



News Release

ABC NAMES MICHIGAN INSULATION PROFESSIONAL MICHAEL POPE CRAFT INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

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HONOLULU – Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) Feb. 28 named Michael Pope, an insulation professional at ABC’s Saginaw Valley chapter, as its 2009 Craft Instructor of the Year. Pope was presented the Craft Instructor of the Year award during ABC’s 2009 National Convention in Honolulu.

“Michael Pope’s dedication to sharing his professional knowledge with his students and his ability to inspire excitement about learning truly exemplifies the ideals of a merit shop construction craft instructor,” said Jerry Gorski, 2009 ABC national chairman and president of Gorski Engineering, Inc., Collegeville, Pa. “Mike is an active participant in his chapter and in his community and is respected and well-liked by all of his students. It is an honor to recognize his impressive efforts to train the next generation of construction craft professionals.”

Each year, ABC presents the Craft Instructor of the Year award to an instructor who possesses outstanding teaching credentials and demonstrates a commitment to preserving the high educational standards of the merit shop construction industry.

Pope has 27 years in the industrial insulating field which includes experience as a project manager with Dow Chemical Company, Dow Corning Corporation and Hemlock Semiconductor as well as experience as a craftsman and a professional craft trainer. He has taught all three levels of the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Insulating craft training curriculum and is NCCER certified to teach the eight module Core Curriculum classes.

In addition, Pope frequently volunteers his own time to mentor new craft training instructors, and for 10 years he has served on the ABC Saginaw Valley chapter Education Committee, Craft Championships Committee, and Program Committee.

As the 2009 Craft Instructor of the Year, Pope will receive a \$3,500 cash prize from the Trimmer Education Foundation, ABC’s 501 (c)(3) educational affiliate, a notebook computer and leather jacket from NCCER and a Craft Instructor of the Year trophy.

Pope was selected from a field of four finalists for the 2009 Craft Instructor of the Year award. The other finalists are:

Christopher Scott Davies
Electrical Instructor
Nominated by: ABC New Mexico chapter

James Crainer
Welding Instructor
Nominated by: Texas Gulf Coast chapter

Raymond W. Kosach
Electrical Instructor
Nominated by: Florida Gulf Coast chapter

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Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) is a national trade association representing 25,000 merit shop construction and construction-related firms in 79 chapters across the United States. Visit us at www.abc.org.