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Air Conditioning Contractors of America Greater New York Chapter 123 South Street, Suite 112 Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Greater New York Contractors' NFCVVS

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President's Message

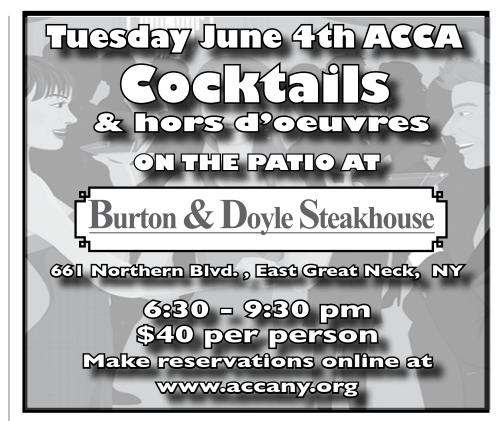
The May 9th meeting at LaGuardia Marriott with Weil McLain as guest speaker was informative. They discussed changes that will be occurring in



NYC regarding PVC and Hi Efficiency boilers. With so many changes occurring in our industry ACCA meetings provide needed information so that you can stay ahead of the curve.

Next month's meeting will take place on Tuesday June 4th at Burton and Doyle, this meeting is a Cocktail Party/Networking event that is sure to be a good time to meet other members on our organization and see how they others are dealing with the same issues that you may be having.

Don't forget about "Take Me Out to the Mets" game Friday June 14th. Tickets are available through our website.



We will not be having any meetings in July and August; however our annual Golf Outing will take place August 12th. I look forward to seeing everyone at the June Cocktail Party.

— Al Trudil

ACCA, a federation of 60 state and local affiliated organizations, is the leading trade association representing the business, educational, and policy interests of the nation's heating, air conditioning, ventilation and refrigeration contractors. ACCA represents over 9,000 small businesses nationwide through its federation of affiliates.

JUNE 2013

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September 4th Meeting To Be Luncheon on Social Media

The general membership meeting on Wednesday, September 4th will be a luncheon from 12 noon to 2pm. It will be held at DiLettos restaurant (formerly Papa Razzi), 1500 Jericho Turnpike at Glen Cove Road, Westbury. The planned program is to be "Grow Your Business Through Social Media" presented by Craig Yaris, owner of Social Ribbit (formerly EsquireTech Solutions) a Social Media Strategy, Marketing and Education firm. More information will be forthcoming. •

Check our website regularly for news and information. www.accany.org

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Political Action Anthony Carbone

Scholarship John Ottaviano Trade Show Rich Staiano Steve Bergman Web Page

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technical advice. Accordingly, the Association cannot warrant the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter and disclaims any and all liability which may result from publication of or reliance on the information provided herein. If legal advice or other expert assistance or advice is required, the services of a competent, professional person should be sought.

Editor's Notes by Anthony N. Carbone

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The Dow Jones industrial average is hitting an all time high and the sentiment of many is that things are looking up. Unemployment numbers are receding and many are finding work again. Sandy is making contractors money and keeping them busy. With the feelings of an uprising economy and people working, also 401K statements rising, HVAC contractors are seeing the phones ring and jobs are getting signed. This is good for all contractors and has long been in the waiting.

Those who have survived the prolonged recession and were resilient enough to respond to this influx will reap the benefits.

This recession has also taken many fly-by-night contractors who operated out of their garages out of the equation as they learned a lesson on how quickly work can dry up. They were surviving off the excess for the previous prosperous times. A new mindset may have set

in, as a team effort may be the right course of action for many "free agents."

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If you have been reading our newsletter you have seen some significant strides in our organization. The last presentation from Weil McLain was excellent. Robert Bernard and Bob Melinis provided an in depth presentation of the latest and greatest boilers being produced by Weil McLain. How can you afford to miss our programs?

The next networking event takes place on the "Outdoor Patio" at the Burton & Doyle Steakhouse for pass hors d'oeurves and cocktails. This is a great opportunity to speak to peers within our industry and get the pulse of what is happening.

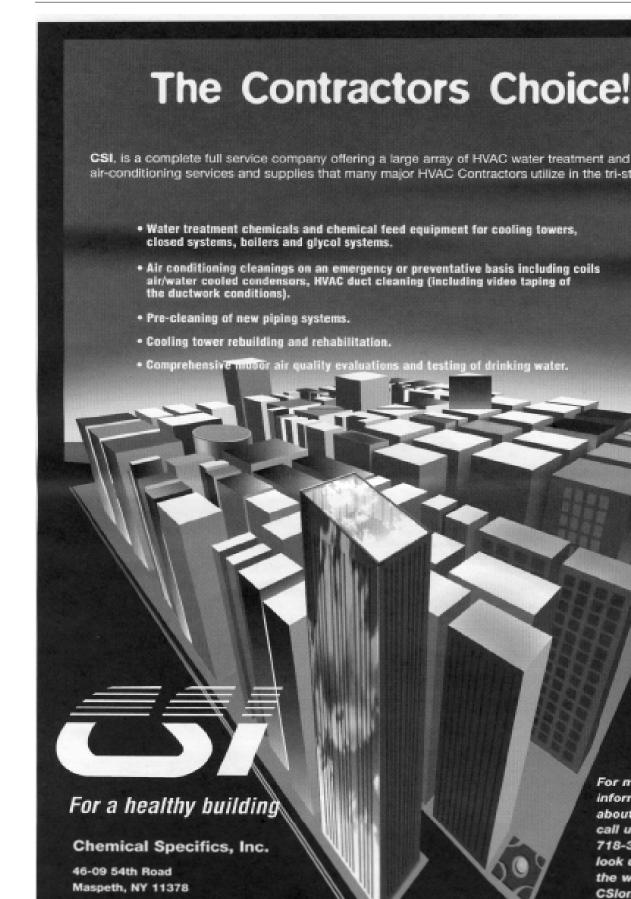
The Night at The Mets is going to be a fun event to bring friends, families and co-workers. In addition The band "Foreigner" will provide a concert after the game.

This is your invitation to join an important organization. — Anthony N. Carbone

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Service Experts Poised for Growth Following Acquisition

The new team at Service Experts Heating & Air Conditioning, the nation's largest heating and air conditioning brand, is poised for growth and expansion following its acquisition by American Capital, LTD, a publicly traded private equity firm and global asset manager.

"American Capital's complete operational support make them an ideal owner for Service Experts," said Scott J. Boxer, newly appointed President and CEO of Service Experts. "We look forward to a strong relationship with American Capital as we continue to service and grow, expand our product offering and grow revenue both organically and through add-on acquisitions."

Boxer is an internationally recognized leader in the HVAC industry with a three-decade track record of successfully leading businesses through transformations and growth initiatives. He had previously served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Service Experts from 2003 to 2010.

"The investment in Service Experts represents a

solid opportunity to partner with an industry veteran to strengthen a company with a large installed infrastructure ready for growth," said Myung Yi, American Capital Managing Director, Special Situations Group. "He has assembled a highly talented management team with tremendous industry expertise that will be focused on driving value creation."

Boxer said the company plans to continue to "improve and expand the professional services and products we offer our customers. We already have in place the operational and marketing skills and comprehensive business planning expertise we need to substantially grow the company and maintain its leadership in providing sales, installation, maintenance and repair of HVAC systems for the residential and light commercial markets." •

Scholarship Update

As part of our effort to attract young people to the HVAC industry, The Greater New York Chapter Board of Directors has voted to extend our Scholarship for Suffolk County Community College's HVAC program with an additional \$1,000. Over time, our association has contributed more than \$16,000 to the fund.

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Residential Equipment Selection Manual S Available

The Air Conditioning Contractors of America Educational Institute (ACCA-EI) Standards Task Team (STT) announces an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) public review period for the "BSR/ACCA 3 Manual S – 201x, Residential Equipment Selection" as a revised and redesignated industry standard. The 45 day public review period started on 10 May 2013 with a comment deadline of 24 June 2013.

This revised standard provides procedures for selecting and sizing residential comfort cooling and heating equipment. The standard has been divided into two parts - a 'normative' portion that details the selection/sizing criteria and an 'informative' portion that provides discussion, guidance, and example problems related to procedure intent and use.

A review version of the proposed Second Edition of Manual S (dated 17 April 2013), and the public review response form, can be downloaded from www.acca.org/industry/ansi-standards/ under-review.

FederalCourtGrantsEmergency Motion To Stay Furnace Rules **Until Lawsuit Is Resolved**

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit ruled favorably on an emergency motion filed by the Air-conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) requesting a stay of the May 1, 2013, compliance date for the regional furnace standards.

In granting the motion, the Court is legally preventing the Department of Energy (DOE) from applying the standards or enforcing them until the underlying case is resolved.

Those standards, requiring residential non-weatherized natural gas furnaces to be installed in 30 northern states to have an AFUE rating of at least 90%, were finalized in 2011 with an effective date of May 1,2013. Almost immediately those standards faced a legal challenge by the American Public Gas Association. ACCA joined in the challenge to the standards. After months of



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legal wrangling, a proposed settlement rescinding the rules for furnaces was filed with the Court in January 2013. Unfortunately the Court has not yet ruled on the settlement and the rules remain on the books.

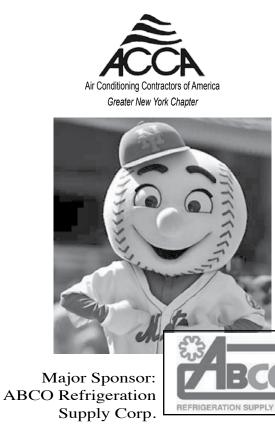
Earlier this month, in light of the looming May 1 compliance date and the lack of a Court ruling on the settlement, the DOE announced through an "Enforcement Policy Statement" that the agency would enforce the rules as if the settlement agreement had been accepted. While DOE's announcement gave some relief from the uncertainty of the pending compliance date, the Court's action today legally prevents the agency from enforcing the rules until the case is resolved.

For now, the industry awaits the Court's ruling on the proposed settlement, so that the DOE can start over again on writing new standards for furnaces. However, should the Court reject the settlement the case would go to trial. At that point there are two possible outcomes. One is that the legal challenge would prevail and the rules would be officially stricken from the books. But if the rules are upheld and remain in place after a trial, then under this motion, the rules would take effect six months later.

ACCA will continue to update all members and alert them of any new information. •



Check the ACCA national website too, at www.acca.org.



ACCA Night Out With The Mets Friday, June 14th VS **Chicago CUBS** In The BIG APPLE Section

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Tickets \$27 per person

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Fleet Financing Q&A

By Kelly Hiner, Enterprise Fleet Management

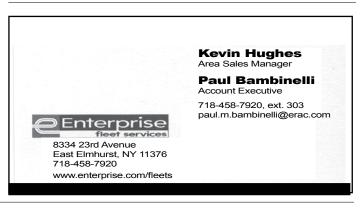
A fleet of vehicles can hold the keys to trimming expenses and improving cash flow without sacrificing vehicle quality or performance. But, the decision whether to own a fleet of vehicles or lease vehicles through a professional fleet management company can vary depending on various business circumstances, goals and objectives. Some of the important considerations include the following:

If my firm has cash that we can spend on vehicles, why would we lease and be charged an interest rate?

By acquiring vehicles through a professional fleet management company, a separate line of credit may be established for your business. This can optimize cash flow and preserve your bank line of credit or cash surplus for other opportunities, such as operations, expansion, additional personnel, investments or simply a "rainy day". A fleet management company can help with the financial math to assess this decision, which is dependent on each business' situation and overall cost of capital. In addition, while interest rates for leasing vehicles are generally competitive for various financing options, a fleet management company may allow for flexible leasing arrangements that can lessen the amount of debt on a business' balance sheet as compared to traditional loans. This can reduce financial risk, improve the cost of capital and increase the value of the business.

What size fleet is required to get the most benefit from a fleet management company?

Every business situation is unique and there can be many variables and considerations, including the extent to which the business is committed to better managing the full range of issues, from acquiring and disposing of vehicles to managing maintenance appointments and invoices, insurance and vehicle registration and reporting. Generally, outsourcing to a professional fleet management company requires a fleet size of 15 vehicles or more to improve overall operational efficiencies and effectively lower the total cost of ownership.



How can a fleet management company help with various DOT safety requirements, licensing inspections, etc.?

Registering vehicles can be a complicated and exasperating process, especially for companies whose drivers are scattered across multiple states and counties. Not only do different states have different names for their regulatory agencies, specific requirements and terminology also may vary stateby-state or county-by-county for emissions, license plates, taxes and insurance. Because there may never be a uniform way to register vehicles across the nation, working with a fleet management company that has the knowledge and expertise to handle vehicle licenses and titles for each state can make the process go much more smoothly. In addition to allowing a firm to avoid the time-consuming, labor-intensive process of renewing vehicle registrations, turning over the responsibility to a fleet management company frees up drivers, relieving them from spending time standing in line at the department of motor vehicles when they could be servicing customers.

What are the disadvantages of holding onto older vehicles that are already paid for versus replacing them?

Holding onto vehicles with high mileage can mean higher Association, where she managed marketing maintenance and fuel costs, frequent breakdowns and expired campaigns for a wide variety of programs, events, and products warranties, which may actually prove more expensive in aimed at different targeted audiences, including small business terms of opportunity costs due to missed appointments and owners and consumers. lost productivity. A fleet management company can provide "We have been looking to bring on a team member who a replacement strategy that will ensure vehicles are replaced at regular intervals to increase the efficiency of the fleet for would be dedicated marketing the variety of programs and services we offer and Christine's past success working with optimal performance and resale value. By monitoring factors small businesses, makes her a great fit for ACCA," said such as the time of year, mileage, vehicle type, age and Kevin Holland, senior vice president, business operations maintenance history, the guesswork is eliminated. A cycling & membership. "We are extremely pleased to have her join program looks at things like future trends, the current used our staff and look forward to seeing our programs grow with vehicle market, warranties, mileage and the potential wear and tear a business will inflict on each vehicle. her help." In her new position, Cunnick will be responsible for

Why should I outsource fleet management when I

ACCA's products, programs, and services. can do it myself? Christine can be reached at 703-824-8852 or christine. Just as you rely on an accounting or tax professional cunnick@acca.org. • to handle business functions such as tax planning or tax



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compliance, you may need a professional with automotive industry expertise to manage company vehicles. A fleet management company can be a full-service resource for ensuring that every dollar spent to buy, operate and replace vehicles over a period of time results in the best economic solution for their customers.

Kelly Hiner is Group Sales Manager for Enterprise Fleet Management in New York and can be contacted at 973-709-2499. Visit the company's web site at www.enterprisefleet.com or call toll free 1-877-23-FLEET. •

ACCA National Welcomes New Director Of Marketing

ACCA has announced that Christine Cunnick joined the national staff as the Director of Marketing.

Cunnick has 13 years of marketing and communications experience. Since 2005, she has been with the National Grocers



creating and implementing marketing programs for all of

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People & The Workplace

By Alan B. Pearl,

Portnoy, Messinger, Pearl & Associates, Inc., Syosset, NY 516-921-3400, Fax 516-921-6774 e-mail: ABPearl@pmpHR. *com*, *Website:* www.pmpHR.com

Department of Labor Releases "Obamacare" Notice Requirements

The full implementation of the Affordable Care Act, popularly known as "Obamacare" is right around the corner. The main part of the new law, the establishment of Health Insurance Marketplaces is set to start January 1, 2014. Employers should have plans already in place to prepare for the significant changes that are about to take place. One provision of the law that employers should be aware of is Section 1512. This section requires employers to provide notice of coverage options available through the marketplace.

Earlier this month the U.S. Department of Labor published technical guidelines describing the nature and scope of the notice required. The notice requirement generally covers those employers that employ one or more employees and who have at least \$500,000 in annual dollar volume of business.

Section 1512 requires employers to provide written notice of available coverages to each new employee hired beginning October 1, 2013 and all existing employees as of that date. According to the Department of Labor the employers must provide written notice: (1) Informing the employee of the existence of the Marketplace (Exchange) including a description of the services provided by the Marketplace, and the manner in which the employee may contact the Marketplace to request assistance; (2) If the employer plan's share of the total cost of benefits provided under the plan is less than 60% of such costs, that the employee may be eligible for a premium tax credit if the employee purchases a qualified health plan through the Marketplace; and (3) If the employee purchases a qualified health plan through the marketplace, the employee may lose the employer contribution to any health plan offered by the employer and that all or a potion of such contribution may be excludable from income for Federal income tax purposes.

A model notice is available at the Department of Labor's website at www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform.

NYC Council Passes Mandatory Sick Leave Bill

After four years of negotiations the New York City Council has passed a bill requiring employers to provide

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paid sick leave to its employees. The bill passed on May 8 by a 45-3 vote. Mayor Bloomberg has vowed to veto the bill when it arrives at his desk, but the Counsel has far more than the two-thirds majority needed to override the mayor's veto.

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The law when it takes effect will require employers with more than 20 employees to provide up to five paid sick days to most employees. This means that more than 1 million New York City workers will now get paid sick leave. On April 1, 2014 the law will expand to cover those business that employ at least 15 employees.

Under the bill employees would need to work at least four months before earning paid time off. Additionally, unlike the federal Family Medical Leave Act this law applies to both full time and part time employees, but excludes seasonal employees. According to Council Speaker Christine Quinn, "Sick time can be used for an employee's physical or mental illness injury or medical care and for the same purposes when caring for a spouse, domestic partner, child or parent."

It should be noted however, that the paid sick leave law contains something called a "reverse trigger." This means that if by December 2013 the Independent Budget Office finds that the New York City Coincident Economic Index, a statistic that shows the current state of the economy, is below what it was in January 2012, the bill's implementation will be delayed by a year.

As always, if you have any questions or require additional information regarding these new laws and regulations, please do not hesitate to contact me at 516-921-3400, or at abpearl@ pmpher.com.

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Statement From Stuart S. Zisholtz, Esq.

Government Contracts Can Be Treacherous

Contracts with the City of New York and governmental agencies could be very treacherous.

In the past I have written articles indicating that when a contract with a governmental agency requires that change orders or claims for extras be submitted with five days after the extras are done, that provision will be enforced. You cannot bundle up a bunch of change orders and submit them a year after they have been completed and expect payment. Five days for change



orders means five days for change orders.

In a recent decision in January, 2013, an elevator company had a claim for \$117,000 against the New York City Housing Authority which was thrown out because the contract called for the filing of a Notice of Claim within twenty days after termination and the commencement of an action to recover the \$117,000 within one year. This hapless contractor challenged when the time should be calculated, etc., but nevertheless, he lost. Twenty days for a Notice of Claim is twenty days from when the claim accrues.

These public contracts are notorious for booby traps and if you are in that position, make sure you read the contract thoroughly, mark down the deadline dates and make sure that you comply with every requirement or you will find yourself having your claim dismissed.

Never let your lien time run out!!

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For a free copy of our pamphlet pertaining to mechanic's liens and payment bond claims, kindly contact me or the Association.

Stuart S. Zisholtz is a partner in the law firm of Zisholtz & Zisholtz, Mineola, New York, a general practice firm specializing in Construction Law and Mechanic's Liens. He is also a member of the Greater New York Chapter, ACCA. He can be reached at 516-741-2200. •

Monday, August 12th, 2013

9:00am Registration

11:30 am Shotgun Start

4:30 - 5:30 Cocktail Hour

9:30 am Breakfast

5:30 - 8:30 Dinner

ACCA 35th Annual Golf Outing

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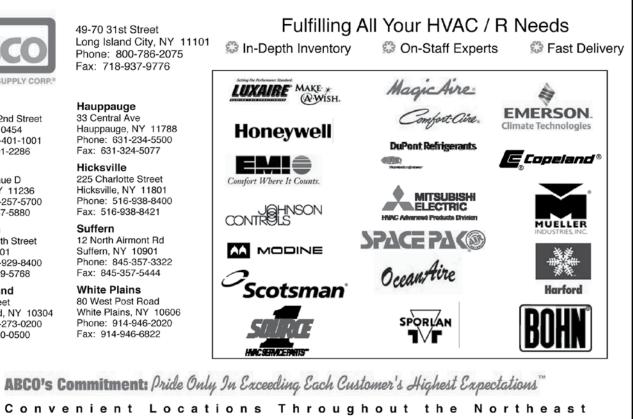
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