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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 2018 IECRM Energy Expo and Wire-Off Competition

DENVER, Colorado, May 31, 2018 -- On Friday, May 18th, Independent Electrical Contractors Rocky Mountain (IECRM) held the 2018 Energy Expo and Wire-Off Competition for more than 300 visitors. At the annual event held in IECRM's new Northglenn campus, 40 electrical apprentices competed "live" in skills challenges and 27 Industry Professionals showcased their latest tools, products, and technologies geared towards the electrical, renewable energy, and construction industry.

Wire-Off competitors -- comprised of 10 IECRM students with the highest G.P.A. from each year of the apprenticeship program -- vied for wins during the daylong, intense and fast-paced competition in an impressive show of skills and knowledge. **The apprentice with the top score was Mike Lempka from Good Electric**, a fourth-year apprentice who will graduate on June 9. Mike knocked it out of the park! He will represent IEC's Rocky Mountain Chapter (IECRM) at the national competition at the annual IEC-CON in Indianapolis in September.

Throughout the competition, the students demonstrated their knowledge of the National Electric Code, paired with practical on-the-job training that they've acquired during their apprenticeship and training at IECRM. They also showed their proficiency in basic motor control circuits, line diagrams, materials, and circuit installation throughout the competition.

The top placement winners from each year of the apprenticeship program will also attend the IEC National Convention, and received other valuable prizes. IECRM congratulates all of the competitors on achieving academic excellence and on an outstanding performance in the 2018 Wire-Off competition.

Fourth Year Skills Challenge: Forward / Reversing Motor Control Circuit Lab and Line Schematic Diagram
1st Place: Mike Lempka - Good Electric
2nd Place: Jonathan Heaner - Weifield Group Contracting
3rd Place: Christopher Tuttle - Northern Group

Third Year Skills Challenge: Timed Motor Control Line Diagram and Forward / Reversing Motor Control Lab
1st Place: James McNown - Encore Electric Inc.
2nd Place: Christopher Zimmer - Piper Electric Co. Inc.
3rd Place: Jackie Brunton - Juniper Mountain Electric

Second Year Skills Challenge: Autotransformer to Load, OCPD, Fused Disconnect, Pipe Bending and 9 Lead Motor Lab
1st Place: Ryan Slayton - Denver Water
2nd Place: Aaon McNally - J&R Electric
3rd Place: Samuel Lease - Kenny Electric Services

First Year Skills Challenge: 3way/4way Switch to Lamp and Split Receptacle
1st Place: Michael West - 1st Electric Contractors inc.
2nd Place: Jonathan Moser - Unaffiliated
3rd Place: Scott Petitclerc - Kenny Electric Services

Highlighted competitors will be attending the IEC-CON in September to watch Mike Lempka compete for IEC National Apprentice of the Year.

“It is an honor to announce our 2018 Wire Off Winners. Congratulations to our competitors on achieving academic excellence and on an outstanding performance in the Wire-Off competition,” says Paul Lingo, IECRM Training Director and IECRM alumni, who coordinated the 2018 Wire-Off Competition. “The IECRM Wire-Off competition provides an opportunity for students to showcase their knowledge and skills working with some of the many different electrical applications and wiring methods in our industry that they might not see on a daily basis. We are all very proud of all of the competitors and their accomplishments.”

This year’s Energy Expo exhibitors included Adams County Workforce; Allcable, Inc.; CAD-1; Casey Bergquist, Inc; Colorado Electric Supply / City Electric Supply; Colorado Safety Supply Company/OEL; DeWALT; Greenlee Textron; I-PRO; IDEAL Industries, Inc.; Legrand; Lutron Electronics; Milwaukee Electric Tool; Office Sensei; Outsource; PlanGrid; Process Measurement Company; Rexel; SimPRO; Skyline Sales; Smith Power Products; Southwire Company, LLC; Square D (Schneider Electric); The Premier Group; Thomas & Betts/ABB; United Rentals Power & HVAC; and X3 Tradesmen.

Several visitors walked away with door prizes, including various gift cards, Rockies tickets, and tools thanks to donations from multiple members of the IECRM energy trade association. Guests also enjoyed a free barbecue lunch from Jim 'N Nicks, sponsored by IDEAL Tools.

IECRM thanks its generous sponsors and supporters for making this event memorable for both the competitors and guests. Allcable, Inc. generously stepped up as the Premier Sponsor of the Wire-Off. IDEAL Tools sponsored lunch by Jim & Nick's Bar-B-Q. Thank you to Milwaukee Electric Tool and DeWALT for providing the competitors' and judges' shirts, and for donating tools for the competitors and winners. Outsource hosted the VIP/contractors lounge, beverages were provided by Matsuo Engineering, Thomas & Betts and RCOM funded the grand prize drawing. Again thanks for your continuing support!

IECRM is the Rocky Mountain's premier nonprofit electrical and energy trade association, the second largest IEC chapter, and the largest IEC apprenticeship school in the country. Early registration for the next session of the Four-Year Electrical Apprentice Program begins on June 18 for IECRM members and June 25 for the public. Visit www.iecrm.org to register or call (303) 853-4886 for more information.

About Independent Electrical Contractors Rocky Mountain (IECRM)

Since 1981, the Independent Electrical Contractors Rocky Mountain (IECRM) has been the leading electrical and renewable energy contractor association in Colorado. Representing more than 225 member companies and educating over 2,200 electrical apprentices and licensed electricians annually, IECRM is dedicated to educating, promoting, and advancing the energy industry and merit shop philosophy.

IECRM, located in Denver, Colorado, is a chapter of the Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC), a national trade association for merit shop electrical and systems contractors.

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Good Electric's Mike Lempka (r), hoists the Wire-Off 1st Place trophy as the winner of the 2018 Wire-Off. 2017 Wire-Off winner, Gabriel DiGiacomo (l), Nameste Solar, presents the trophy.



IECRM students during the live Wire-Off Competition.



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Denver's Channel 7 news interviews the 2018 Wire-Off winner, Mike Lempka, Good Electric.



SPECIAL THANKS TO Steven Emmen (l) for joining us today at the IECRM Energy Expo and Wire-Off. Steve was here on behalf of U.S. Senator Cory Gardner. IECRM CEO Marilyn Stansbury (r).



A GREAT BIG SHOUT OUT to Outsource! Thanks so much for sponsoring the Contractor/VIP Lounge at the IECRM Energy Expo & Wire-Off on May 18.



The Milwaukee Electric Tool booth at the IECRM Energy Expo.



The Allcable booth at the IECRM Energy Expo.





IDEAL National Championship competition qualifier at the IECRM Energy Expo.