

SUMMER 2021 EDITION

# Pennsylvania



# LICA

Since 1970

## MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE 2021 PALICA SUMMER FAMILY PICNIC – (BBQ STYLE) & SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION!



Saturday, August 7, 2021 at the home of Barry & Crystal Mutzabaugh, 530 Mountain Road, Dauphin, PA 17018. We will have the board meeting and scholarship presentation at 2pm and dinner will follow. **All the food and beverages will be provided, but we ask that you RSVP by July 23<sup>rd</sup> so that ample food can be ordered and planned for.** Please bring your own lawn chairs and games that you'd like to share with the group. For those that would like to stay longer and spend the night, here are a few hotels not far from their home.

- Days Inn by Wyndham – Harrisburg North (717) 216-4605 (8 miles)
- Best Western – Harrisburg North (717) 545-9089 (11 miles away)
- Hampton Inn & Suites – Harrisburg North (717) 540-0900 (12 miles)

### DIRECTIONS:

- **From Harrisburg** – 22/322 West for 7 miles, 225 N. Exit @ 3 miles, turn left on 325 W. for 1 mile, farm is on left side of the road
- **From State College** – 22/322 East @ 68 miles, 325 East Mountain Mountain Rd Exit @ 3 miles, farm is on the right side of the road

**PLEASE RSVP TO JOANIE AT 724-866-1082 BY 7/23/21**

PALICA  
775 MERCER ROAD  
GREENVILLE PA 16125

TO:

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ *Tuesday July 27<sup>th</sup> - Saturday July 31<sup>st</sup> 2021, LICA Summer Convention in Niagara Falls NY (details & registration inside this edition)*
- ❖ *August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - PALICA Summer Picnic & Scholarship Presentation (see page \_\_\_\_\_ for details, directions and hotel info)*
- ❖ *August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 PALICA and Mercer County Conservation District Field Day, @ Conservation District headquarters, Mercer PA (SEE PAGE \_\_\_\_ FOR MORE DETAILS)*
- ❖ *SAVE THE DATE!! PALICA 2022 WINTER MEETING - March 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> @ TOFTREE GOLF RESORT, STATE COLLEGE PA - MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW*

## WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS TO PALICA!

**Lamar Huber Excavating**  
 Lamar Huber  
 321 E. Mohler Church Rd  
 Ephrata, PA 17522  
 717-627-0557

**Bill Pykus Excavating Inc.**  
 Bill Pykus  
 1880 Great Bend Tpke  
 Honesdale, PA 18431  
 570-448-2802

**W. Dowd Excavating LLC**  
 Wayne Dowd  
 1273 Miller Road  
 Wind Gap, PA 18091  
 610-759-7118

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# EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST.

**75**  
YEARS



**25**  
YEARS

**STATE LICA  
INSURANCE  
PROGRAM**

**85**  
YEARS



**Through our years of service, we've come to understand the importance of hard work, reliability and pride in a job well done.**

We also understand what it means to protect solid reputations like yours.

That's why UFG Insurance offers the Pennsylvania chapter of LICA members a special opportunity to participate in our trusted state LICA insurance program in partnership with Prins Insurance.

We've been around a long time. **Put your trust in our years of experience.**

**Find an agent today at [ufginsurance.com](http://ufginsurance.com).**

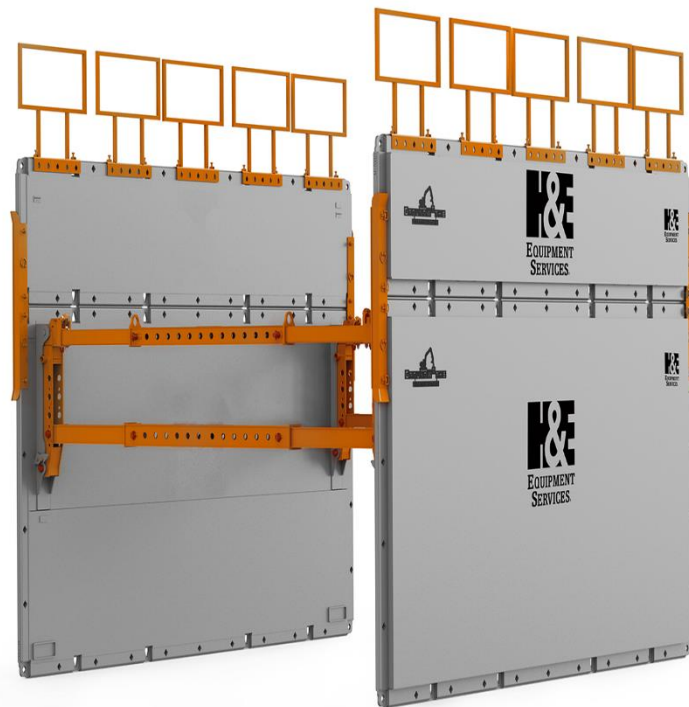


# H&E to sell trench boxes that can be assembled in under 15 minutes.....

**H&E Equipment Services** will partner with GroundWorks Safety System, entering the specialty rental business with a **trench safety** line.

With the agreement, H&E has the exclusive U.S. rights to provide GroundWorks trench boxes, which are designed to be easily assembled on the job. GroundWorks boxes can be assembled in under 15 minutes using one machine, one operator and one worker, says the company. The pre-engineered, high-tensile steel trench boxes lock tight the moment they are lifted and are designed to eliminate dangerous set-up and take-down tasks. “Workers no longer need to be under a suspended load or in the line of fire,” says H&E. “Over the last three years we’ve expanded our fleet of earthmoving products to all branches across the U.S., positioning us to enter the specialty market,” says Brad Barber, H&E president and CEO. “We have a long history in dirt, and GroundWorks offered the right product and reliability to enhance our earthmoving business.”

Barber continues: “We had been planning our entry into the specialty rental business, and GroundWorks offered the product solution and culture to come alongside us to reach pipeline, oil and gas, chemical, industrial and civil projects.”





### OUR COMMITMENT:

*"We're doing something special for construction and trucking companies to help them save money through leveraged buying power. Petrocon is the only commercial buying group designed to help you lower costs in key commodities while improving the way you apply these products into your fleet. We build as much value into our commodity offering and extract as much value from our supplier network to improve your business and maximize your profits."*

*Joseph D. Giovinnazzo*  
President

Imagine saving 20% of your operating costs in key commodities. These savings go right to your bottom line.



## PETROCON COMMODITIES PROGRAM

### PETROCON NATIONAL OIL PROGRAM



Petrocon National Oil, Antifreeze, & DEF Program  
Our national account program powered by Phillips 66 and Old World Industries provides quick local delivery from a Phillips 66 distributor near you. A full line of commercial lubricants and greases are available. Not sure which lubricants you need? Give us a call for expert lubrication recommendations. Bulk and all package sizes available and are easily ordered through our Order Portal. Typical savings is \$1 to \$2 per gallon.

### PETROCON NATIONAL TIRE PROGRAM



As a member, you get access to 3 leading heavy truck tire manufacturers, powered by Goodyear, Yokohama and Cooper. Available through your local authorized dealers, this national account program is designed to save you up to 20% on heavy duty truck tires.

### PETROCON NATIONAL TRACK PROGRAM



Our national rubber track program is powered by Rubber Track Solutions. Tracks are shipped nationwide, and a pair typically is freight free. Recognized brands such as Camso, Bridgestone, RTS (Rubber Track Solutions) are designed to save money with quality tracks for mini-excavators, compact track loaders, and other construction and agricultural applications.

### PETROCON CHEMICAL



Shop chemicals, aerosol penetrating lubricants, hand cleaner, brake cleaner and more are available through our chemical program powered by Algonquin Products. Direct shipped to you anywhere in the U.S.

### PETROCON CAT & KOMATSU REPLACEMENT PARTS



We partnered with CTP to provide replacement parts for CAT & Komatsu heavy equipment. This national offering is a full comprehensive program to provide substantial savings to our contractors. Expected savings are 20-40% over OEM parts. For a quote, email your CAT or Komatsu part numbers to [orders@petrocon.org](mailto:orders@petrocon.org).

**NEW PROGRAM**

Engine Components  
Electrical  
Undercarriage  
Fuel Injection

Power Train  
Braking  
Ground Engaging Tools  
Seals & Gaskets

Hydraulics  
Frame & Body  
Hardware  
Cooling System

**TO GET STARTED:** These programs can be accessed by signing on as a Petrocon Member. Download our Petrocon Credit & Enrollment form from our website: <http://www.petrocon.org/contact.html>

Once your application is received and approved, we will provide access to our Order Portal which includes pricing and products. You can always contact us at [orders@petrocon.org](mailto:orders@petrocon.org) as well.

For CAT/Komatsu parts, email us the CAT/Komatsu part numbers for availability and pricing. Send an email to [orders@petrocon.org](mailto:orders@petrocon.org).

We are excited about helping you save money with our Oil, Antifreeze, Tires, Track, Chemicals and parts programs available through Petrocon as a LICA member!



**LICA MEMBERS**  
**FREE ENROLLMENT**  
**\$2,500 SAVINGS**

## PETROCON CORPORATION

1330 N. Pickett Street • Alexandria, VA 22304

Toll Free: 866-548-8750 • Fax: 301-560-5455 • Direct: 301-663-8906, x110 • Cell: 301-730-0114

E-mail: [info@petrocon.org](mailto:info@petrocon.org) • [www.petrocon.org](http://www.petrocon.org)



**Joe Giovinazzo will be one of our featured speakers at the 2022 WINTER MEETING IN STATE COLLEGE PA. Read about all of the services his company, PETROCON, can offer you and your business. Then make plans to attend the meeting in March to learn more – in the meantime, give him a call with any questions or to place your first order!**

Joseph Giovinazzo, President of Petrocon Corporation, has 20 years experience in the Petroleum Industry. A graduate in Business Administration from the University of Delaware's Lerner Business College in 1989, Joseph spent his college years working construction after growing up on a farm in the country of eastern PA. Working for a cable utility construction company, Joseph started his construction career as a laborer, digging and cleaning ditches with a pick and shovel. Joseph learned an appreciation for the hard work and the people in the

Upon graduating college, Joseph started a career in one of the largest Honda Motorcycle dealers in the U.S. Working as Parts Manager, Sales Manager, and Business Manager, he learned the business of running a successful distributorship while racing in the AMA Motorcycle Roadracing Series professionally from 1992-1994.

In 1993, Joseph joined Mobil Oil Corporation as a Sales Engineer. Joseph was awarded the Pegasus Elite Award with Mobil and headed up one of the fastest growing and most profitable distribution regions in the country through the 1990's. In 1998, Joseph went to work as a director for a prominent oil distributor in the Mid-Atlantic. In 2006, this distributor was ranked #1 in the country with ExxonMobil.

In 2007, Joseph founded Petrocon Corporation. Petrocon is the only company in the world of its kind. Focused to help construction, aggregate, mining, and cement companies save money through leveraged buying and national account exposure. Petrocon is unique for all of the combined commodities in our offering to the heavy-duty sector. The company's mission is to reduce operating costs for the privately held company while offering extensive technical support for the commodities offered.

Petrocon Corporation is a national trade organization operating in North America. We represent consumers in the commercial and industrial manufacturing sectors. Located near Washington D.C., we work closely with affiliate trade associations within specific manufacturing and transportation sectors. Our client relationship is built on trust, integrity, and industry specific experience that offers products and programs designed to lower overall procurement costs to our valued clients.

Our professional industry experts provide procurement solutions to the Construction, Aggregate, Mining, Fleet, General Manufacturing, and Automotive Industry sectors. Our goal is to provide premium products and service programs that are targeted at lowering operating costs for your organization.

Our technical programs are designed to implement and enhance preventive maintenance programs that reduce downtime and increase production for our member clients. We have developed best -in-class programs with our suppliers to add real value to get the most out of your hard earned dollar.

Make Online Ordering easier by sending your purchase orders to [ORDERS@PETROCON.ORG](mailto:ORDERS@PETROCON.ORG)  
Exclusive for Petrocon Members only



**DRAIN TILE**



# LEGAL UPDATE

## FMCSA to Extend Compliance Date for Medical Examiner's Certificate Integration

On April 22, 2021, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) [proposed](#) to extend its medical examiner's certification integration final rule compliance date. The extension comes from needing more time to complete certain information technology (IT) system development tasks. The current compliance date is June 22, 2021, but the proposal would extend it to June 23, 2025. The proposal is open to public comments through May 24, 2021.

If adopted, this proposal would be the second time the FMCSA has extended the compliance date due to ongoing challenges with launching a new national registry IT system. The FMCSA is expected to announce any final changes to this compliance date with a final rule if the proposal is adopted.

### Impact of the Proposed Extension

The extension would provide additional time for:

- ✓ The FMCSA to electronically transmit driver identification information, examination results and restriction information from examinations performed for holders of commercial learner's permits (CLPs) or commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) (interstate and intrastate) from the National Registry to the state driver licensing agencies (SDLAs);
- ✓ The FMCSA to electronically transmit to the SDLAs medical variance information for all commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers; and
- ✓ SDLAs to post on the commercial driver's license information system (CDLIS) driver record the driver identification, examination results and restriction information received electronically from the FMCSA on the CDLIS.

In addition, with this extension, motor carriers would no longer be required to verify that CLP/CDL drivers were certified by a certified medical examiner (ME) listed on the National Registry.

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Provided to you by **Prins Insurance, Inc.**

This Legal Update is not intended to be exhaustive nor should any discussion or opinions be construed as legal advice. Readers should contact legal counsel for legal advice. ©2021 Zywave, Inc. All rights reserved.

### Sectioned Information

#### April 22, 2021

FMCSA published a proposal to extend the compliance date for its medical examiner's certification integration final rule.

#### May 24, 2021

End of comment period for FMCSA proposal.

#### June 22, 2021

Compliance date for medical examiner's certificate integration.

#### June 23, 2025

New proposed compliance date.

***FMCSA proposes to extend compliance dates for provisions of the medical examiner's certifications integration final rule.***





# 2021 National LICA Summer Meeting

## Optional Tours

July 27 - 31st • Niagara Falls, New York

**Tuesday, July 27 10:30 am - 5:00 pm**

### Five Star Equipment



LICA has been invited to tour Five Star's newest facility in Orchard Park, New York. Five Star has new and used equipment to explore; as well as attachments and remote monitoring technologies. After checking out the equipment members will have lunch.

***Once we depart Five Star, you will have a choice of touring the Martin House or the Buffalo & Erie County Naval and Military Park!***

### Martin House Tour



If you decide to see Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House, you are in for a treat! A certified docent will lead guests through the primary first-floor rooms of the main Martin

House, the pergola, conservatory, and the carriage house. Experience the pioneering methods of construction used in this outstanding residential project.

### Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park



For those that choose the Naval & Military Park, they will tour the largest inland Naval Park in the country. This museum is on the shore of Lake Erie in Buffalo, New York. It is home to several decommissioned US Naval vessels, including the Cleveland-class cruiser USS Little Rock, the Fletcher-class destroyer USS The Sullivans, and the submarine USS Croaker.

**Wednesday, July 28 9:30 am - 5:00 pm**

### Lockport Locks



This cruise will take you past five of the original 1800's locks. Three million gallons of water will fill Locks 34 & 35, the only double set on the Erie Canal, and raise the boat 50 feet. The lively narration by the Coast Guard Licensed Captains is also accompanied by crowd-pleasing canal music, popular during the 1800's. Lunch is included.

### Medina Railroad Museum



This museum features the largest Railroad & Toy Train display in New York State. Some of their many collections include: Fire Fighting, Military and Local History.

### Modern Disposal

Modern landfill is an innovation leader, and is committed to the most innovative and responsible methods of materials management and recycling. We will tour this site which was an early adopter of a double composite liner, use of geosynthetics and use of tire shreds (reused material) to replace stone (natural resource) in its liner system. It's most impressive project is its extraction of landfill gas and conversion to electricity and heat.

*Photo Credits: Drew Brown, Visit Buffalo Niagara, Medina Railroad Museum, Five Star Equipment, Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park*

# 2021 National LICA Summer Meeting

## On Your Own!

July 27 - 31st • Niagara Falls, New York

There are few destinations around the country with so much to do, just blocks from the hotel. Niagara Falls is definitely one of those places! LICA has arranged two days of tours, but we thought we would give you activities and sites to see on your own!

### Discover Niagara Shuttle

Hop on. Hop off. It's convenient and FREE! Enjoy a day of discovery as you connect to 17 destination sites along the 14-mile route from the "Falls to the Fort." The shuttles run continuously through the route, jump on near the hotel and you can jump off anywhere you would like! Stops include:

- Visitor's Center
- Old Falls St (Our Hotel)
- Niagara Gorge
- Aquarium
- Niagara Arts & Cultural Center
- Castellani Art Museum
- Niagara Power Project
- Train Station & Underground Railroad Heritage Center
- Lewiston, NY (3 stops)
- Youngstown, NY
- Old Fort Niagara

[discoverniagarashuttle.com](http://discoverniagarashuttle.com)

### Seneca Niagara Casino & Hotel

This Casino is directly across the street from the hotel. It can also be accessed by an underground walkway in case of inclement weather. Inside are a total of 9 restaurants – 3 signature restaurants, 3 casual restaurants and 3 places for a quick bite.

#### Travel to these by car:

Fashion Outlets Niagara Falls, USA  
([fashionoutletsniagara.com](http://fashionoutletsniagara.com))

Niagara Wine Trail, USA ([niagarawinetrail.org](http://niagarawinetrail.org))

Grand Lady Cruises ([grandlady.com](http://grandlady.com))

### Maid of the Mist



Hear the crashing waves. See the breathtaking views. Soak up every drop of powerful spray aboard the Maid of the Mist. It's the only way to experience one of the world's most iconic natural wonders right here in the USA!

Reserve your tickets at [maidofthemist.com](http://maidofthemist.com).  
Tickets - \$25.25/Adult  
\$14.75/Child

### Cave of the Winds



You ride an elevator 175 feet (53 meters) deep into the Niagara Gorge. Then, clad in a bright yellow poncho and wearing the special footwear provided, you follow a tour guide over a series of wooden walkways to the famous "Hurricane Deck". As you stand at the railing, you are a mere 20 feet (6 meters) from the billowing torrents of Bridal Veil Falls.

[niagarafallsstatepark.com](http://niagarafallsstatepark.com)

Photo Credits: Discover Niagara



# 2021 National LICA Summer Meeting

## *Meeting Details*

July 27 - 31st • Niagara Falls, New York

### COVID-19 Guidelines

According to the state of New York here are the guidelines for COVID as of May 1st, 2021:

- 1) Mask worn at all times indoors
- 2) Maintain social distancing
- 3) Up to 100 people indoors/200 people outdoors

LICA is committed to keeping everyone safe and healthy. Please bring a mask to wear during meetings/events indoors as well as pre-tours. National LICA and the Sheraton Hotel will move events/meals outdoors that exceed the person limit. If you have been vaccinated please bring your vaccination card with you.

### National LICA Committees

When LICA members, from across the country, come together it's an opportunity to exchange ideas, techniques and more. Every attendee at the Summer Meeting is welcome to join any committee.

**Associates' Committee:** LICA Associate Members report on the industry and the events that affect our members.

**Budget Committee:** This committee reviews financials and recommends the annual budget to the board.

**By-Laws Committee:** This committee reviews the need to add or change the Associations' By-Laws.

**Conservation, Exc. & Earthmoving Committee:** Regulations, laws and safety topics are reviewed.

**Convention Committee:** Proposals are presented for future National Winter Conventions and Summer Meetings.

**Devotions Committee:** Non-Denominational services are held before the days events begin.

**Education & Technology Committee:** This committee decides topics that members need and/or want for Educational Seminars.

**Executive Directors' Meeting:** Executive Directors from each State Chapter meet to discuss: events, gaining membership, board meetings and budgeting.

**Ladies Committee:** This committee is in charge of National Scholarships, special events, fundraising and children's activities.

**Legislative Committee:** A roundtable discussion with the LICA Director of Government Relations about existing and new laws that affect LICA Contractors.

**Long-Term Planning Committee:** This committee reviews the 5 Year Strategic Plan to make sure the Association is on track with its' goals.

**Membership Committee:** Membership trends and recruiting techniques are shared with members.

**Nominating Committee:** This committee reviews and selects applicants for National Vice President.

**On-Site Waste Committee:** Septic contractors share new approaches and applications and new laws.

**Policy Committee:** This committee reviews minutes for policy changes.

**Safety/Insurance Committee:** Important safety laws & regulations that affect our contractors are discussed.

**Water Table Management Committee:** Drainage contractors share new approaches and applications including new laws.

**Board Meeting:** Previous days' committee meetings' minutes are read. New and old Association business is reviewed.



# 2021 National LICA Summer Meeting

## *Tentative Agenda & Educational Seminars*

July 27 - 31st • Niagara Falls, New York

### **Tuesday, July 27**

10:30 am - 5:00 pm      Five Star, Martin House, &  
Naval Park Tour

### **Wednesday, July 28**

9:30 am - 5:00 pm      Lockport Locks  
Railroad Museum, &  
Modern Disposal

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm      Executive Committee

### **Thursday, July 29**

9:00 am - 10:30 am      LinkedIn

10:45 am - 11:30 am      Evaluating & Selling Equip.

More Educational Seminars to come!

12:30 pm - 5:00 pm      Executive Directors

6:00 pm - 6:45 pm      Associates Meeting

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm      Associates' Night  
"Broadway on the Falls"

### **Friday, July 30**

7:00 am - 7:30 am      Devotions

7:30 am - 8:00 am      Committee Chairs

8:00 am      Breakfast

9:15 am - 5:00 pm      Committee Meetings

12:00 pm      Lunch

3:45 pm - 4:45 pm      Region Meetings

### **Saturday, July 31**

7:30 am - 8:00 am      Devotions

8:00 am      Breakfast

10:00 am - 11:00 am      Board Meeting

12:30 pm      Lunch

### **Educational Seminars**

Thursday, July 29 (More to come!)

#### **LinkedIn**

Presented by: Allison Hack

It all started with MySpace and Facebook, as tools to connect socially with people all over the world. Now Social Media has become a force in the business world that no one can afford to ignore. This presentation will give you the basics of setting up a LinkedIn profile for you AND your business. We will discuss ways to network and build up your business in this virtual landscape.

#### **Evaluating & Selling Equipment**

Presented by: Machinery Trader

Machinery Trader continues to bring you more powerful fleet analytics tools than ever before. Including equipment values from FleetEvaluator, predictive values through FutureCasting, Industry Market Snapshots and Indicators, and Depreciation Calculators. All for free. Import your inventory quickly via Excel spreadsheet, or through your current telematics provider. From there, harness the power of these powerful tools to decide when (and what) to sell – with the click of a button.

#### **Associates' Night - Thursday, July 29**

##### **"Broadway on the Falls"**

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

National LICA Associates take center stage to display their products and services. Come and meet LICA's Associates face-to-face while enjoying light appetizers and drinks. The theme of the evening is "Broadway on the Falls." Members are encouraged to pick their favorite play or musical and come in costume!

# 2021 National LICA Summer Meeting

## Registration Form

July 27 - 31st • Niagara Falls, New York

Company \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Attendees (for Badges)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Early Bird Registration

Postmarked by **June 25, 2021**

**Members, Spouses, Associates** **\$295**

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Youth: 13 Years & under** **Free**

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration

Postmarked after **June 25, 2021**

**Members, Spouses, Associates** **\$325**

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Youth: 13 Years & under** **Free**

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Includes: Associates' Night, Friday Breakfast & Lunch, Saturday Breakfast & Lunch.**

### Optional Tours

#### Tues. July 27

Five Star & Martin House,

OR Naval Park

Cost \$75 per person

No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Weds. July 28

Lockport Locks, Medina

Railroad, Modern Disposal

Cost \$75 per person

No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Tour Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(tours plus convention registration)

Return this form with payment to:

**LICA Summer Meeting**

**3080 Ogden Ave. Suite 300, Lisle, IL 60532**

### Hotel Information:

Sheraton Niagara Falls

300 Third Street; Niagara Falls, NY 14303

**Reserve by: June 25, 2021** Call: 716-285-3361

**Land Improvement Contractors Event**

**Calling on or before the deadline does NOT  
guarantee you will get in the room block.**

**Make your reservations today, the block fills up fast.**

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

or charge my credit card

Credit Card MC Visa

Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Digit Code \_\_\_\_\_

Billing zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Policy:** Only individuals registered and wearing badges may attend Summer Meeting events. No registration will be processed without payment. Registration fee deadlines will be strictly enforced.

**Refund Policy:** For cancellations received prior to June 29, 2021 a \$30.00 charge will be deducted from the original amount paid. No registration payment will be refunded after June 29, 2021 unless there has been an emergency.

# Bridgestone Raises Tire Prices as Rubber Supply Tightens

(a publication of Equipment World)

**Bridgestone** is raising prices on its off-the-road and agricultural tires and Firestone tracks in the U.S. and Canada due to increasing costs it has incurred, the company says.

The following increases take effect June 1:

- Bridgestone and Firestone OTR tires – up to 8%.
- Firestone Tracks – 14% on average.
- Firestone Ag Tires and Tubes – up to 8%.

"This price adjustment is a necessary step as Bridgestone continues to manage market dynamics, including escalated logistics, business and raw material costs," the company says.

"Bridgestone is committed to minimizing the impact of increased business costs on our customers," the company adds. "As always, the company continues to look for new opportunities to engineer efficiency into our business while also investing to protect the value of our brands and unlock new, sustainable growth opportunities with our customers."

Bridgestone's latest increase announcement follows a previous announced hike of up to 8% on April 1 on all of its Bridgestone commercial truck tires and Bandag retreading portfolio in



the U.S. and Canada. It then boosted prices on all of its Firestone truck tires by up to 8% on May 1. Other tire manufacturers are also hiking prices in 2021:

- Sumitomo Rubber North America increased prices 8% May 1 on its Dunlop, Falken and Ohtsu passenger, light truck and medium truck tires.
- Continental Tire North America raised prices up to 8% on its Continental, General and Ameristeel medium truck tires on Feb. 1.
- Yokohama Tire Corp. raised prices starting May 1 on consumer and commercial truck tires.
- Goodyear raised prices on its Goodyear, Dunlop and Kelly consumer tires up to 8% starting April 1.
- Michelin North America raised prices 5% starting Feb. 1 on certain Michelin and BFGoodrich light truck tires and on some commercial truck tires.

**Bloomberg** reports that rubber prices are likely to rise over the next several years due to flooding in rubber-producing countries, rubber-tree leaf disease and China replenishing its reserves of rubber last year.







Contact Joe Greco  
for product info

**(724) 681-4414**

[joe@greco.tc](mailto:joe@greco.tc)



TOPCON AD GOES HERE

## PENNSYLVANIA LICA IS PARTNERING WITH THE MERCER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO PUT ON OUR 2<sup>ND</sup> FIELD DAY IN THE PAST 3 YEARS.



**Plan to attend this exciting day** that will be held at Munnell Run Farms/Mercer County Conservation District (753 Greenville Rd, Mercer PA) on Saturday August 14, 2021 from 9am – 3pm. **There will be a food truck and lunch will be provided for all attendees as well as coffee/donuts in the morning.** Join some fellow PALICA members who will be doing the work that day along with Conservation District employees. It will be a great learning opportunity for the whole community. Bring the family and/or fellow contractors to tour the farm and observe the different projects that will be taking place.

**The projects that will be worked on are as follows:**

- **Constructed Wetland Operation – Maintenance & Repair**
- **Park or Public Composting Restroom Maintenance & Repair**
- **Agricultural Field Tile Repair**

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# Kobelco to Lay Off 75% of U.S. Excavator Plant Workers Over Engine Supply Problems

One of the impacted machines: the Kobelco SK170LC-10.

Kobelco

In February, KCM said it was considering alternative engine suppliers and that production of its SK170LC, SK210LC, SK260LC, SK300LC, SK350LC, SK390LC, and SK500LC models would be suspended once the current inventory with certified engines had run out.

The AP report reiterated that Kobelco was looking for another engine supplier.

In the previous statement, KCM said the four Hino engines are also used in machines imported to the U.S., including six excavator models (SK210HLC, SK230SRLC, SK270SRLC, SK380SRLC, SK500LC, and SK850LC) and five crawler crane models (CK850G, CK1100G, CK1200G, CK1600G, and CK2750G). The machines are imported to the U.S. from two factories in Japan. Imports are suspended until these models can be equipped with 2021 U.S. EPA emissions-certified engines.



At the time, Kobelco also said its dealers would continue to sell excavator inventory with EPA-certified engines, including remaining inventory of the affected models, compact excavators, 7- to 13-ton excavators and the CK3300G crawler crane. Product support activities will also continue.

Kobelco Construction Machinery will lay off 75% of its workforce on May 1st at its Moore, South Carolina, [excavator plant](#), according to several media reports.

“Kobelco Japan made a decision to run out of current engines we have on site and will suspend production until the engine issue has been resolved,” Ralph Wabnitz, Kobelco general manager said in an [AP report](#).

The layoff will include 102 of the plant's 131 employees, said the report.

The move follows the company's announcement in February that it would temporarily suspend U.S. excavator production at the plant due to engine supply problems.

Kobelco engine supplier Hino Motors informed KCM in January that its 2021 EPA emission certifications had not been obtained on four engine models, adding there was "no clear outlook" on its future supply schedule.

“The plant will stay open until a decision about the future of this facility is made,” Wabnitz said in the AP report. “The suspension of production was not a local decision, rather a decision made by our headquarters in Japan.”

AP further reported that David Britt, Spartanburg County councilman, reached out to state and federal officials in an effort to help Hino obtain its engine certification, an effort he said was complicated by Covid-19 restrictions. "It is terribly unfortunate to Kobelco and their associates for this to happen at a time when their sales are sky high and their workforce is growing rapidly," Britt is quoted as saying.





# Welding worries

## Things you can't see can kill you.

**The accident:** A construction worker was welding a catwalk to a 15-foot-tall waste oil tank. Vapors from the tank ignited, causing an explosion that launched the worker into a truck parked more than 100 feet away. He died from multiple internal injuries, and three other people were injured in the explosion.

**The bottom line:** Sparks from welding and cutting can travel up to 35 feet in a horizontal or vertical direction from the work area, and even greater distances when falling. The workers involved in this accident failed to take proper steps to keep sparks away from vapors created by a combustible material.

### Realize the risk

Welding and plasma cutting create a variety of hot material such as sparks, slag and molten metal. Sparks are particularly dangerous, because not only do they travel great distances, they can also travel through small openings and become lodged. Worksites often include a range of combustible materials such as clothing, paper and chemicals, as well as flammable materials such as liquids, vapors, gases and dust. Anyone who welds should follow fire and explosion prevention procedures to the letter. A hot work or confined entry permit may also be required.

### Proper prep

If possible, stay away from combustible materials entirely. Remove either the materials from the work area, or the work area from the materials.



Illustration by Don Lomax

If removing the material is impossible, special precautions are required. Enclose the work area with fire resistant screens, and cover all doors, windows and cracks with fire resistant material. Protect the combustible material with fire resistant covers. Ensure the material you're welding does not have a combustible coating or material that can produce toxic or flammable vapors.

Check the atmosphere itself within the work area. Avoid welding or cutting when reactive or flammable gases, vapors, liquids or dust are present. Make sure the work area is adequately ventilated to keep gases and vapors from accumulating. Keep fire extinguishing equipment on hand during the welding process.

### Smart follow-up

Once finished, check the area for hot or smoldering material, which can ignite later. If needed, have a firewatcher in the area for a half hour after the job is complete. Carefully dispose of hot slag to avoid contact with combustible material. **EW**

*Information for this Safety Watch came from an accident report, the American Welding Society, OSHA, the National Fire Protection Association and the American National Standards*

*Institute. It is meant for general information only. To order safety materials, visit [www.aws.org](http://www.aws.org). Many manufacturers also have comprehensive safety resources and training available.*



# Backhoe woes

Make sure your machine is blocked or chocked before leaving it on a slope

**The accident:** A backhoe operator was working on covering a pipe in a drainage ditch next to a retaining wall. He parked the machine on a slope and exited the backhoe while leaving the bucket, which was full of rocks and gravel, elevated. While using a shovel to scoop and place the material, the operator bent over directly in front of the bucket. The backhoe rolled forward and pinned the operator against the retaining wall. A coworker who witnessed the incident moved the backhoe and called paramedics to the scene. The operator was transported to a local hospital where he died from multiple traumatic injuries.

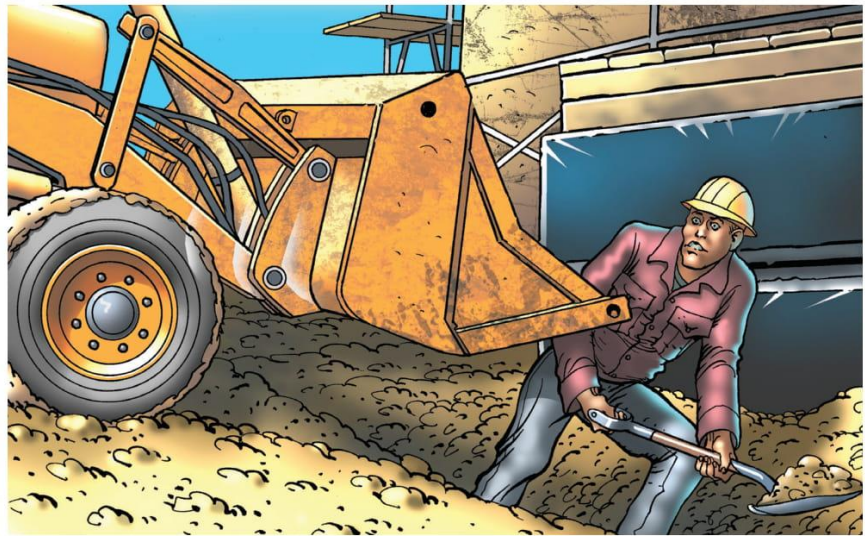


Illustration by Don Lomax

**The bottom line:** The coworker who put the backhoe in reverse to release the victim said the shifter was in first gear and the parking brake was engaged, and a check of the machine showed the brake to be operational. A post-accident investigation determined the victim had not had adequate training on the proper parking procedure or the machine's safety features, and the operator's manual stated the parking brake would not hold the backhoe in place when parked unattended on an incline. The contractor's training manual was general and did not include machine-specific information.

## Safe steps:

Be familiar with the proper procedures for parking and exiting a machine. If you have not received operation and safety training on a machine, don't operate the unit until you complete the required training. When parking a backhoe, try whenever possible to choose level ground. If parking on an incline is a necessity, there are several steps you should take to prevent downward motion:

- **Always lower the bucket.** The weight of the bucket creates drag, effectively creating a barricade that could help prevent the machine from moving, even on a slope.
- **Shut off the machine.** Shift all controls to neutral, idle and then shut off the engine and remove the ignition key.
- **Block and/or chock the wheels.** Even with the bucket lowered and the parking brake applied, equipment can still move. Chocking the wheels serves as an additional measure to keep the machine in a stationary position.

Information for this Safety Watch is from an accident report, the Association of Equipment Manufacturers and the Center for Disease

Control's NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation Program. It is meant for general information only.



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797 high hazard dams			27% of roads are in poor condition. Each motorist pays \$620 per year in costs due to driving on roads in need of repair
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1,256 outages between 2008 and 2017			16,459,106 tons of municipal solid waste
127 Superfund National Priorities List sites			\$7.17 average monthly stormwater fee
260 miles of inland waterways			421.6 million passenger trips in Pennsylvania in 2018
198 miles of levees protect \$9.6 billion of property			\$7 billion in wastewater needs
\$314,429,478 in deferred park maintenance			

Find out more at [www.infrastructurereportcard.org/Pennsylvania](http://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/Pennsylvania)

*Produced in 2021, data years vary*



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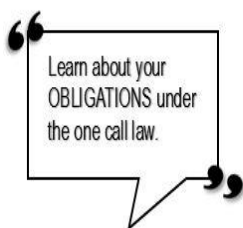
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