

ELECTRI Monthly Recap for Field Reps March 2023

New ELECTRI Research Available: The Career Mapping Tool. To replenish and grow its workforce, the electrical contracting industry must grow awareness of industry opportunities and attract qualified candidates by supporting recruitment efforts at all levels. ELECTRI International selected ProtoGen to help develop a career mapping tool that supports increased awareness of the EC industry's career opportunities and pathways, intern programs, recruiting efforts, and career placement services. The finished product – [The EC Industry Career Mapping Tool Plan](#) -- is now available for your use on the ELECTRI website. Create a free ELECTRI login to download the report.

The ELECTRI Connection Summit took place in Puerto Rico this month and brought together contractors and industry allies from across North America to participate in informative discussions about the state of and opportunities for electrical contracting work in Puerto Rico. For the 2023 Student Passport Project, the Iowa State University NECA Student Chapter spent several days ahead of the Summit working with ELECTRI Council volunteers to install much-needed residential solar panels and a generator. [Read a full recap of the meeting here.](#)

ELECTRI hosted an event with Mark One Electric Company, Inc. and Girl Scouts of NE Kansas and NW Missouri. On Saturday, March 25, ELECTRI joined Mark One Electric, Co. in Kansas City, MO to host *Girls in Charge!* The event was designed to encourage young girls to explore STEM by learning about the EC industry and leaning into their leadership, communication, creativity, and problem-solving skills through hands-on activities. We hosted 60 Girl Scouts from second to seventh grade. To learn more ELECTRI's future workforce development activities, reach out to Anna Trapane at anna.trapane@electri.org.

The March Council Room focused on new third-party pre-qualification standards connected to ESG requirements. The third-party prequalification process is becoming more prevalent and is impacting more contractors and our industry partners. Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) pre-qual requirements that have been tied to national grid projects for a few years are now making their way into projects for owners including General Motors, Ford, Intel, and others, that have incorporated new language into their pre-qual request, such as language tied to modern slavery, child labor, and indigenous people. Electrical contractors are being asked for more information connected to their company's sustainability planning and to report carbon footprint, electricity, fuel and water consumption, waste to landfills, waste recovered and more. The panel for this session included Evan Fisher from Sonepar, John Deitzer from Atkore, and Stacy Mahler from Siemens. If you'd like to access the recording, please reach out to Jessica Cardenas at jc@necanet.org.

This month's ITea & Coffee focused on the process to get your company from software selection to a fully operational system. The group discussed the larger implementations a company may take on such as ERP or Project Management systems. Knowing the best approach to take during the process will lead to a successful implementation. Some of the conversation was about finding partners and not vendors, as well as how best to get stakeholders involved early and often to ensure the business is in lock step with the implementation. For more information on this topic, reach out to Jared Christman at jared.christman@electri.org.

New Think Like a Leader Interview with Tim Speno is available. President and CEO of the E2E Summit, Tim is well-known as the “connection specialist”. His approach to leadership and ways to improve what a company can accomplish are thoughtful and inspiring. His best advice might just be that relationships and networking are the way a company can achieve and maintain its competitive edge. [Click the link here.](#)

New Think Like a Leader Interview with Christeen Speelman-Parsons of Speelman Electric is available. To run Speelman Electric successfully, CEO Christeen Speelman-Parsons knows it takes an extra effort to get out of her comfort zone to make it all happen. In our recent *Think Like A Leader* conversation, Christeen made two things very clear: it’s essential “not to listen to the noise” in making decisions and follow your own vision for your company. [Here’s the link to her interview.](#)

New Think Like a Leader Interview with Orvil Anthony Jr. of Fisk Electric is available. Orvil knows that leading Fisk Electric is not a one-man accomplishment. He is very clear that keeping the firm successful takes a village. He also acknowledges that continued growth means you must never stop setting goals – for the company and for yourself. [Click here](#) for Orvil’s *Think Like a Leader* conversation.