



PROJECT NEWS

McDonald Electrical Corp. in Progress with 200,000 SF Electrical Fit-out of Converse New World Headquarters Building at Lovejoy Wharf

GC: Shawmut Design and Construction, Boston, MA; Architects: Jennifer Carpenter Architect, New York, NY and The Architectural Team, Chelsea, MA; EE: RDK Engineers, Boston, MA



BOSTON, MA – NECA Boston contractor, McDonald Electrical Corp. (MEC) of Hingham, MA, is underway with the fast-track, electrical tenant fit-out project for Converse, Inc.'s new corporate world headquarters building located at revitalized Lovejoy Wharf on 160 North Washington Street in Boston.

The project at the Converse facility, a former Schrafft's warehouse

undergoing complete renovation, entails McDonald Electrical's comprehensive installations for ten floors of office space and two mechanical floors. Additionally, the contractor is providing installations in Converse's new, stand-alone, two-story, state-of-the-art recording studio overlooking the Charles River. MEC commenced work on the project in mid-September 2014

and is on track to meet the aggressive project schedule, as Converse will take occupancy in spring 2015.

MEC's scope includes installation of a new electrical distribution system and branch circuitry at the 200,000 square-foot facility, as well as its uninterruptible power supply (UPS) and advanced Simplex fire alarm system. Project requirements also include installation of energy-efficient interior and exterior lighting and the state-of-the-art Lutron lighting control system.

McDonald Electrical's project team, comprised of 26 IBEW Local 103 electricians, is headed by Project Executive/PM Mike Lawlor and Foreman Dave MacDonald. The NECA member is working in tandem

with general contractor Shawmut Design and Construction and other skilled trades to address logistical challenges presented by the building's open ceiling layout, as building information modeling (BIM) coordination is being consolidated with the actual installation schedule in order to meet the project schedule.

The new Converse headquarters, in the North Station area and in close proximity to TD Garden and the Zakim Bridge, will

house more than 400 Converse employees when it opens in April 2015. The Converse headquarters building is a key component of Lovejoy Wharf's historic adaptive reuse project that will transform the gateway between Charlestown, Boston's North End and West End.

Converse is a Fortune 500 footwear manufacturer and a wholly owned subsidiary of NIKE, Inc.



Maria Fallon Electrical Services Shines in Energy Efficiency Lighting Retrofit at Historic 160 Federal Street, Boston, MA

IBEW Signatory / NECA Contractor teams with ESCO Energy Services Company, Lenox, MA; Property Manager: Taurus Management Services, Boston, MA



BOSTON, MA – At the landmark 160 Federal Street building in downtown Boston, Maria Fallon Electrical Services, LLC, based in Westwood, MA, is nearing completion of the building's energy efficiency lighting retrofit project.

The scope is comprised of renovating both exterior and interior lighting at the historic, 24-story Class A office building. Maria Fallon Electrical is replacing the existing exterior façade lighting with LED fixtures, and retrofitting interior lighting in hallways and bathrooms with energy efficient ballasts. Bathrooms have also been equipped with occupancy sensors.

In total, the NECA member/IBEW signatory contractor is replacing over 500 fixtures, 205 of which are exterior LED floodlights that will illuminate the historic facade.

Maria Fallon Electrical, a

minority and woman-owned business enterprise (MBE, WBE), commenced work on December 1 and completed all interior lighting installations and much of the exterior lighting project by the end of December to ensure the facility owner could take advantage of 2014 energy rebates.

To meet the aggressive project schedule, Maria Fallon is supervising a field crew of IBEW Local 103 journeymen electricians. Close coordination with property manager Taurus Management Services and the facility's tenants was required in the fully occupied building.

ESCO Energy Services Company of Lenox, MA is serving as the project's primary contractor.

Maria Fallon Electrical is also currently providing energy efficiency lighting upgrades at Veteran's Rink in Somerville, MA for ESCO Energy Services.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Multiemployer Pension Reform Legislation Signed into Law

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On December 16, President Obama signed into law the CR/omnibus package. Most significant is the inclusion of a long-awaited provision to reform the multiemployer pension system, based on the NECA-supported Solutions Not Bailouts (SNB) proposal. The U.S. House and Senate passed the legislation the week of December 11 prior to sending it to the President for approval.

This law made the multiemployer pension funding provisions of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 permanent rather than sunseting them on December 31 as originally feared. The reforms grant the trustees of some severely distressed plans the option to slash benefits promised to current retirees in order to avoid outright insolvency. The legislation provides other protections for plans in critical status as well as technical amendments to the PPA.

A noteworthy change to the IBEW Local 103 pension plan and the National Electrical Benefits Fund (NEBF) is the modest increase to \$26 (from \$13) in the annual Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) premiums per participant.

NECA was proactive in support

of multiemployer pension reform, along with nearly 40 labor and management stakeholders, including the IBEW, Associated General Contractors (AGC) and North America Building Trades.

Just prior to passage, Marco Giamberardino, NECA's Executive Director, Government Affairs, said in a letter to Congress, "The need for multiemployer pension reform is real and it is immediate. Employers need a system that does not place their businesses at risk, and employees and retirees need to know that their retirements are secure. The bottom line is that financial collapse of the system would be detrimental to workers and taxpayers alike."

Sean McGarvey, president of North American Building Trades, said the legislation will "strengthen the multiemployer pension system for the long term and provide hard-earned security for our members."

Congressional leaders have committed to working with NECA on other pension-related issues that were not addressed in the CR/omnibus package.

Learn more at: www.necanet.org/advocacy/neca-on-the-issues/multiemployer-pension-reform