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NEW ENGLAND LABORERS' LABOR-MANAGEMENT COOPERATION TRUST

Marketing, Workforce Development Top Priorities for New England Laborers in 2007

The New England Laborers' Labor-Management Cooperation Trust (NELLMCT) worked to increase projects for Laborers and contractors, and to ensure that the workforce would be there to fill those jobs.

As part of its ongoing comprehensive marketing campaign, NELLMCT developed a project alert postcard to notify Laborers' business agents and signatory contractors about upcoming projects of interest within the Laborers' New England Region. Among the projects planned and likely to materialize in the Region are those involving utility work, wind power, and power plant construction. These expanding markets offer Laborers and their signatory contractors significant work opportunities, and NELLMCT staff continued to monitor and research these markets to identify upcoming projects and assess workforce needs. The affiliate is working with the New England Laborers' Training Academy (NELTA) to ensure that Laborers can meet those needs.

NELLMCT also continued to support the development of LIUNA's future workforce by helping to win additional state funding for the New England Laborers'/Cranston Public Schools (NEL/CPS) Construction Career Academy. The affiliate lobbied for, and secured, a \$300,000 grant from the Rhode Island Department of Education to build a construction technology laboratory on the school's campus in Cranston, Rhode Island. NELLMCT worked with NELTA and the New England Laborers' Public Relations and Media Department to plan the facility's ribbon-cutting ceremony and skills demonstration, which attracted contractors, elected officials, and industry leaders. The Construction Career Academy is one of the only construction-centered public charter high schools in the United States.



PHOTO BY ROBERT SHERSON/NELLMCT

A New England Laborer participates in welder certification training at the New England Laborers' Training Academy (NELTA) in Hopkinton, Massachusetts. NELLMCT works with NELTA and the Laborers' New England Regional Office to develop a safe, skilled, productive construction workforce.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Assisted in securing passage of a New Hampshire law requiring construction workers on public projects to take an OSHA 10-hour safety training course, bringing to four the number of New England states with such a requirement.
- Lobbied the Connecticut legislature to make willful misclassification of employees as independent contractors a Class D Felony.
- Secured passage of legislation in Maine barring repeat violators of state environmental laws from work on Department of Environmental Management projects.

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