



Greetings!

Welcome to the MBA News.

This past Friday the Master Builders' Association hosted its annual Regular Membership Meeting followed by the Membership Dinner ([to view pictures click here](#)). This event is a favorite amongst the entire membership, as new relationships are formed and old acquaintances can catch up. During the Regular Membership Meeting, the Regular Members received an update on the MBA strategic plan, heard special reports on critical issues to operating a construction company, plus each committee chair updated the membership on their committee's activities from 2011 (for a listing of all MBA committees [click here](#)).

On the MBA strategic plan, MBA President Tom Landau provided a two-year update on how the MBA has expanded value-added services in areas such as advocacy, education and safety, and from the strategic plan the MBA has improved the competitiveness of the MBA general contractor through a collaborative approach with our labor friends. The MBA Board of Directors believe that such strategic plans are important to keep the MBA focused on its mission and to provide a road map for future leaders of the association.

At the conclusion of the MBA Annual Dinner event, attendees departed with a gift, an MBA 2012 calendar. If MBA News recipients were unable to join us and would like a calendar, please don't hesitate to stop by the MBA or to [contact us](#).

Sincerely,
Master Builders' Association of Western Pennsylvania

Important Dates

January 26, 2012, 2:30-4:00 p.m. - [Social Media Roundtable for the Construction Industry](#).

January 30, 2012 - [Allegheny Construction Group Day](#) **

February 3, 2012 - [CM-BIM Credentialing Test](#).

February 8, 2012 - [PJ Dick Incorporated Day](#) **

February 15, 2012 - [Michael Baker Corporation Day](#) **

February 19, 2012 - [F.J. Busse Day](#) **

February 21, 2012, 5:3-7:30 p.m. - [GBA Strategic Plan Launch at the GBA](#).

February 23, 2012 - [The Construction Industry Evening of Excellence at Heinz Field](#).

February 26, 2012 - [Landau Building Company Day](#) **

February 27, 2012 - [STEVENS Day](#) **

March 1, 2012 - [Carl Walker Construction Group Day](#) **

March 12-16, 2012 - [AGC Convention, Hawaii](#).

March 15, 2012 - [Massaro Corporation Day](#) **

March 15, 2012, 5:30-7:30 p.m. - [GBA Green Roof & House Tour at the Fisher](#)

Industry Evening of Excellence

This year's biggest night in the construction industry will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2012, at the Heinz Field East Club. Everything you need to know about this year's event, from who's sponsoring it to which projects are competing to how many drink tickets do I get? can be found on this [webpage](#). Once on the webpage make sure to click on the registration form and sign up today or you can register through [LinkedIn](#).

The highlight of the Evening of Excellence is the Building Excellence Awards Program. The winning projects will not be announced until the night of the event. If you think you know who will win, then fill out this [survey to pick the winners](#). If you get them all correct, you will appear in a picture taken at the Evening of Excellence and that picture will run in BreakingGround.

Finally, remember to join the [Evening of Excellence Group on LinkedIn](#) to stay informed on event info as we near the big night.

We'll see you on February 23 at Heinz Field!

The 2012 Construction Hiring & Business Outlook

Significantly fewer construction firms are planning to make layoffs in 2012 than at any point in the past few years according to survey results released yesterday by the Associated General Contractors of America and Computer Guidance Corporation. The survey ([viewed here](#)), conducted as part of the 2012 Construction Industry Hiring & Business Outlook, shows many firms expect key private sector market segments to expand this year even as the overall outlook remains mixed. Even though 2012 may not bring about the kind of recovery that many firms have been hoping for, conditions appear to be improving and this is echoed in the Pennsylvania Construction Outlook Survey ([click to view](#)).

10 Reasons Why You Need ConsensusDOCS For Your Construction Projects

[ConsensusDOCS](#) help you save time and money while providing a better contractual base for better project results. ConsensusDOCS are:

1. FAIR & BALANCED - Allocate risks and responsibilities efficiently and

[House](#).

March 19, 2012 - MBA Day, founded on this date in 1886.

March 25, 2012 - [Dick Building Company Day](#) **

March 30, 2012, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - [Meet the Master Builders](#).

* MBA Labor Agreements grant the denoted day as a holiday.

** A celebratory day to honor an MBA Regular Member. The following MBA Days were recognized before today's email:

January 1: [Mosites Construction Day](#)

January 1: [FMS Construction Day](#)

January 3: [TEDCO Construction Day](#)

January 21: [Gurtner Construction Day](#)

For details on these postings, call or visit the [MBA website](#).

[Industry News](#)

AGC Annual Convention - The Associated General Contractors of America hosts its 2012 Convention March 13-17, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Convention information is located at: <http://convention.agc.org>.

Carpenters Training Center Release 2012 Schedule - The Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee has released its 2012 training schedule. To request your copy of the schedule or to find out about updates visit www.greaterpacarpenters.org.

Included in this update are the new ICRA training dates. The ICRA 8-hour will be offered February 24; March 23; and April 20. To secure your spot in the ICRA training call 412-262-1830 ext 5.

BreakingGround Issues Its 2012 Editorial Calendar - To view the BreakingGround 2012 Editorial Calendar [click here](#).

Carpenters Host Schneider Downs Construction Group - In an effort to market its building and to showcase the skill of its members, the Carpenters Union hosted an all-day continuing

fairly, providing a balanced and sound foundation for legal relationships;

2. CURRENT - Updated to remain current with legal and industry developments;

3. CUTTING EDGE - Exclusive groundbreaking documents to help you stay relevant with today's design and construction industry needs including BIM, Green, Lean, Federal and IPD;

4. PROJECT-FOCUSED - Focus on cooperative working relationships by delineating clear communication pathways and proven alternative dispute resolution methods;

5. TRUSTED - Developed by seasoned design, construction and legal professionals representing all stakeholders of the industry;

6. EASY TO USE - Software that allows project-specific changes that are tracked and displayed;

7. CLEAR - Written in plain English that avoids unnecessary legalese so that parties can understand the contract that ultimately governs their performance;

8. COMPREHENSIVE - Address all project delivery methods including traditional, design-build, CM-@-Risk, Agency CM and IPD;

9. Detailed - Cover in detail key contracting issues in project procurement such as hold harmless, document ownership, insurance and bonding, payment and termination; and

10. ACCEPTED - Endorsed by 35 leading design and construction industry associations.

MBA members receive a 20% discount on all ConsensusDOCS purchases. Please contact the [MBA](#) to receive your promotion code prior to your purchase.

Upcoming Educational Events

Welcome to BIMsburgh

For information on the BIM Education Program, visit the [BIM Education Program webpage](#). To add your name to the waiting list, assuring your spot in the program, contact the MBA at 412-922-3912 or [email](#).

Certificate of Management-BIM - For AEC professionals, the Certificate of Management-BIM (CM-BIM) is an assessment-based certificate credential that denotes knowledge and understanding of concepts related to BIM adoption, practice and process transformation outlined in the BIM Education Program. Successful candidates will carry the CM-BIM designation. The CM-BIM Credentialing Exam schedule for 2012 is:

- Friday, February 3, 2012
- Friday, April 13, 2012

education event for Schneider Downs & Company. For more on this event [click here](#).

Wage Rate Update - The following construction wage rates have been updated and posted on the MBA website:

- Plasters Local 31

Construction Career Center

The following positions are open in our region:

Superintendent

Estimator

Project Manager

Diesel Mechanic

For a job description on the open positions or to post an opening, contact the MBA at 412-922-3912 or [email](#).

Social Media Corner

The MBA updated its social media webpage to include helpful resources for those just starting out in the social media world:

[MBA Social Media Page](#)

- Friday, June 1, 2012
- Friday, August 3, 2012
- Friday, October 12, 2012
- Friday, December 7, 2012

For more information on the BIM classes or the test, contact the MBA. To register for the exam [click here](#).

Social Media Roundtable for the Construction Industry

Thursday, January 26

2:30-4:00 p.m.

MBA Headquarters, Lower Level Conference Center

FREE

RSVP: [email](#) or call 412-922-3912

Based on the results of a survey conducted by the MBA's Social Media Task Force, this presentation will provide an introduction on the usage of social media, featuring a heavy focus on the benefits of social media for company branding. This roundtable discussion will be led by professionals with social media strengths in: legal; human resources; marketing specific for the construction industry and marketing for general business. For more information on this event visit the [event's page on LinkedIn](#).

AGC Launches First Lean Construction Course

The AGC announced the launching of the first course in the Lean Construction Educational Program - Lean Construction 101. Lean 101 is a one-hour online course that provides a foundation of the key concepts and terms used in Lean Construction. This course will be sold through the [AGC's Bookstore](#) for \$50 to AGC members and \$65 for non-members.