

In 2015, Congress passed the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act to advance the effectiveness of civil monetary penalties and to maintain their deterrent effect. Under the Act, agencies are required to publish "catch-up" rules that adjust the level of civil monetary penalties, and make subsequent annual adjustments for inflation no later than January 15 of each year.

OSHA's maximum penalties for serious and other-thanserious violations will increase from \$13,653 per violation to \$14,502 per violation. The maximum penalty for willful or repeated violations will increase from \$136,532 per violation to \$145,027 per violation.

Visit the OSHA Penalties page for more information. The Department of Labor Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Annual Adjustments for 2022 final rule is effective January 15, 2022, and the increased penalty levels apply to any penalties assessed after January 15, 2022.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR REMINDS SPECIFIC EMPLOYERS TO SUBMIT REQUIRED 2021 INJURY, ILLNESS DATA BY MARCH 2, 2022

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration reminds employers that the agency began collecting calendar year 2021 Form 300A data on Jan. 2, 2022. Employers must submit the form electronically by March 2, 2022.

Electronic submissions are required by establishments with 250 or more employees currently required to keep OSHA injury and illness records, and establishments with 20-249 employees classified in specific industries with historically high rates of occupational injuries and illnesses.

Visit the Injury Tracking Application Electronic Submission of Injury and Illness Records to OSHA for more information and a link to the Injury Tracking Application.

DODGE MOMENTUM INDEX DECLINES IN DECEMBER

Page 13

Commercial and institutional planning end the year on a down note, but full-year measures show strong performance

HAMILTON, New Jersey – January 7, 2022 — The Dodge Momentum Index fell 3% in December to 166.4 (2000=100), down from the revised November reading of 170.7. The Momentum Index, issued by <u>Dodge Construction Network</u>, is a monthly measure of the initial report for nonresidential building projects in planning, which have been shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential buildings by a full year. In December, commercial planning fell 4%, and institutional planning slipped 1%.

Despite these declines, 2021 was a banner year for the Dodge Momentum Index — despite the lingering risks of COVID-19 and low demand for some types of nonresidential buildings. Throughout the year, the overall Momentum Index increased 23%, the strongest annual gain since 2005. Both the commercial and institutional components of the Momentum Index saw similar gains — with their levels of activity reaching 13- and 14-year highs, respectively.

A total of 21 projects with a value of \$100 million or more entered planning in December. The leading commercial projects were the \$300 million OKANA Resort in Oklahoma City, OK, and the \$200 million Project Tarpon Amazon distribution center in Daytona Beach, FL. The leading institutional projects were the \$250 million University of Michigan Detroit Center for Innovation in Detroit, MI, and a \$150 million laboratory in Lexington, MA.

The signals provided by the Dodge Momentum Index continue to suggest that construction activity will improve in 2022 — and, more importantly, that this growth will be more balanced than what was seen in 2021. However, the ever-present risks of the pandemic and tight labor force will work to counter these trends, leading to moderate growth over the new year.

DODGE MOMENTUM INDEX

(2000=100, Seasonally Adjusted)

	Dec-21	Nov-21	% Change
Dodge Momentum Index	166.4	170.7	-2.5%
Commercial Building	196.7	203.9	-3.5%
Institutional Building	128.9	129.7	-0.6%
Source: Dodge Construction Network			



4-STATE SUPPLY

Commercial & Industrial Insulation

4-State Supply has earned the reputation as the distributor of choice for mechanical and architectural insulation, green insulation products, and fire stopping and safety materials. We value our clients - offering responsive service, in-depth product knowledge and fast, reliable delivery. Let our team support your team. Service available from three locations.

Lenexa, KS

913-894-9484 14305 W 105th St. Lenexa, KS 66215 Omaha, NE

402-359-1095 6101 N. 16th St. Omaha, NE 68110 Wichita, KS

316-337-5293 3833 N Bridgeport Circle Wichita, KS 67219





Visit our website at www.4statesupply.com For more information, contact us at info@4statesupply.com



Extol Insulated Supports

FABRICATING EXCELLENCE

- Designed for use in the industrial and commercial insulation industry
- Easy to specify, order and install
- Available for all types of piping systems
- Meet or exceed industry standards
- From the typical support system to the most complex applications, our products fit and perform

SETTING THE STANDARD THROUGH CUSTOMIZATION

When it comes to engineering a quality product, one size does not fit all. Extol Insulated Supports are designed based on information that is unique to your application, and are fabricated to your specifications.

SHAPING THE INDUSTRIAL INSULATION MARKET FOR OVER 35 YEARS

208 Republic Street, Norwalk, OH 44857
ExtolOhio.com • info@extolohio.com



800-486-9865 • 419-668-2072 • Fax: 419-663-1992



APi Distribution & ASDCO Construction Supply are now



Arden Hills, MN | Duluth, MN | Shakopee, MN | Billings, MT Bismarck, ND | Watford City, ND | Rapid City, SD | Spooner, WI

sales@tenetsolutions.us | 651-604-2836 www.tenetsolutions.com



BUILDING SERVICE INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY, INC.

Since 1953



Now featuring full gasketing capabilities with our new Flow Water Jet CNC machine.

Insulation cut to exact specifications for OEM, mechanical, and many other applications.

We ship anywhere!

Call for a quote today, 414-453-5551!



INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL INSULATION PRODUCTS

MILWAUKEE, WI (414)-453-5551 MADISON, WI (608) 226-9424 KAUKAUNA, WI (920) 766-3330 WAUSAU, WI (715) 359-2058

Prorocorp.
Engineered Thermoplestics

BSIS is a subsidiary of Acoustech Supply, Inc.
1710 South 106th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53214 | acoustechsupply.com





Thank you for 40 years of partnership.

Since 1980, Proto Corporation has been working hard to earn the trust of our customers, manufacture the highest quality products and deliver the industry's best service. Thank you for your continued support.



Since 1983, Cook Brothers Insulation has set the standard in custom fabricating rigid insulation in shapes and sizes for all kinds of pipes, fittings, valves, vessels and specialty heads. Our dedication to top quality products, customer service, fast lead times, and competitive pricing have earned our reputation as the best in the industry.

Call or email us today for all of your insulation needs.

STYROFOAM™ TRYMER® FOAMGLAS® PHENOLIC

Email: sales@cookbro.com Toll Free: 800-624-3043 Fax: 816-842-4031 We carry all the accessories you need to get the job done.



U.S. ECONOMY GROWS IN FOURTH QUARTER, BUT INVESTMENT IN STRUCTURES DECLINES AGAIN, SAYS ABC

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27—The U.S. economy grew at a 6.9% annualized rate in the fourth quarter of 2021, according to an Associated Builders and Contractors analysis of data released today by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Investment in nonresidential structures decreased at an annual rate of 11.4% for the quarter and has now contracted in eight of the past nine quarters.

The U.S. economy expanded 5.7% in 2021, the fastest rate of growth since 1984. Investment in structures declined 8.2% in 2021 after contracting 12.5% in 2020.

"Commercial real estate is among the most compromised segments of the economy," said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. "The pandemic has profoundly shifted behavior. Remote work is far more common, and a greater fraction of business is being conducted via Zoom or other virtual platforms. The result has been higher office vacancy and reduced hotel occupancy. Neither is good for demand for construction.

"Retail bankruptcies that began during the pandemic's first year, in part because of the dramatic move toward ecommerce, have contributed to increased store closures and vacant retail space," said Basu. "That has further reduced demand for commercial construction services.

"However, nonresidential investment has increased in certain segments," said Basu. "Among the most obvious are development of data and fulfillment centers, backbones of the e-commerce economy. Of course, the built environment is heavily comprised of office buildings, shopping and strip malls and hotels. Accordingly, even significant construction of data and fulfillment centers has not been sufficient to counteract the weakness in commercial construction. That said, health care and industrial construction should emerge as other sources of expanding demand for construction services during the coming months. This could help maintain contractor confidence, which continues to improve, according to ABC's Contractor Confidence Index."





FyreWrap

Elite® 1.5
Duct Insulation



FyreWrap Has You Covered!

Best in class product, systems and support for grease duct enclosures.

- · Easy to install, saves labor
- No bulky overlaps, saves space and material
- Listed systems assures code compliance
- · Engineering Judgments provided quickly
- · Certified online installation training
- HVAC Duct, Plenum and Dryer Exhaust systems also available
- · Made in the USA

Unifrax Fire Protection Contacts:

Application Engineering: 716-768-6298

National Sales Manager: Carlo Rinehart: 937-545-5574

Area Manager: Tim Walter: 281-203-7553



www.unifrax.com 716-768-6500





Removable/Reusable Insulation Blankets

- Custom Fit and Fabricated
- Ideal for Turbines, Vessels, Pumps, Valves, Exhausts, Instruments, Expansion Joints, etc.
- Provide Personnel Protection
- 1 Year Payback with Energy Savings
- Welding Cloth & Industrial Fabrics Available
- Over 40 years of Fabricating Experience

Contact Us Today!

320-845-4733 | www.tanidivision.com





CONSTRUCTION FIRMS FORESEE GROWING DEMAND FOR MOST TYPES OF PROJECTS, AS 74 PERCENT OF FIRMS PLAN TO HIRE IN 2022 DESPITE SUPPLY CHAIN AND LABOR CHALLENGES

New Industry Outlook Shows Contractors Expect a Boost from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill and Broad-Based Private-Sector Demand, Except for Retail and Office Construction, If They Can Find Workers and Materials

Construction contractors expect increasing demand for numerous types of projects in 2022 despite ongoing supply chain and labor challenges, as most firms plan to add workers this year, according to survey results released today by the Associated General Contractors of America and Sage. The findings are detailed in *Expecting Growth While Coping with the Lingering Impacts of the Pandemic: The 2022 Construction Hiring & Business Outlook.*

"Contractors are, overall, very optimistic about the outlook for the construction industry in 2022," said Stephen E. Sandherr, the association's chief executive officer. "While contractors face challenges this year, most of those will be centered on the need to keep pace with growing demand for construction projects."

The percentage of respondents who expect a market segment to expand exceeds the percentage who expect it to contract – known as the net reading – in 15 of the 17 categories of projects included in the survey. Contractors are most optimistic about the market for highway and bridge construction, which has a net reading of positive 57 percent. They are similarly optimistic about transit, rail and airports projects, with a net reading of 51 percent, and water and sewer projects, with a net reading of 50 percent.

These segments all stand to see increased federal investments because of the recently passed Bipartisan Infrastructure bill. Contractors are also upbeat about demand for federal construction projects, with a net reading of 37 percent, and power construction, with a net reading of 29 percent.

The highest expectations among predominantly privatesector categories, with a net reading of 41 percent each, are for warehouses and other healthcare facilities, which includes clinics, testing facilities and medical labs. The outlook for hospital construction is also strong, with a net reading of 38 percent.

Contractors were also optimistic about multifamily residential construction, with a net reading of 32 percent, and manufacturing construction, with a net reading of 27 percent. Expectations were more subdued, however, for public buildings, with a net reading of 20 percent; kindergar-

(Continued on page 23)

MECHANICAL INSULATION PIPE BOARD WRAP

INSULATION
FOR PROCESS
PIPING &
INDUSTRIAL

Pvc & Metal Fittings

RUBBER TUBING & SHEET

TAPES & ACCESSORIES





2407 Texoma Drive - P.O. Box 543 - Denison, TX 75020
INSULATION FABRICATORS
The Right Fit Every Time!

QUALITY AND EXCELLENCE
ANY PIPING CONFIGURATION

"THERE IS A PTF SOLUTION FOR EVERY CONCEIVABLE INSULATION TASK."

Oled Mendosp

Fabricated Pipe

Extruded Polystyrene Foamglas ®

Isocyanurate Phenolic **Insulation Supplies**

Fittings

Metal Jacket PVC Jacketing Rubber & fiberglass



——— Visit ——— PTFfabricators.com for

> Products Samples Customer Logi Company Info



Quality Fabricated Industrial & Commercial Insulation Products

The Right Fit Every Time!

INSULATION FABRICATORS



2407 Texoma Drive Denison, Texas 75020

Office: 903.464.0556 Toll Free: 888.464.0556

Fax: 903.464.0558

AccountsManager@ptffabricators.com

www.PTFfabricators.com



Office: 903.464.0556 - Toll Free: 888.464.0556 - Fax: 903.464.0558

Quality Fabricated Industrial & Commercial Insulation Products

The Right Fit Every Time!

INSULATION FABRICATORS

	Trymer 2000	Styrofoam	Fiberglass	Mineral Wool	Foamglas ®
K-factor Btu*in/hr*ft ² *°F 180 days 75 °F mean	0.19	0.25	0.23	0.25 (@ 100 °F)	0.29
R-value, 1 inch hr*ft ² *°F/Btu 180 days 75 °F mean	5.3	4.0	4.3	4.2	3.5

www.PTFfabricators.com

An Energy Conservation Fabricator



INSPECTION PLUG STRATEGIES, LLC



Designed for use with aerogel blanket applications



Also fits traditional thicker insulations



Self-sealing attachment with smooth & corrugated jacketing



Installs without screws but accommodates them if needed

TMLX SILICONE® INSPECTION PORT

Patented

We also manufacture:

System II Inspection Ports System V Inspection Ports TML Inspection Ports Labels in various styles & sizes Sealing CUI test sites couldn't be easier!

2437 Bay Area Blvd. #147 | Houston, TX 77058

P: 281-480-4406 | 1-800-914-4406 | F: 281-486-4363 | mcb@inspectionplugstrategies.com

www.InspectionPlugStrategies.com

ten through 12th grade school construction, with a net reading of 19 percent; higher education facilities, with a 16 percent net reading; and lodging, with a 6 percent net reading. Only two categories received negative net readings, both of -8 percent: retail and private office construction.

Optimism about growing demand for many types of construction projects is leading many firms to plan to hire workers this year. Seventy-four percent of respondents expect their firms will expand headcount in 2022, compared to just 9 percent that who expect a decrease. Forty-seven percent of firms expect to increase their headcount by 10 percent or less. However, 22 percent say their headcount will grow by 11 to 25 percent and 5 percent anticipate an increase of more than 25 percent.

Adding those workers will be a challenge, however. An overwhelming 83 percent report they are having a hard time filling some or all salaried or hourly craft positions, compared to only 8 percent who say they are having no difficulty. And three-fourths of respondents say it will continue to be hard to hire or will become harder to hire this year.

The pandemic continues to impact the construction industry, association officials noted. Eighty-four percent of respondents report costs have been higher than anticipated, while 72 percent say projects have taken longer than anticipated because of the pandemic. As a result, 69 percent have put higher prices into bids or contracts, while 44 percent have specified longer completion times.

Supply chain bottlenecks are also impacting construction. Only 10 percent of firms report they have not had any significant supply chain problems. Sixty-one percent have turned to alternative suppliers for materials and 48 percent have specified alternative materials or products.

Rising construction costs and slowing schedules have contributed to a significant number of project delays and cancellations. Forty-six percent of contractors report having a project delayed in 2021 but rescheduled, while 32 percent had a project postponed or canceled that has not been rescheduled.

"The last two years have become increasingly unpredictable, due in large part to the coronavirus and public officials' varied reactions to it," said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist. "But assuming current trends hold, 2022 should be a relatively strong year for the construction industry."

Officials with Sage noted that firms are being more strategic about information technology as they try to remain competitive in the current environment. Sixty-one percent of contractors indicate they currently have a formal

(Continued on page 26)



Since 1988

AEROFOAM®











Chad Rebholz

317-459-4030 | crebholz@jeff-co.com



Pat Nelson

630-488-9288 | pkcpremiersales@gmail.com

Employee owned. Innovation based. Expect more.

Providing Moisture Control Solutions for over 60 Years

Long known for its weatherproof cladding and vapor barriers, Polyguard now offers superior insulation systems (including protection from CUI) targeting below ambient and chilled water applications and a complete line of pipe supports and tools from Buckaroos.



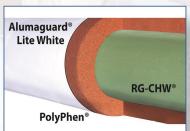
Alumaguard



RG-2400



Styrofoam XPS







PolyPhen

Insulrap/ZeroPerm Pipe Supports

- Weatherproof Jacketing
 CUI protection
- Vapor Barriers Insulation Pipe Supports

The DOW logo is a registered trademark and STYROFOAM is a trademark of The Dow Chemical Company ("Dow") or an affiliated company of Dow



214-515-5000

www.polyguard.com/mechanical



800-969-3113

www.buckaroos.com

Buckaroos is now a Polyguard Company



Hand-Held Technology times "TWO"

2x Tough * 2x Fast * 2x Portable



SureShotII changes your concept of pin welding...times TWO. Be it Cupheads, Weld Pins, or even Weld Studs -- SureShotII can deliver. With updated Hybrid **Technology and Dual Operating** Power, SureShotII uses the best of all worlds to provide Capacitor Discharge fastener welding second to none. In the lightweight and rugged packaging you've come to expect from SureShot (weighing in at 18 lbs.) this Welder has the power to weld virtually any Stud fastener known to the CD application market: with only 110volt (or 220volt incoming power). Userfriendly, the system offers multilevel safety and operational designs to get the job done quickly, safely and reliably --truly delivering the power of "II".

Your SINGLE SOURCE

Insulation Fastening StudWelding

Specialists

1-800-852-8352 • 450 Richard Street • Miamisburg, Ohio 45342 • midwestfasteners.com



(Continued from page 23)

IT plan that supports business objectives. An additional 7 percent plan to create a formal plan in 2022.

"Amid the challenges the industry faces, technology plays an essential role in keeping teams connected and projects moving," said Dustin Stephens, vice president of Construction and Real Estate, Sage. "The past few years have highlighted just how crucial mobile and cloud-based solutions are, and we will continue to see these technologies play an integral role in helping construction firms bounce back."

Stephens added that most firms plan to keep their technology investment about the same as last year. When asked whether they planned to increase or decrease investment or stay the same in 15 different types of technologies, the majority of respondents – ranging between 69 and 89 percent – said their investments would remain the same.

Association officials urged public officials to take steps to help the industry recover in 2022 and avoid measures that will undermine the sector. They noted that the Biden administration's vaccine mandates will prompt many vaccine-hesitant workers to leave the relatively few employers covered by the orders and move to smaller firms that are not covered by the rule and employ over 60 percent of the industry's workforce.

"Given how many firms are currently looking to hire, many vaccine-hesitant workers will be able to switch jobs instead of taking a shot they have already resisted for over a year," Sandherr said. He added that the administration's plans to increase tariffs on Canadian lumber and maintain existing ones on other key construction materials will make it harder for firms to accurately bid upcoming projects and complete them on schedule.

Sandherr said the association will continue to push for new federal investments in workforce development and make sure Congress keeps its promise to boost funds for infrastructure. He added the association would continue to encourage construction workers to get vaccinated, and is planning to release new Spanish-language public service ads on the subject later this month to accompany a series of ads encouraging vaccinations AGC released last year.

"Our ultimate goal is to make sure that contractors' optimistic outlook for 2022 becomes a reality," Sandherr said.

The Outlook was based on survey results from more than 1,000 firms from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Varying numbers responded to each question. Contractors of every size answered over 20 questions about their hiring, workforce, business and information technology plans.



Sometimes the best amenities are the ones you don't see

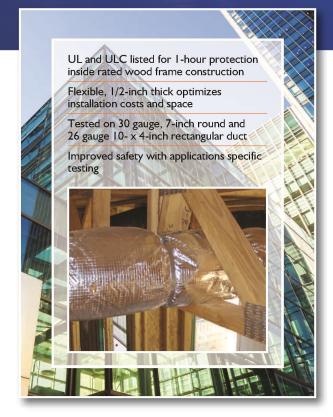
For nearly 30 years, our fire-rated enclosure systems have been providing peace of mind, while quietly protecting our customers' lives and investments.

From our DryerWrap™ products - extensively used throughout multi-family housing ductwork - to our FastWrap™ XL products - ideal for commercial kitchen exhaust and ventilation ducts - more people trust the FireMaster™ family of products to hold the line.

FastWrap™ XL



DryerWrap™



North America

Thermal Ceramics Inc
2102 Old Savannah Road, Augusta, Georgia 30906. USA
t: +1 (706) 796 4200
marketing.tc@morganplc.com

www.morganthermalceramics.com



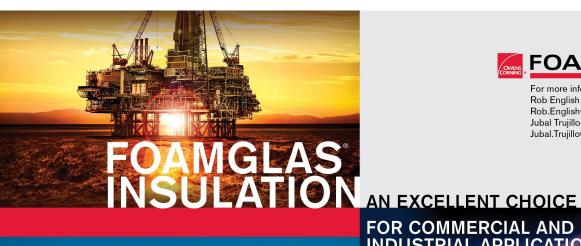




MIDWEST INSULATION CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION 16712 ELM CIRCLE OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68130 (402) 342-3463

e-mail: mica@micainsulation.org

www.micainsulation.org





For more information contact: Rob English I 314-983-9778 Rob.English@owenscorning.com Jubal Trujillo I 724-994-6699 Jubal.Trujillo@owenscorning.com

