ABC OF THE CAROLINAS

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Networking & Events
The construction business is about relationships. At the ABC of the Carolinas we host over 100 events a year in North Carolina and South Carolina that help provide forums for building relationships. ABC is a diverse group of representatives from all sectors of the construction industry. At regular monthly functions, ABC members have an opportunity to interact with customers, suppliers and competitors. Owners, general contractors, sub-contractors, vendors, product and services providers, elected officials and others are regular participants in our events each month.

Our regular events include:
- Monthly socials, luncheons and networking events
- Educational, training and development events
- Golf outings, clay shoots, corn hole competitions, chili and bar-b-q cook-offs, and more
- Annual Excellence in Construction (EIC) Program
- Meet the General Contractors (GCs) events in NC and SC
- Hard Hat Days and Legislative Reception in Raleigh, NC and Columbia, SC
- Carolinas Safety Conference
- Annual Carolinas Construction Conference

Building your Business
Investing in your business is as simple as joining ABC of the Carolinas. ABC of the Carolinas is a diverse group of representatives from all sectors of the construction industry. At regular monthly functions, ABC members have an opportunity to interact with customers, suppliers, and competitors. In the Carolinas, ABC is focusing great energy on the creation of a comprehensive workforce development program, which will meet the needs of its members and the construction industry at large. ABC’s goals and direction are guided by all of its members; providing an equal voice to general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and associates, which makes ABC, a group truly representative of the construction industry. ABC strives to make you a better contractor tomorrow than you are today. When you think construction, think ABC!
- Safety education and training
- Educational, training and development events
- Apprenticeship programs
- Monthly socials, luncheons and networking events
- Annual Award programs
- Hard Hat Days and Legislative Reception in Raleigh, NC and Columbia, SC
- Annual Carolinas Construction Conference
- Membership discount programs

ABCareS
ABC members are committed to serving their communities and the people who live in them. ABC documents and promotes the community service projects completed by both ABC chapters and contractor members through the ABCares program.

Membership Discounts & Benefits
ABC of the Carolinas members can take advantage of business discounts with ABC’s Business Partners. ABC members enjoy discounts on a wide-range of products and services used every day in the construction industry. The exclusive ABC Business Partners program includes discounts and savings on mobile phones, trucks, uniforms, shipping services, safety equipment, software, fuel and more. Many ABC members take advantage of these programs and get an immediate return on their dues investment. These discounts include:
- AIA Contract Documents and Consensus Docs
- Chrysler, Ford and General Motors vehicles
- Ford and Enterprise fleet management
- Exxon, Mobile and Shell gas
- Verizon mobile phones
- ABC Safety Direct, Airgas, and Orr Safety Products
- Payroll4Construction.com
- FedEx, UPS and YRC shipping and freight services
- Aramark Uniform Services
- FirstLab testing services
- The Contractor’s Plan

Member Networking
Many ABC members make important industry contacts by participating in events sponsored by ABC at both the national and chapter levels. These activities open the door to lasting relationships with like-minded professionals.
- Chapter meetings and social events
- National meetings and activities
- Seminars and other educational programs
- Peer group networks
- Volunteer leadership
Training Your Employees
Apprenticeship and Craft Training

ABC is a leader in apprenticeship and craft training for merit shop contractors. Through its chapters, ABC delivers programs that equip craft professionals with the knowledge and skills they need to improve their productivity and safety, and advance their careers.

The mission of the ABC Apprenticeship & Education Program is to provide the construction industry with the most qualified and technically trained people at all levels through various educational opportunities to strengthen the construction workforce in the Carolinas. ABC works cooperatively with other organizations and member companies, such as the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) to offer programs that carry with them both a high educational and financial value.

ABC of the Carolinas is able to provide an array of programs to address the educational needs of the industry.

These include:
- Registered Apprenticeship and Craft Training in 30 trades (NCCER Accredited)
- Construction Quality Management
- Craft Assessment Certifications in 35 trades (NCCER Accredited)
- Management Training Programs
- Safety Classes
- STEP Awards

WHY TRAIN?

OSHA recordable injuries down by 67%
First aid cases down 90%
Productivity Up 10 – 24%
Turnover down 32-43%
Unexcused Absences down 59%

National Craft Championships

Each year, ABC hosts the National Craft Championships technical skills competition. The top merit shop apprentices from across the country first compete in regional events, and the winners advance to the national competition. The competition’s craft categories include carpentry, electrical, fire sprinkler, HVAC, instrumentation, insulation, masonry, metal building, millwright, pipefitting, plumbing, sheet metal and welding.

ABC Carolinas offers a variety of NCCER assessments – both written and performance. These assessments evaluate the knowledge and skill level of an individual in a specific craft area and provide a prescription for upgrade training, if needed. After successful completion of a written assessment or performance verification, an individual’s qualifications are tracked through NCCER’s National Registry. These industry credentials give employers confidence in the craft professional’s skill, knowledge, and desire for continuous professional development. They also provide the craft professional with industry-recognized credentials to help build upon their career in construction.

Apprenticeship Programs

ABC chapters provide formal apprenticeship training programs registered with the Office of Apprenticeship, a division of the U.S. Department of Labor. Thousands of construction apprentices train annually through ABC-registered apprenticeship programs. These programs meet federal and state requirements for registered apprenticeship and prevailing wage work, including employer-sponsored classroom instruction and on-the-job training. Craft professionals who successfully complete a program are recognized at the journeyman level and awarded a certificate.
The ABC of the Carolinas and its members are committed to ensuring everyone goes home safe. We continuously work to promote safety within the construction industry, by providing a source of safety expertise and information, and assisting in the development of safety programs in the interest of conserving employee health and company profitability. The ABC of the Carolinas supports the values of leadership and integrity through opportunities of training and consulting services to ABC of the Carolinas members. ABC offers:

- Safety Committees
- Safety Training & Evaluation Program (STEP)
- Annual Carolinas Safety Conference
- Training, workshops and speakers focused on safety
- Safety awards and recognition programs

**SAFETY**

**TRAINING**

- First Aid/CPR Course
- OSHA 10 Hour Course
- OSHA 30 Hour Course
- CHC Exam Review Course
- Scaffold Competent Person Course
- Mobile Crane Operator Course
- CHST Certification Preparation Workshop
- Qualified Rigger Course
- Crane Signal Person Course
- CQM - Construction Quality Management
- Trenching Competent Person Course
- Project Management Classes
- HR Classes

**STEP: A Safety self-audit and awards Program for contractors**

- Realize increased profits through Workers’ Compensation savings
- Experience fewer injuries and illnesses
- Be exposed to a reliable benchmarking tool with proven metrics
- Be shown a proven roadmap to a successful safety management program

STEP - Merit Based Safety Recognition for the Merit Shop!

Established in 1989 by the ABC National Environment, Health & Safety (EH&S) Committee, the Safety Training Evaluation Process (STEP) program was developed and written by contractors, for contractors. There is no charge for this service (unless you are applying for STEP Diamond or Platinum, or submitting via the paper application), and your responses are strictly confidential. Get instantaneous results using the new, easier to use application--now you can save your application and come back later to complete!

**Why Join?**

- Organized approach for analyzing and developing safety and loss prevention programs
- The Key Component system forms a 20-point guide to starting, updating or auditing a company-wide safety program
- Incorporates lagging indicator safety performance data with leading indicator use and self-assessment requirements to give a full, wide ranging report on the entire nature of a company’s Safety Program
- Designed to benefit both large and small contractors alike
- Recognition for ABC members at both National and Chapter level, with various recognition events held throughout the year Gateway to Accredited Quality Contractor recognition

**ABC of the Carolinas Also Offers Private and In-House Training For Your Company Tailored To Your Individual Needs At Competitive Rates!**

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**Gateway to Accredited Quality Contractor recognition**

**STEP Diamond and Platinum recipients eligible for ABC National Safety Excellence Award and Construction Users Roundtable (CURT) - CISE award.**
Representation on Capitol Hill
ABC member companies benefit from extensive representation before federal legislators on Capitol Hill. ABC works with both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate on a daily basis to advance legislation that promotes free enterprise and open competition. ABC also works with Congress on a diverse portfolio of construction and small business-related issues, from project labor agreements, secret-ballot elections, green jobs, immigration reform and Davis-Bacon Act wage rules to tax and health care reform. ABC members frequently are asked to testify before Congress on behalf of the association.

Legislative Conference
Each year, ABC members travel to Washington, D.C. for ABC’s Legislative Conference to meet face to face with their lawmakers. Conference participants learn about legislative issues of significant interest to their firms and meet with members of Congress, White House staff and agency officials to discuss their concerns.

State Affairs
ABC partners with its nationwide network of 70 chapters to assist members with state and local issues affecting merit shop contractors. Model legislation, sample public relations materials, talking points, and procurement and wage studies enable ABC members and chapters to learn from the experiences of those who have faced various state and local challenges.

ABC PAC
“Get into politics or get out of business!” is the motto that drives ABC’s political activities. ABC members have responded to that call by building the association’s federal political action committee into one of the largest in the construction industry. ABC PAC is a key player in electing federal candidates who support the principles of the merit shop and who serve as an influential voice in shaping the nation’s construction and small business policies.

Laws and regulations are impacting every aspect of the construction industry. ABC of the Carolinas takes a proactive approach to influencing and shaping legislation and regulation in North Carolina and South Carolina to protect your business. As the voice of the construction merit shop, ABC and its members have access and influence with the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the federal government and with state and local governments, as well as with the news media. As a member of ABC, you will have a voice in national, state, and local issues.

Our government affairs efforts include:
• Local Government Affairs Committees in each Council
• Full-time Legislative Director in the Carolinas
• National Government Affairs Officials and Lobbyists
• Proactive Legislative agenda with a track record of successful legislation in the Carolinas
• Regular events, meetings and receptions with national, state, and local elected officials
• Hard Hat Day and Legislative Reception in Raleigh, NC
• Hard Hat Day and Legislative Reception in Columbia, SC
• Annual ABC Legislative Conference in Washington, DC
• ABC Political Action Committee (PAC)
• Free Enterprise Alliance (FEA)

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

OPEN COMPETITION WINS IN THE CAROLINAS

ABC passes legislation in North and South Carolina protecting Open Competition banning Union-Only Project Labor Agreements (PLA) on public projects.

17TH STATE IN NATION
JUNE 10, 2013

18TH STATE IN NATION
JULY 17, 2013

North & South Carolina Hard Hat Days

Our Purpose: To raise awareness of our organization and build relationships with our state legislators.

Our Goal: To share the views and concerns of our industry with our elected officials.
The purpose of our committees is to add a support system into our chapter concentrating our focus on areas where we want to grow while strengthening our chapter, as a result we are adding value to our members.

When establishing any of these committees, you must first search out individuals who have an interest in being involved, this is done simply by spending quality time with your membership asking what makes them tick? What is their passion? Is it safety? Do they want to see immediate return in the membership committee? Do they enjoy mentoring, guiding or teaching? What about the school to career committee?

While spending time with your members, remember to listen, they can share valuable information on what their passion is, once this has been identified ask them to sit in on a committee meeting to find out if this would be of value to them. The following committees have been a benefit for the ABC Carolinas Chapter and our membership.

### Committees
- Membership Services
- Safety
- Government Affairs
- Public Relations
- School to Careers and Education & Training

**Membership Committee**

Do you love to network? Are you the social butterfly in your office? If so, the membership committee could be for you! The membership committee is dedicated to obtaining and retaining our membership by recruiting new members as well as keeping our current members renewing year after year. Membership committee also assist staff with registrations at our events, this encourages members to meet and greet members. Once a year a “Meet the Generals” event is planned and executed by this committee. This committee is the spoke in the wheel to all of our committees.

**Safety Committee**

The Safety committee consists of safety professionals and consultants, and share best practices, lessons learned, and go on site visits to discuss the safety issues at each site. The committee works to educate the council on any new safety regulations or standards that have changed, as well as helping out with the annual Safety Conference, and promoting the STEP application and awards.

**Government Affairs**

This committee works closely with our legislative director to establish and nurture relationships with local and state legislators, to give the construction industry a voice in Raleigh, Columbia, and Washington. We work together to identify opportunities to increase our PAC participation and revenue, as well as working on our annual ‘Hard Hat Day’ event at the capital in North and South Carolina. If you enjoy staying up-to-date on legislative affairs, this committee could be for you!

**Public Relations**

This committee creates an outreach program to establish ABC Carolinas as the place to come for information about the industry. Keep the public informed about upcoming ABC Carolinas events. Great to identify marketing and PR members to this committee. They do marketing materials for publications like Triangle Biz Journal, SC Biz Journal and Charlotte Biz Journal.

**School to Career / Education Training**

This committee is focused on building our workforce with quality workers by visiting schools, working with our student chapters, participating in career days, and working with our apprenticeship program. These committee members work closely with our workforce development staff to promote and schedule training classes that are beneficial to the industry.

Each of these committees meet once a month - same time, same date, and same location. The chairman of each committee is responsible to sit in on a conference call once a month, with a board liaison, the information collected is reported during our monthly board meetings.
Carolinas Construction Conference
3 day event in August
ABC Carolinas’ Construction Conference is a two and a half day event, held Thursday evening through Saturday night. The conference location rotates throughout the Carolinas. The conference allows members and non-members to network and learn about issues impacting the industry. Keynote speakers and local representatives speak at breakfasts and events.

Safety/HR Conference
1 day event in September
ABC and Carolinas Construction Institute host an annual Safety Conference in Charlotte. There are on average sixteen breakout sessions. Topics range from OSHA updates to new hire safety orientation. The Joint Safety committee works together each year to select relevant topics. The ABC Carolinas STEP awards are also presented during the conference.

Excellence in Construction
1 night in November
Excellence in Construction is a yearly awards banquet where general contractors and specialty contractors submit their projects to be recognized by the industry. The banquet offers the opportunity for the entire project team to be recognized and celebrate their efforts. The event is attended by hundreds of general contractors, specialty contractors, owners, and architects.