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Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.

ABC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In the truest sense of the word, ABC is a member-run association. ABC is governed by a 174-member board of directors composed of delegates from each of the chapters. In addition, ABC offers its members an opportunity to serve on committees and affiliate organizations, which provide valuable input to the board of directors and help establish the policies, priorities and objectives of ABC. Some ABC Councils include:

ABC ELEVATOR CONTRACTORS COUNCIL
The Merit Elevator Contractors Association of America (MECAA), now known as the ABC Elevator Contractors Council (ABC ECC), is dedicated to advancing the merit shop elevator sector of the construction industry.

ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS COUNCIL
Is open to electrical/mechanical contractor members and works to identify and provide ABC initiatives that are tailored specifically to the needs of those members.

INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTORS COUNCIL
Is open to executives at industrial firms and collaborates and takes action on workforce development and government affairs issues that are specific to the industrial market.

Throughout 2013, Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) and its 70 chapters used the merit shop philosophy as the foundation for helping their 22,000 chapter members develop people, win work and deliver that work safely, ethically and profitably for the betterment of the communities in which ABC and its members work.

BASED ON THE MERIT SHOP PHILOSOPHY ……..2

ABC continued to gain recognition as a political force. ABC promoted fair labor practices by achieving victories that help ensure fair regulations from the National Labor Relations Board. Moving its offices closer to Capitol Hill and the DOL, ABC remained focused on staying engaged with regulators and lawmakers.

HELPING MEMBERS DEVELOP PEOPLE ……..4

ABC’s effort to develop people included training more than 71,000 new craftworkers at its 70 chapters and giving those workers a chance to shine. The National Craft Championships attracted 137 craft trainees to participate in 13 craft competitions and the Construction Management Competition featured 35 schools, which also had the opportunity to connect with ABC member companies during career fairs.

HELPING MEMBERS WIN WORK ……..6

At the end of 2013, 38 states guaranteed fair and open competition on state-funded construction projects. Between FY 2009-2012, only 15 of the 708 federal contracts subject to E.O. 13502 were subject to PLAs, and ABC members claimed $27.9 billion of the total $47.64 billion of those projects.

HELPING MEMBERS WIN PROFITABLY ……..8

ABC members that participated in the STEP program in 2013, enjoyed total recordable incidence rates that were 38 percent below the industry average. ABC also launched STEP Plus, which is designed to provide members with a roadmap to create world-class safety programs.

HELPING MEMBERS DELIVER WORK ETHICALLY ……..10

ABC advocated for and influenced the creation of sensible regulations, in 2013. In addition, ABC provided compliance and best practices information related to key regulations, including more than 60 webinars on topics such as the health care law, green building and labor laws, which more than 3,500 members took advantage of.

HELPING MEMBERS BE PROFITABLE ……..12

ABC will create more value for members by helping them become more efficient through its ABC Project Virtual BIM training and certification for contractors, in addition to the $25 million saved through discounts in 2013.

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITIES ……..14

ABC members build hospitals, schools, shopping malls and more, employing thousands of local workers with exceptional safety, quality, sustainability and community support. In 2013, ABC recognized $8.8 billion dollars in member projects with chapter and national awards of excellence.
THE MERIT SHOP PHILOSOPHY

In 2013, ABC continued to build a strong base for the merit shop philosophy to flourish and celebrated several key victories.

ABC CARES COMMUNITY OUTREACH  ACCREDITED QUALITY CONTRACTOR
GRASSROOTS  SAFETY  TRAINING  EVALUATION  PROCESS
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  EXCELLENCE IN CONSTRUCTION AWARDS  BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
DIVERSITY  GREEN BUILDING  TOOLBOX TALKS  VALUE ACTION APP
MERIT SHOP PHILOSOPHY  TRIMMER CONSTRUCTION EDUCATION FOUNDATION  PROJECT INITIATIVES  INRM
ACADEMY FOR CONSTRUCTION ETHICS, COMPLIANCE AND BEST PRACTICES

2013 VICTORIES

Two appeals courts supported the ABC-led Coalition for a Democratic Workplaces’ (CDW) arguments that the president’s 2012 recess appointments of three members to the NLRB were unconstitutional.

The ABC-led CDW celebrated a qualified victory in December when the NLRB dropped its appeal of a ruling that invalidated the ambush elections rule, which would reduce the amount of time between when a union files a representation petition and an election takes place. The rule would impede employers’ ability to present information to employees about the union representation process.

Two appeals courts invalidated the controversial NLRB “Notification of Employee Rights” notice posting rule. ABC’s general counsel argued the first successful appeal.

2014 ACTIONS

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule on the case in 2014. If it upholds the appeals courts’ rulings, all NLRB decisions made during the terms of the recess appointees could be invalidated. Currently, the NLRB is fully staffed and can issue rules and decisions.

The proposal, reissued in early 2014, is designed to work with the Department of Labor’s persuader final rule, expected in spring 2014. When combined, the implementation of the ambush and persuader rules will accomplish a key objective of EFCA or “card check.” Specifically, rapidly expediting the union election process while simultaneously making it harder for employers to obtain expert advice.

ABC’s National headquarters moved in 2013 to its new location only blocks away from the U.S. Capitol and DOL to enhance its political position.

ACTION MADE EASY

4,000+ Downloads
12,000+ Actions Taken

One-click messaging to your member of congress

Download at abc.org/ABCAction

FREE ENTERPRISE ALLIANCE

The Free Enterprise Alliance’s (FEA) mission is to educate ABC members, their employees, elected officials and the public about free enterprise issues. Using educational and issue advocacy campaigns. In 2013, FEA advanced the merit shop agenda in 24 states.

FIXING THE BROKEN IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

ABC advocates for a reformed immigration policy that includes access to temporary workers; a workable and fair employment verification system; legal immigration reforms for employment-based immigrants to deal with unrealistic quotas and processes; and a mechanism for unauthorized immigrants to earn legal status.

Although comprehensive reform wasn’t achieved in 2013, the Senate passed S. 744, which addressed many key elements; however its temporary guest worker program only permitted the construction industry 15,000 visas per year—not nearly enough to respond to economic demand.

The House had five bills in progress at the end of 2013.

THE PATH TO A BETTER EMR

LABOR LAW UPDATE

A MOVE

February 2014

Download at abc.org/ABCAction

$763,675

2013’s member contribution to ABC’s Political Action Committee

ABC: A YEAR IN REVIEW

ABC: A YEAR IN REVIEW
**DEVELOP PEOPLE**

ABC and its members know workers are among their greatest assets and offered them many training and development opportunities.

ABC’s 21st Century Workforce Development Conference featured four educational academies, which helped attendees gain the knowledge and tools to improve on-the-job performance. ABC awarded Michael Arledge, a journeyman electrician for Greiner Electric, Littleton, Colo., its 2013 Craft Professional of the Year award, and Anthony Ayotte, craft training manager for the Cianbro Institute, Pittsfield, Maine, its 2013 Craft Instructor of the Year award.

Throughout the year, the ABC Trimmer Construction Education Foundation helped raise the profile of craft training. In addition, the ABC Ohio Chapter launched the Ohio Construction Academy, a tuition-free, fully accredited construction technology academy. ABC also offered the ABC Project Management Institute, an intensive management education program held at Purdue University.

In support of diversity in the construction industry, ABC established affinity groups; ABC members and non-members with common interests that collaborate to develop industry best practices for diversity including: African American, female, Latino, and Native American.

ABC applauded when the House passed a bill in 2013 which will strengthen the workforce development system and increase employment opportunities by creating a more streamlined approach focused on businesses’ hiring and training needs.

During its Construction Management Competition (CMC), students showcase their talents in: project management/scheduling, estimating, safety and quality control. ABC also holds an annual Career Fair, connecting top-notch students with construction companies. More than 35 schools participated in the CMCs in 2013. The Ohio State University took first place in the spring and the University of Cincinnati won top honors in the fall.

The National Craft Championships included 137 craft workers competing for top honors in 13 crafts. When the sawdust settled, the best of the best had taken home the gold.
Throughout 2013, ABC continued to take actions ensuring ABC members would have the ability to win work and compete fairly on projects.

In addition, ABC helped members combat banner ing campaigns against their businesses and their customers through www.shameonunionbanners.com. Throughout 2013, 27 states and Congress introduced a total of 90 bills related to public-private partnerships (P3s) and 11 passed a total of 18 bills that were signed into law. Bills in Florida and Maryland were the most significant pieces of P3 legislation and ABC joined forces with the National Council for P3s to hold joint educational conferences on both measures.

For 2014, ABC already is working with stakeholders in Kentucky, Georgia, Arkansas and other states on P3 bills.

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ABC also offers certifications and awards:

- Accredited Quality Contractors (AQC) are firms which have documented their commitment in five key areas of corporate responsibility: Quality, Safety, Employee Benefits, Training, Community Relations.

- Contractor of the Year displays a commitment to safety and excellence on all levels that helps to advance ABC, the construction industry and the principles of free enterprise. Cajun Industries received Contractor of the Year in 2013.

ABC gives members the information they need to understand economic trends, industry trends, legislative, regulatory and policy actions and much more through its publications.

- Newsline—ABC’s weekly online newsletter
- Regulatory Alerts—Quarterly updates on regulatory issues
- Construction Executive—An award-winning monthly magazine that reaches more than 53,000 contractors and construction-related business owners.
- Construction Executive E-Newsletters—Bi-weekly newsletters deliver targeted content on technology, risk and business management. To subscribe, email communications@abc.org

### State Government Neutrality Action

- 4 STATES guaranteed government neutrality toward PLAs in 2013.

### Federal Government Neutrality Action

- 18 STATES total offer that protection.
- 708 federal contracts worth $47.64 BIL were subject to E.O. 13502 between FY 2009 and FY 2012.
- Fewer than 15 were subject to PLA mandates. More than half, representing $27.9 BIL was contracted directly to ABC members.

A critical win in an appeals court upheld a Michigan statute guaranteeing government neutrality toward PLAs by state and local public entities. It was the second federal appeals court to reach this decision and lays the groundwork for future state action to protect taxpayers and the vast majority of the construction workforce that chooses not to join a labor organization.
ABC and its members believe in establishing zero-incident jobsites.

ABC’s industry-revolutionizing Safety Training Evaluation Process (STEP) helps members protect their employees and experience fewer lost-time incidents by using the 20 Key Components of an Effective Safety Program. ABC’s chapters lead the way when it comes to offering safety training for the construction industry using OSHA, NCCER, and ABC-approved curriculum. At least 19 chapters had formal or informal agreements with local branches of OSHA in 2013.

NATIONAL SAFETY PINNACLE AWARD WINNERS

STEP PLUS
The 3-Year Journey

In 2013, ABC also launched STEP Plus designed to help companies develop the core components of a world-class safety program: and the initial class of 30 STEP Plus companies have begun their journey.
n 2013, ABC continued to advocate for repeal of the burdensome mandates and taxes included in PPACA, such as the new, costly health insurance tax (HIT). The $100 million HIT, effective in 2014, will likely fall on the backs of small businesses. As a part of the Affordable Coverage Project, ABC responded to final rules, calling on Congress to protect employers and consumers from increased health coverage costs. They also supported bills to repeal the HIT or delay it for two years.

ABC and Merit Choice Insurance also kept members up to date during the implementation process by providing compliance checklists and information on PPACA provisions that took effect throughout the year and by offering the Health Care Law Employer Toolkit on the Academy for Construction Ethics, Compliance and Best Practices.

One important development ABC alerted members to was the one-year delay of the employer shared responsibility provisions (or employer mandate) and information reporting requirements contained in PPACA. ABC also sent a letter advocating for full repeal of the employer mandate in response to a House subcommittee hearing and supported legislation that would repeal it.

In addition, ABC continued to advocate for smart regulations that are less burdensome and testified before a House subcommittee on “Regulatory Approaches to Foster Economic Growth.”

In August, the Department of Labor’s Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) issued an affirmative action rule related to hiring disabled workers. ABC filed a complaint against portions of the new rule and sought an injunction against it, arguing the OFCCP exceeded its statutory authority by imposing an arbitrary utilization goal for disabled workers and requiring contractors to engage in burdensome data collection and analysis.

During testimony in June before a House subcommittee, ABC’s general counsel said the Department of Labor’s administration of the Davis-Bacon Act has hindered economic growth, increased the federal deficit and imposed an enormous paperwork burden on both contractors and the federal government.

No tax reform bill was introduced in Congress in 2013; however, throughout the year, ABC met with House working groups and submitted comments urging rates to be kept low and similar for both small businesses and large corporations. As the process progressed, ABC and its fellow industry groups sought to establish a measure of success for the reform effort by launching the Coalition for Fair Effective Tax Rates. Tax-writing committee chairman remain intent on having a bill introduced in 2014.

AS BUSINESS OWNERS, ABC MEMBERS ARE FACED WITH MANY REGULATIONS:

- LABOR
- HEALTH CARE
- TAX
- GREEN
- SAFETY
- HR
- CONTRACT

ABC helps members understand regulations, comply with regulations and find best practices.

WORKING WITH OSHA

In 2013, ABC founded the Construction Industry Safety Coalition to express industry concern over an OSHA proposal on crystalline silica exposure. In response to a request made by the coalition and others, OSHA extended the deadline for submitting comments. A final rule is not expected in 2014.

As part of its effort to keep a positive working relationship between employers and OSHA, ABC expressed concern over a change to the agency’s onsite consultation program that would have eliminated a key incentive and reduced the number of participating companies. Citing concerns by business groups, including ABC, OSHA officially withdrew that proposal in 2013.

WEBINAR TOPICS

- Business Development
- Regulations
- Financial Management
- Green Building Trends
- Health Care
- Insurance
- Labor and NLRB Payroll
- Resource Management
- Safety
- Social Media

A comprehensive online resource of information and tools. In 2013, ABC offered more than 60 webinars with more than 3,500 attendees through the Academy and created a health care law employer toolkit with updates on the implementation of the PPACA.
PROFITABLY
In addition to helping them win work, ABC took actions to ensure that work would be profitable for its members.

To connect members with other like-minded professionals, ABC held BizCon, which provides networking and long-term views of where the construction industry is headed along with forward-looking economic information.

In addition, ABC peer groups offer improved operations, cost savings, best practices, and business referrals by allowing members to share ideas with similar, non-competing companies. In 2013, ABC launched new benefits for the program including a Peer Group Conference, access to facilitators and speakers and a LinkedIn group.

During the Inter-Industry Alliance dinner, construction contractors came together to come up with recommendations on where the industry is headed. Discussions focused on a few key areas: safety, workforce development, industry productivity and innovation.

ABC now offers contractor members exclusive BIM training and design solutions that will make them more productive.

- Project Virtual Skill Assessment: for members to formulate an approach to close the gap between where they are and best practices in BIM.
- Training: online live, online on-demand, in-person and customized.
- Certifications: to validate and represent skills gained through the training courses.
- ABC Virtual BIMShare: take advantage of BIM technology—by the hour, day or week—to supplement BIM needs in part or whole.
- Discounts: on purchases of select Autodesk Design Suite licenses and most other Autodesk products.

**NEARLY $25 MILLION SAVED**
for ABC members in 2013 by the ABC Business Partner program

MAXIMIZING PROFITABILITY with Strategic Partners

In 2013, Viewpoint, formerly Maxwell Systems – a leading provider of construction management software solutions, expert services, and best practices – joined forces with ABC as its strategic technology partner. Together, ABC and Viewpoint are committed to helping construction businesses win more work, gain competitive advantages, and leverage opportunities for success.

Drawing on nearly 40 years of experience, Viewpoint has joined its customers in weathering the ups and downs of the industry and has developed a deep understanding of the needs of construction business leaders, especially in terms of technology, processes, and best practices for profitable management.

Strategically partnering with ABC has allowed Viewpoint to have another ear to the industry so the company can respond with better solutions, support, and services. In turn, Viewpoint shares a wealth of expertise and leadership on technology and construction management best practices for profitable management.

Through the partnership, ABC members have exclusive opportunities and can choose from Viewpoint’s breadth of construction management software solutions designed to empower contractors to more profitably run, grow, and transform their businesses, including software for takeoff and estimating, project management, and accounting, as well as the industry’s only all-in-one, single solution for construction management.

Through partnership with ABC, Viewpoint will continue to provide better solutions, support, and services, as well as continue to share best practice expertise and partner collaboratively with ABC members on technology and construction management to increase productivity and profitability through 2014.

**Viewpoint partnered with ABC to deliver a four-part webinar series on Best Practices topics:**

- Optimizing Your Construction Business for Profitable Growth
- Committing to Change: Powering the Transition to Profitable Growth
- Managing in the Moment: Mobile Technology Drives Project Accuracy, Productivity, and Profit
- Freeing Cash Flow to Grow Your Construction Business

This series offers valuable and practical advice about applying methods to achieve standardized processes for improved visibility, quality, and profit.
FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITIES

ABC and its members strive to make the communities in which they live and work better by employing hundreds of thousands and building schools, office buildings, shopping malls, hospitals and much more.

ABC members often go out of their way to give back. In 2013, ABC highlighted the efforts of its members’ and chapters’ community outreach efforts, such as raising money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, building homes for wounded veterans and building basketball courts for underprivileged youth. ABC also worked to ensure the buildings that are built are sustainable. In 2013, ABC received a $50,000 grant from the Turner Foundation, Inc., to begin transforming its Green Contractor Certification Program into an independent standard and certification process. Ultimately, ABC’s goal is to create a national standard for the entire construction industry through the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

In addition, ABC continues to provide members with Green Building Toolbox Talks to educate employees on green construction practices. The 15-minute talks come in both English and Spanish and are designed to enhance workers’ knowledge about green construction practices on the job site. Each of the sessions addresses a variety of topics and green construction methods associated with LEED certification.

As part of its ABC Cares program, ABC highlighted Scott-Long Construction for its work on The Children’s Inn at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)—a world-renowned biomedical research facility located in Bethesda, Md. While working on a $1 million playground renovation project at The Children’s Inn, Scott-Long Construction decided to give the children something they could keep a little closer to their hearts. For two days, Scott-Long Construction employees spent their lunch breaks putting together 100 furry friends at the local Build-a-Bear to give to the kids staying at The Children’s Inn. On the morning of the grand opening for the new playground, all 100 bears were delivered by Scott-Long Construction employees to the children’s mailboxes. These efforts were highlighted on the ABC Cares blog and in Construction Executive magazine.

ABC MEMBERS ON FORTUNE’S “TOP COMPANIES TO WORK FOR” LIST

Nine ABC member companies, representing 20 chapters, were ranked by Fortune magazine in their annual “Top Companies to Work For” list. They include: Edward Jones, DPR Construction, Plante & Moran, PLLC, Baker Donelson, PCL Construction Enterprises, Inc., Balfour Beatty Construction, TD Industries, Grainger and CH2M HILL.

The list included each company’s annual revenue, number of employees in the United States, job growth, diversity, training and a description of what makes working for the company so great. The survey it was based on measures job satisfaction, camaraderie, management’s credibility, pay and benefit programs, hiring practices, methods of internal communication, training, recognition programs and diversity efforts.
What can ABC members expect as we continue to be stewards of the construction industry and transformational leaders?

ABC as a collaborative whole – member, chapter and National office leadership – embarked on a new, continuous, long-term strategic planning process in January 2012 to identify and tackle key objectives that will enhance ABC’s leadership in the construction industry and deliver unparalleled value to its members nationwide. Below are some long-term success factors over the next five years:

• ABC will help members create health and safety cultures that are world class and drug- and alcohol-free workplaces, in addition to establishing ABC’s STEP Plus program as the best practice for safety in the construction industry.

• ABC and its members will train 200,000 new skilled craft workers per year so all members will have access to an adequate supply of skilled candidates and recruiting tools and will focus on training that maximizes productivity within the industry.

• ABC will increase the number of states with government neutrality and Right to Work laws and work toward passage of the Federal Neutrality Act.

CORE VALUES

ABC values economic freedom within a free-market economy, with open and fair competition and diverse participants constantly striving to achieve the highest levels of personal and company performance.

ABC values the highest levels of personal and corporate standards of behavior characterized by responsibility, accountability and integrity, with demonstrated personal and industry professionalism by all participants.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The broad ABC leadership team working on the strategic plan established long-term goals relevant for the next five years; required these goals to remain consistent with ABC’s mission, core values and vision and to be supportive of adding member value; developed the plan based on the foundations of the 2009 Strategic Plan; and developed long-term goals that are achievable and measurable.

2014-2019 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

• Be an organization of high trust, high collaboration and effective communication to deliver value to our members.

• Establish ABC members as the “world class” standard for health, safety and environment in the construction industry.

• Increase the political influence of ABC to advance the merit shop philosophy and free enterprise.

• Be the leading force in the construction industry for workforce development and training.

• Continuously grow and deliver value to a diverse and committed membership.

• Utilize quality data to be an effective and fact-based decision-making organization.

“As I lead ABC toward achieving our strategic objectives in 2014, I believe it is also our civic duty as leaders in our communities to not only participate in the political process but engage others as well. We are at a critical crossroads at this point of time in this country, but as long as we, as business owners, stay engaged, we can make very positive things happen together.”

Dan Brodbeck
2014 ABC National Chairman
President and CEO of Compass Partners, LLC, Brentwood, Tenn.