

**ALL EVENTS SUBJECT
TO CHANGE OR
CANCELLATION.**

MAY 2021

MAY

May 19
Meet the GC's Expo
*St. Charles
Convention Ctr*

JUNE

June 3
ASA Quick Hit
Virtual Round Table

June 25
**Friday Night Lights
Awards Gala**
The Four Seasons

JULY

July 21
Monthly DINNER Meeting
Syberg's on Dorsett

AUGUST

August 18
Monthly DINNER Meeting
Syberg's on Dorsett

SAVE THE DATES

Oct 4th | Golf Tournament
Dec 8th | Casino Night

For a full list of all
ASA Midwest Council events
visit www.asamidwest.com

Following the challenges we have experienced over the last year with the pandemic (which is not quite over yet), there are many new challenges looming in the very near future. I am hearing of many potential shortages of construction materials including plywood, galvanized strut, romex wire, and PVC to name a few. I speculate reasons for these shortages could be many – anticipated slower demand going into the pandemic, COVID related production slowdowns/shutdowns, tropical storms/floods, and then a sharp increase in demand currently. In addition to material shortages, cost escalation is starting to hit hard. And in many parts of the country, labor is in short supply. How are you going to deal with these issues? Could you mitigate the impact of these in modification of contract language? I don't have the answers, but I do have a robust network of smart people – varied subcontractors, material suppliers, CPAs, bankers, attorneys and more – who are ASA Midwest Council members. Together we can collaborate and often come up with innovative strategies and best practices. Consider this an invitation to get more involved with ASA and join in on the collaboration.

Over the last few months, the ASA Midwest Council has been transitioning back to our more traditional schedule and events. In March, we held a "BPI in a Box" lunch meeting which was well attended. Then this past month we had a traditional ASA Member Dinner Meeting including a BPI and a special guest speaker, Mr. Vladimir Monroe, director of Minority Business Development & Compliance, for St. Louis Development Corp. He presented and led discussion on current WBE/MBE participation goals, and how to meet the specific requirements. To supplement these live events, we are still offering the virtual Quick Hits as we find timely topics for discussion.

This month, on Wednesday, May 19th we will host our annual *Meet the GC's Expo at St. Charles Community Center*. Annually, this is a signature event for ASA Midwest, and one that most won't want to miss! While many are already fully vaccinated or in the process of getting vaccines, we are still committed to provide a safe and comfortable environment. We have intentionally procured a much larger than normal space to allow for proper social distancing. Response from General Contractor participants is very good, and it's shaping up to a great event with abundant reconnecting and networking opportunities.

Another signature event on the horizon is coming Friday, June 25th, as we present the ASA Midwest Council Awards Gala at the Four Seasons Hotel located downtown. The theme for this year is "Friday Night Lights". Proper attire could be as simple as a suit, a sport coat and tie, or a dress. As always, theme related garb is encouraged, and it is black tie optional. My plan is to break out the tux (as long as it still fits). I haven't had an opportunity to wear it since before the pandemic.

To register for both events, please go to the website (www.asamidwest.com) and watch for emails with information and details. I look forward to seeing all of you there and sharing fist bumps.

Looking further ahead, we're planning a dinner meeting in July, and you should get the GOLF TOURNAMENT entered in on your calendar for Monday, October 4th. Not wishing summer away, but definitely looking forward to it!

Richard A. Russell, Sachs Electric
President, ASA Midwest Council
rrussell@sachsco.com | 314.681.9849

Syberg's on Dorsett

2430 Old Dorsett Rd
Maryland Heights, MO

Directions: Exit HWY 270 at the Dorsett Exit.
Go east on Dorsett, and a left onto Old Dorsett
Road to Syberg's.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 12th!
REGISTRATION AVAILABLE online at www.asamidwest.com



**JULY 2021
Monthly DINNER Meeting**

***Syberg's on Dorsett
Wednesday, July 21 2021
5:30 to 8:00 p.m.***

Mark your calendar, and register to join us for the July monthly DINNER meeting on Wednesday, July 21st at 5:30 p.m. at Syberg's on Dorsett.

Our speakers for the evening will be our **3 GC of the Year Award Winners**, who will be announced at our Friday Night Lights Awards Gala on June 25th.

Join fellow ASA members and GC of the Year award winners for networking, cocktails, and dinner!

SYBERG'S ON DORSETT
2430 Old Dorsett Road
Maryland Heights, MO

MEETING AGENDA:

Networking & Cocktails 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Dinner & Announcements 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Program-3 GC of the Year Winners 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Registration includes hosted bar & dinner & Program

\$42 ASA Members
\$65 Non ASA Member

**Register online-www.asamidwest.com
by Friday, July 16th to reserve your spot.**

(Attendees not cancelled by 7.16.21. will be charged per ASA cancellation policy. No refund after 7.16.21., but you may always send someone in your place if you are unable to attend the meeting)



***MEET THE GC'S EXPO
Wednesday, May 19, 2021
3:00 to 7:00 p.m.***

**Make plans to join the ASA Midwest Council
19th Annual Meet the GC's Expo!**

***We will be following all CDC & local guidelines
to ensure the safest event possible
for our exhibitors & attendees!***

***THE ASA MEET THE GC'S EXPO IS THE PERFECT
OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH AND BUILD
RELATIONSHIPS WITH REPRESENTATIVES
FROM THE PREMIER STL AREA GC'S***

**Wednesday, May 19, 2021
St. Charles Convention Center**

REMINDER!

**As an ASA Midwest Council Member
you have early access to the GC Exhibitors!**

***MEMBER ONLY ACCESS-3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
ALL REGISTERED ATTENDEES-4:30 to 7:00 p.m.***

ST. CHARLES CONVENTION CENTER

1 Convention Center Plaza
St. Charles, MO 63303

**Registration includes | hosted bar & appetizers
ASA Members \$65 | after 5.5.21 \$80
NON Members \$95 | after 5.5.21. \$110**

***Register online-www.asamidwest.com
by Wednesday, May 12, 2021***

***Members must have website login to receive
the ASA member rate. If you do not login you
will be charged the non member rate!***

***If you need your login info please email:
susan@asamidwest.com***

***(Attendees not cancelled by 5.12.21. will be
charged per ASA cancellation policy. No refund after
5.12.21., but you may always send someone in your
place if you are unable to attend.)***

3 Things to Know as we GET BUSY

Walter Bazan, Jr.
BAZAN Painting Co.



#1 Coming out of this Pandemic we must re-acquaint with our customers. If you don't do it somebody else will and you can't afford to lose those clients. It is much easier to work a little bit to keep a client than to start over finding a new customer that will hopefully become a long-term client. You may want to budget extra marketing money this year.

A GREAT place to start is at the ASA Meet the GC's Expo on May 19th!

#2 Recently I was asked to sign a lien waiver in order to get paid for a job we performed. The lien waiver was not only for a particular dollar amount, but it was also covering a past time frame. Signing it could have meant that any change order not yet settled with the GC might not get paid because you give up your lien rights if the wording isn't right.

#3 When you are bidding a job be sure you are reviewing the General conditions and insurance requirements. It is hard to be a Jack of all trades so if you need help with this type of thing use your professional partners. I am speaking about your lawyer, CPA or insurance and bonding professionals. They are there to help you. As I have been told many times they are not an expense they are an Investment. They will save you money in the long run.



ASA Midwest Council's FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS 28th Annual Awards Gala Friday, June 25th, 2021



6:00 - 7:30 pm – President's Cocktail Reception | 7:45 - 9:00 pm – Dinner Served | 9:00 - 10:00 pm – Awards Presentation | 10:00 - 11:00 pm – Celebration!

TO REGISTER VISIT ASAMIDWEST.COM BY JUNE 16TH 2021
\$175 PER PERSON | VALET PARKING INCLUDED | BLACK TIE OPTIONAL

Contact the Four Seasons at 314.881.5757 before JUNE 10th to RESERVE room at ASA Rate of \$215
Four Seasons Hotel | 999 North Second St. | St. Louis, MO



ASA Midwest Council's FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS 28th Annual Awards Gala



2021 NOMINEES

General Contractor 2021

CATEGORY A

Alberici Constructors
ARCO Construction
BSI Constructors
Kadean Construction
L. Keeley Construction
Tarlton Corporation

CATEGORY B

Interface Construction Corp
Kozeny-Wagner
McGrath & Associates
Rhodey Construction

CATEGORY C

BEX Construction Services
Eagan Building Group
G. S. & S. Construction
SITELINES

MEP Subcontractor 2021

CATEGORY A

CE Jarrell Mechanical Contractors
Corrigan Co.
Guarantee Electrical Co.
Murphy Company
PayneCrest Electric, Inc.
Rock Hill Mechanical
Sachs Electric

CATEGORY B

Aschinger Electric
Bell Electrical Contractors, Inc.
Bi-State Fire Protection
Boyer Fire Protection
Haberberger, Inc.
O.J. Laughlin Plumbing Co.
Pipe and Duct Systems LLC
RF Meeh Co.

Specialty Subcontractor 2021

CATEGORY A

Affton Fabricating & Welding
BAZAN Painting Co.
Budrovich
Drilling Service Co.
Flooring Systems, Inc.
Niehaus Building Services
T.J. Wies Contracting, Inc.
Vee-Jay Cement Contracting Co., Inc.
Wies Drywall

CATEGORY B

Acoustical Ceilings, Inc.
AME Constructors
George McDonnell & Sons
Golterman & Sabo
Grant Masonry Contracting
Leach Painting Company
Meyer Painting Company
Swanson Masonry, Inc.

Service Provider/Supplier 2021

Enterprise Bank & Trust
JD Kutter
Negwer Door Systems

NuWay
Seal The Deal Too

Upcoming ASA Midwest Council Meetings & Events



- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <i>May 19</i> | <i>Meet the GC's Expo</i>
<i>St. Charles Convention Center</i> |
| <i>June 3</i> | <i>ASA Quick Hit Virtual Round Table Discussion</i> |
| <i>June 25</i> | <i>28th Annual Awards Gala-Friday Night Lights</i>
<i>The Four Seasons Hotel</i> |
| <i>July 21</i> | <i>ASA Monthly DINNER Member Meeting</i>
<i>Syberg's on Dorsett-GC of the Year Award Winners</i> |
| <i>August 18</i> | <i>ASA Monthly DINNER Member Meeting</i>
<i>Syberg's on Dorsett</i> |
| <i>October 4</i> | <i>ASA's 34th Annual Golf Tournament-SAVE THE DATE!</i>
<i>Whitmoor Country Club</i> |
| <i>December 8</i> | <i>ASA Member Holiday Party Casino Night-SAVE THE DATE!</i>
<i>Syberg's on Dorsett</i> |

VISIT WWW.ASAMIDWEST.COM TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE EVENTS!
Event registration requires member login, contact susan@asamidwest.com with questions!

***ASA Midwest Council is on Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn
Follow ASA Midwest Council
for the latest news and information!***



BUILDING. COMMUNITY.

MEET THE GC'S EXPO

Hosted by the American Subcontractors Association - Midwest Council



Wednesday, May 19th, 2021

St. Charles Convention Center



3:00 - 4:30 p.m. | ASA Member Early Access

4:30 - 7:00 p.m. | All Attendees Welcome

Advance Registration Required.

\$65 ASA Members | \$95 Non ASA Members

After May 5th deadline | Members \$80 | Non-Members \$110

Visit www.asamidwest.com to register by May 5, 2021

For More Information contact susan@asamidwest.com or 314.845.0855



All local and CDC guidelines will be followed to ensure the safest possible event for our exhibitors & attendees. This includes masks, social distancing and guidelines as of May 2021.

Registration at [**www.asamidwest.com**](http://www.asamidwest.com)

REMINDER | Members must login to receive the member price.

ASA Midwest Council needs your time and talent!



**Are you a new member looking to get more involved with the ASA?
Or perhaps you are a long time member, and have never joined a committee!**

**We are always looking for committee members to assist with our
quarterly events, as well as the ongoing committees,
that help run the organization & further ASA's goals!**

**If you are interested in joining a committee, contact executive director,
Susan Winkelmann 314.845.0855 or susan@asamidwest.com
*ASA Midwest Council has been Building. Community. Since 1967!***



DID YOU KNOW?

Check out the **Info Hub** on the ASA National Website for extra member benefits included in your membership!

www.asaonline.com, then member login to access the **Info Hub**

A few Areas to visit in the Info Hub Include:

- ✓ **Resources section.** There are hundreds of documents in the Resources section of the **Info Hub** that include critical COVID-19 information, sample contract language, negotiating tips, archived webinars, and so much more.
- ✓ **ASAdvantage.** In the Info Hub, there is a link to our ASAdvantage program. Members should spend time looking through what is available. Includes programs to save money with Office Max, UPS, Lenovo, Verizon Wireless, as well as discounts on software, and many other cost savings discounts.

You must login to the ASA National website to access the **Info Hub, and your login is different than your local ASA Midwest Council login information.**

If you need assistance logging in, please contact: Loni Warholic: lwarholic@asa-hq.com

As the 2021 legislative session enters its final stretch, things seem to be moving at a snail's pace in Jefferson City. Standoffs between House and Senate leadership, squabbles within the Senate Republican Caucus, and disagreements with the Governor have led to a slowdown in the General Assembly. While most Capitol observers have seen this before, all agree that the mood this year seems to be far worse than we have seen in a long time.

One bill that has garnered attention in the Senate recently is SB11, sponsored by Senate President Pro-Tem Dave Schatz, which establishes the Statewide Mechanical Contractor Licensing Act. The bill requires that any business engaging in mechanical contracting in Missouri must employ at least one licensed mechanical contractor. The Division of Professional Registration within the Department of Commerce and Insurance would oversee the licensing program. Rules are set forth within the legislation which dictate the licensing criteria. When Schatz brought the bill to the Senate floor, he was met with opposition almost immediately, and a lengthy debate spanning several hours ensued. Leading the charge was Senator Doug Beck, who held the floor for nearly the entire debate. Unable to reach a compromise, Schatz eventually laid the bill over to the informal calendar. It seems unlikely there will be a path forward for this or any similar legislation.

Another measure seeing time in the Senate is SB44, which modifies how water and sewer corporations can seek rate changes. The bill allows for a water or sewer company to seek modest rate increases every six months, instead of the current three-year time frame. The goal is to allow the companies to speed up the recovery of expenditures for infrastructure equipment, maintenance, and repairs. Included in the bill is a provision that mandates at least 20% of a water or sewer company's annual construction expenditures must be competitively bid. Once the bill was brought to the Senate floor, a nine-hour debate ensued, but eventually a compromise was reached, and the measure was approved by a 20-12 margin. The bill faces an uncertain future in the House.

The House Utilities Committee recently heard HB1164, a measure sponsored by Representative Aaron Griesheimer, which would create the Underground Damage Prevention Review Board.

The measure is designed to improve the process and timeliness of utility locates, with the board reviewing complaints and alleged violations of the underground safety and damage prevention statutes currently in law. The board could recommend a penalty, and the PSC would then issue an order imposing the penalty, if a complaint is found to have merit. ASA, SITE, CEC, Bi-State Utilities, and Platte Creek Utilities all testified in support of the bill. Spire, Mo. Association of Municipal Utilities, Missouri One Call, AT&T, and Metro St. Louis Sewer District all opposed the measure. A similar bill had been scheduled for a hearing in the Senate recently, but that hearing was cancelled due to an ongoing filibuster the previous night on the Senate floor. We do not expect either measure to advance this session. Conversations will continue in the interim to see if common ground can be reached on this issue.

The final day of the legislative session is May 14. The constitutional deadline to pass the state budget is May 7. Much of the legislative focus until May 7 will focus primarily on passage of the state budget for Fiscal Year 2022. The sticking point in the budget remains over whether or not the legislature will fund Medicaid Expansion. A constitutional amendment passed by the voters last August expanded Medicaid; however Republican budget leaders state that the Constitutional Amendment did not provide a funding mechanism and they will not appropriate money in the budget to expand Medicaid. We anticipate that the budget gridlock over Medicaid Expansion could impact other legislative priorities that have stalled in recent weeks. This will likely cause a flood of amendments in the final week of session as legislators and lobbyists try to get their priorities across the finish line prior to May 14.

We will continue to keep you updated through the weekly legislative update on legislative and political happenings in Jefferson City and around the state as the legislative session begins to draw to a close.

*If you are not receiving these weekly updates, please contact Susan Winkelmann
Nikki Strong, Strong Consulting Group.*

ASA Midwest Council Members

24/7 OnSite Cameras
Acoustical Ceilings, Inc.
Acropolis Technology Group
Affton Fabricating & Welding
AME Constructors
American Burglary & Fire, Inc.
American Steel Fabrication, Inc.
Anders CPAs + Advisors
Aqueduct Plumbing LLC
Archview Metal Systems Co.
Aschinger Electric
Aspen Waste Systems
Auto Trim Restyling
Bazan Painting Company
Bell Electrical Contractors
Benson Electric Company
Bick Group
Big Boy's Steel Erection
Bi-State Fire Protection Corp.
Bi-State Utilities Company
BluSky Restoration
Boyer Fire Protection
Brown Smith Wallace LLP
Budrovich
Building Point Mid-America
C.E. Bollmeier Company, Inc.
C. E. Jarrell Contracting
CK Power
CMIT Solutions
CNA Surety
CSA Advisors LLC
Cardinal Environmental Operations
CarsonAllaria Wealth Management
Cee Kay Supply
Century Fire Sprinklers, Inc.
Common Sense Solutions
Corrigan Company
Drilling Service Company
Dynamic Controls, Inc.
ELCO Chevrolet Cadillac
Empire Fence & Custom Iron Works
Enterprise Bank & Trust
Fabick CAT
Fenix Construction Co. of STL
The Fletcher Company
Flooring Systems, Inc.
Focal Pointe Outdoor Solutions, Inc.

Foreman Fabricators
Foundation Supportworks by Woods
Frost Supply
Galloway, Johnson, Tompkins,
Burr & Smith
George McDonnell & Sons
Golterman & Sabo
Grant Contracting
Grasser Electric
Guarantee Electrical
H & G /Schultz Door Inc.
HM Risk
Haberberger, Inc.
Hanenkamp Electric
Hansen's Tree, Lawn & Landscaping
Hawkins Construction & Flatwork
Hayden Wrecking
Heitkamp Masonry
Hoette Concrete
Ideas4Promos
Imperial Metal Company
Integrated Facility Services
Irwin Products
JD Kutter
J.F. Electric
J.W. Terrill
John J. Smith Masonry
Johnson Controls
K & K Supply, Inc.
Kaemmerlen Electric
Kaiser Electric
KAM's Mechanical LLC
Kay Bee Electric
Kent Companies
Kirberg Company
Kirby-Smith Machinery, Inc.
Knapheide Truck Equipment
Landesign LLC
Lawrence Fabric & Metal Structures
Leach Painting Company
Liberty Mutual Surety
Lindberg Waterproofing
Linek Plumbing Co.
Luby Equipment Services
Marketeer, Inc.
Meyer Painting Co.
MC Mechanical Services

Midwest Elevator
Mold Solutions
Montgomery Bank
Murphy Company
Negwer Door Systems
Niehaus Building Services
NuWay
O.J. Laughlin Plumbing Co.
On Site Companies, Inc.
P & A Drywall Supply
Parkway Construction Services
PayneCrest Electric
Pirtek Overland
Pipe and Duct Systems
Precision Analysis, Inc.
Professional Metal Works, LLC
R.F. Meeh Co.
RJP Electric
Ravensberg, Inc.
Rock Hill Mechanical Corp.
RubinBrown LLP
Sachs Electric Company
Sandberg Phoenix
Schmersahl Treloar & Co.
Seal the Deal Too
Seiler Instruments
SFW Partners, LLC
The Sherwin-Williams Co.
Show Me Industrial Services, Inc.
Signature Craft
Sikich LLP
St. Louis-KC Carpenters Reg Council
The Stockenberg Law Firm
Stylemaster Apparel, Inc.
Sunbelt Rentals
Swanson Masonry, Inc.
Titan Carpentry LLC
T.J. Wies Contracting
Taylor Excavating
TROCO Custom Fabrication
UHY LLP
United Rentals
Vee-Jay Cement Contracting
Wies Drywall and Construction
Woodard Cleaning and Restoration
Worksafe Technologies
Zurich Surety

Each month you will receive an update on the committees within ASA, to keep you informed on current happenings at the committee level. Below are this month's committee reports. Interested in joining a committee? Contact Susan Winkelmann, ASA Executive Director- susan@asamidwest.com or 314.845.0855



SAFETY

The ASA Midwest Council Safety Awards will be announced at our Friday Night Lights Awards Gala on Friday, June 25th 2021. Join us there!

Lets be **Always Safety Aware!** For additional information regarding the ASA Safety Committee, or to join the committee, contact our Safety Committee

Co-Chairs: Rose Kastrup with CSA Advisors at (417) 761-4194 or

Steve Williams with

Bell Electrical at

(314) 447-9071.



MEMBERSHIP

Help ASA Midwest Council continue to grow by introducing someone to all the benefits that ASA Midwest Council has to offer to the STL Construction Community. If you know a subcontractor who would benefit from the resources that ASA brings to its members, let us know. The benefits of ASA membership are many and our committee is very focused on adding quality new members. For Additional information contact our Membership Committee Chairperson, Chris O'Hagan, JD Kutter. (314) 444-4949 or chris@jdkutter.com.

CONTRACT REVIEW

Reading onerous proprietary subcontracts tendered by general contractors can be, and often is, frustrating, painful, upsetting, and frightful. If that happens to you, turn on some background music as you are reminded of what Plato said about it: "Music is a moral law. It gives a soul to the Universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, a charm to sadness, gaiety and life to everything. It is the essence of order, and leads to all that is good and just and beautiful." Granted, the music won't change the onerous contract terms, but it may make you a little less upset. You could also check to see if your Committee has already reviewed the contract.

If you have questions regarding the contract review service, contact committee chair, Dick Stockenberg, The Stockenberg Law Firm; richard@stockenberglawfirm.com

PROGRAMS

We have returned to some in person meetings and events this spring, including the Meet the GC's Expo on May 19th! As usual ASA members have member only access the first 1.5 hours of the expo. Register at www.asamidwest.com before May 12th. Do you have suggestions for future ASA MWC program topics, please contact our Programs Committee Chair: Chris O'Hagan, chris@jdkutter.com or executive director, Susan Winkelmann; susan@asamidwest.com

2021 COBRA Premium Subsidies

The latest round of COVID relief legislation that was signed into law in March (the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) included a provision to provide COBRA premium subsidies to help laid off employees and their beneficiaries retain health insurance coverage. COBRA provides certain employees and their beneficiaries with the right to retain coverage under an employer's group health plan for a set period of time following certain triggering events including when the employee is laid off.

Typically the cost of the COBRA premiums are born exclusively by the individual. However, the new law provides subsidies to cover 100% of the premiums for eligible individuals who qualify for COBRA coverage for the period from April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021. During this period, the qualifying individual does not have to remit COBRA premiums and instead the premium will be reimbursed directly to the employer, plan administrator or insurance company (depending on the nature of the plan) in the form of a tax credit.

Late last week, the Department of Labor (DOL) issued two new sets of FAQs to help employees and employers understand the new COBRA premium subsidies and COBRA in general. The DOL also issued new model notices that employers and plan administrators may use to satisfy their obligation to alert COBRA qualifying individuals of the COBRA premium subsidies. In the event of a termination/lay off or other action (such as a reduction in hours) that would end an employee's regular coverage under the group health plan and cause them to be eligible for COBRA.



Improve your Visibility on a Construction Site



On a construction site, where struck-by accidents are a constant concern, there's only one way to operate safely: as visibly as possible. Visibility is so important because, on a construction site, the visual landscape tends to be crowded and full of information. People going back and forth, machinery being operated, piles of materials and safety signs — between all of these, it can be tough for a heavy equipment operator to see that a worker is there before it's too late. And that doesn't even account for the many workers in highway construction zones who constantly work around vehicle traffic. How can construction workers make sure they're always working at the maximum level of visibility? We'll talk about hi-vis clothing, safety around vehicles and more key elements of construction site visibility.

1. Wear the required level of high visibility gear.

First and foremost, you should make sure that you're as easy to visually identify as possible. The easiest way to do this is by wearing the right high visibility gear. Start by reading up on the ANSI 107 standard and find out if you're required to wear hi vis gear with a certain ANSI rating.

There are tons of different types of hi vis gear, including construction vests, jackets, pants, and more. Most contracting companies will specify a required level of hi vis workwear for each job site, and some may even pay for their workers' gear. Whatever type it is, and whoever is paying for it, make sure that your visibility apparel is squared away before you set foot on the job site.

2. Add extra high visibility accessories to your workwear outfit. The more high visibility pieces on your outfit, the more you'll stand out in the visual field. Adding extras like hats and gloves can make a real difference in how easy it is for an equipment operator to see you in time to avoid an accident.

Some of these accessories, like hard hats, might be required by your job site safety rules. Others, like a hi-vis beanie on a cold day, might simply be common sense. Choose hi-vis gear that's compatible with the rest of your outfit — like a hi-vis balaclava that fits over your hard hat. It could make all the difference in whether a vehicle operator can see you or not.

3. Know vehicles' blind spots and stay clear of them.

Every large vehicle will have blind spots where the operator's vision can't reach. The exact location of the blind spot will vary between vehicles but, typically, a good rule is that if you can't see the vehicle operator, they can't see you. Stay out of these blind spots or alert the vehicle operator if you have to enter them.

Sometimes, it might be your job to give a large vehicle hand signals to help the vehicle operator back up or perform other operations. Vehicle signaling requires a definite knowledge of where the vehicle's blind spot is, and you need to be extremely careful not to accidentally step into it as you help direct the vehicle.

4. Use easily visible motions when giving a vehicle hand signals. As we just mentioned, a worker might sometimes need to give hand signals to a vehicle operator to help them back up the vehicle or complete another tricky task. When you're doing this, there are a couple of crucial safety precautions you should follow.

First, know the right construction hand signals to use so that you don't accidentally give the operator the wrong instructions. Second, make sure your movements are large and exaggerated when you're doing it. Don't go so over the top that you distort the motion of the signal but prioritize being seen and understood. Finally, again, make sure your hi vis gear is rated for the position you're working in.

5. Use the buddy system and/or lone worker devices to make sure you're never off the radar.

Working with others means there's always someone there to help in an emergency, but workers can have difficulty accessing help if an accident happens while they're working in an isolated part of the site. The first technique to prevent this, of course, is to work with a buddy instead of working alone.

In circumstances where you don't have a buddy, try to make sure you have a lone worker device or app to keep others informed on your safety status. These tools use a variety of methods to alert other workers if someone has an accident, such as scheduled check-ins or panic buttons. On job sites where you'll regularly be working alone, your management should be happy to provide lone worker devices for your safety.

6. Use extra caution when working in low-light conditions. Working in low light presents many additional dangers for construction workers. Sight distance will be considerably shorter, and the glare of headlights can momentarily obscure things until it's too late. Remember that low light doesn't just mean night work; inclement weather such as rain or snow can also significantly reduce visibility distance.

Any job site that involves work in low light conditions should have a well-defined safety plan for addressing potential issues. Hi-vis clothing should be a given, but other solutions such as floodlights and lighted signs may also have a role to play. Managers should be using all of the means at their disposal to make low-light work safer.

Safety always needs to be the number one value on any job, and visibility is one of the cornerstones of job site safety. Follow these tips and model them for others — you might be surprised at the value of a good role model for the safety culture on a job site.

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING AN UPCOMING MEETING?
ONLY \$250-CONTACT [SUSAN@ASAMIDWEST.COM](mailto:susan@asamidwest.com) FOR DETAILS!

NO NEW MEMBERS

Help ASA Midwest Council continue to grow, by inviting someone who would benefit from ASA membership, to join us at the next monthly meeting.

All first time non member guests are free of charge.

Please register your guest in advance by contacting susan@asamidwest.com

Join a committee today.



Membership

(Chris O'Hagan | Matt Tucker)

Education/Programs

(Chris O'Hagan)

Golf

(Jennifer Church | Steve Cummins)

Advocacy

(Tim Thomas)

Awards Gala

(Rick Swanson)

GC Expo

(Walter Bazan, Jr. | Tim Thomas)

Safety

(Rose Kastrup | Steve Williams)

Brand Development

(Stephanie Woodcock)

Contract Review

(Dick Stockenberg)

Affinity Programs

(Dianne Gibbs | Marty Hooper)

ASA Meeting Sponsorship

Highlight your company at an
ASA Monthly Meeting

Only \$250 to be a meeting sponsor.

What do you get for \$250?

*Full Color Sponsor Flyer
Slide in Meeting Presentation.
Microphone time to present company
overview to meeting attendees!
Announcement at Meeting.
Recognition in Newsletter.*

Contact Susan Winkelmann
susan@asamidwest.com
314 845-0855

Sponsorship Rates

Sponsorship opportunities are available in the ASA newsletter. Rates are very reasonable but are limited. Below are the rates. If interested, please call Susan at 314 845-0855.

- Website Rotating \$420/Year
- 1/4 Page Monthly \$300/Year
- 1/4 Page Quarterly \$125/Year
- 1/2 Page Monthly \$500/Year
- 1/2 Page Quarterly \$225/Year
- Business Card Monthly \$125/Year
- Business Card Quarterly \$70/Year
- Whole Page 1X \$300 Per Issue
- Whole Page Quarterly \$900/Year
- Classified Ads \$15 Per Issue

REGISTRATION AVAILABLE www.asamidwest.com



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