



**News & Quick Links**

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Look for the **Bold RED** to quickly access links in our newsletter

**wtagc.org**

**Slow payments getting slower for GCs, subs**

The average payment turnaround for general contractors and subcontractors is 51 days, and slow payments come at an annual cost of \$64 billion, up \$24 billion from last year, according to a study by construction finance platform Rabbet. A reputation for late payments caused more than 60% of subcontractors to not bid on certain projects.

On a positive note, the Rabbet survey found that 95% of general contractors understand the value of paying subcontractors on time. In fact, almost 75% of general contractors reported paying more frequently than once a month. **Read the Full Story HERE**

**New OSHA weighting system could lead to more inspections**

Effective Oct. 1, OSHA put a new weighting system in place for workplace safety and health inspections for fiscal year 2020. The new OSHA Weighting System (OWS) replaces the former time-centric program, which was **implemented in 2015**.

The OWS will expand the system to include three major functions performed in the field: enforcement activity, essential enforcement support functions like complaint resolution and compliance assistance. **Read full article HERE**

**The 2019 Texas Inauguration Cost A Record \$5.3 Million. Where Are the Receipts?**

*Air Force fighter planes fly over the state Capitol during the oath of office ceremony for Gov. Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick in January.*

**The Texas Tribune is suing to discover what happened to millions raised mostly from top lobbying firms, corporations, wealthy businesspeople and trade groups for the inauguration of Gov. Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick.**

Appointees of Gov. Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov Dan Patrick raised a record-setting \$5.3 million for the 2019 inaugural festivities, two days' worth of VIP events that included a ball with country crooner George Strait and a candlelight dinner with the state's top elected officials.

They reported spending every dollar of it. But don't ask for any receipts. Read more **HERE**

**Safety Tips**

**Are Trench Excavations Confined Spaces?**

Today's Safety Tips include a safety training on trenching and terms for confined spaces along with requirements in confined spaces. Checklists are an asset on the jobsite providing increased safety to employees. Attached to today's newsletter is a **Field Guide for Digging Operations** and a **check list for Confined Spaces**. If there are checklists or safety topics you would like to have, please contact our West Texas office at 325.676.7447 for additional resources.

**West Texas AGC Membership Required for access to Planroom**

**West Texas Chapter AGC Contact Information**

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## 811/Underground utility safety and damage prevention program published

The Utility Infrastructure Division (UID) has published its, ***Elements of an Effective Underground Utility Safety and Damage Prevention Program***. The document, developed in concert with AGC's Highway & Transportation Division, will help contractors improve and memorialize their overall underground utility safety and damage prevention/811 program. Multiple resources have been assembled to help improve safety, protect underground utilities and provide ways and means to keep a reliable program record. This will help contractors gauge their program's effectiveness, keep track of other stakeholders' veracity in performing their responsibilities, structure data reporting and provide the wherewithal to defend against sometimes frivolous utility damage claims and collection activities. **Read more.**

## Construction Hazards in Focus

Not all construction industry hazards are created equally. Some are so dangerous that they have earned special attention from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). They're called the **focus four**, and they collectively account for nearly 60 percent of construction worker deaths. Eliminating the accidents would save 500 lives per year, according to OSHA. Texas Mutual encourages employers and their workers to do their part. **Click Box to Download 'Safety in a Box apps'**



## 2020 Construction Safety Excellence Awards

AGC of America announces its Twenty-first Annual Construction Safety Excellence Awards sponsored by Willis Towers Watson. Please visit **[www.agc.org/CSEA](http://www.agc.org/CSEA)** to access the application.

The Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) Construction Safety Excellence Awards (CSEA) program is the industry's elite safety excellence awards program. AGC's CSEA program recognizes companies that have developed and implemented premier safety and loss prevention programs. The program also showcases companies that have achieved continuous improvements and maintenance of their safety and health management systems.

First, Second and Third Place Division/Category Awards: Applicants will be competing in each of the following divisions: Building (GC Only), Construction Management, Heavy, Utility Infrastructure, Highway, Specialty Contractor, and Vendor and Supplier. Categories will be determined, on a sliding scale, based on the number of hours worked by applicants during the award year.

**Grand Award:** The Grand Award recipient will be selected from the first-place award winners represented in each division/category. This award is granted to the "Best of the Best" for the CSEA program.

The deadline for submitting applications is **Friday, December 13, 2019**

**As an AGC 'West Texas AGC' member, there are many benefits/discount savings programs and ways to help your company develop professionally and with profitability. Find out more at [wtagc.org](http://wtagc.org) or call 325.676.7447.**

### Our Newest Programs include:

- **401 (k) Plan**
- **Group Health Plan**

## AGC's Project Manager Development Program 2nd Edition

January 20 - 24, 2020 | San Antonio, TX | **Register Click [HERE](#)**

**Member Registration Fee: \$1,600 | Non Member Registration Fee: \$2,200**

Hosted in conjunction with the AGC San Antonio Chapter.

PMDP combines expert instruction from experienced project managers, group activities, and shared experiences to provide the necessary skills and knowledge to prepare participants to meet the challenges of successfully managing a construction project.

This recently updated 40-hour in-seat classroom training was developed by AGC member company project managers and is designed for aspiring and/or less-experienced construction project managers.

The revised program takes participants through the management of the entire life-cycle of a construction project and contains the following five units:

- Unit 1: Introduction to Project Management
- Unit 2: Initiating and Planning, Part 1
- Unit 3: Initiating and Planning, Part 2
- Unit 4: Executing
- Unit 5: Monitoring and Controlling, and Project Closeout

## What All General Contractors Need to Know About Subcontractor Workers' Compensation

*A subcontractor with inadequate workers' compensation could cause severe damage to your construction company.*

If you hire a subcontractor who either doesn't carry workers' compensation or who doesn't have the right kind of coverage your business could suffer the consequences. Two of the biggest and most detrimental risks include financial expense to your company and worker limitations. **Read article – [click HERE](#)**

## **JOB POSTINGS | ADVERTISEMENTS**

### **LEE LEWIS CONSTRUCTION, INC. | FULL TIME ESTIMATOR**

#### **Full Job Description**

Estimating for commercial, educational, healthcare and institutional construction projects for a well-established and industry leading construction company.

#### **Typical Duties**

- Ability to perform all estimating functions accurately.
- Acquire plans, read specifications, prepare a list of subcontractor bids needed, plan distribution, quantity take-off, manage pricing, manage requests for information to the design team, addenda distribution, prepare and conduct pre-bid meetings.
- Thorough understanding of industry practices, processes, standards, etc. and their impact on project activities.
- Visit job sites under construction to observe construction and how it affects the pricing for each project we are awarded.
- Work with project managers in order to understand job buyout, subcontractor reference checks.
- Work with subcontractors and suppliers to develop relationships.

#### **Education and Experience**

Construction Engineering Degree or equivalent, plus three – five years of experience/knowledge in working in the commercial construction industry.

- ✓ Superior communication and interpersonal skills, team player and a “get it done” attitude. Proven experience and judgment.

#### **Submit resumes to:**

Lee Lewis Construction, Inc.

Attn: Kirk Hughlett, Vice President - Chief Estimator 7810 Orlando Ave  
Lubbock, Tx 79423 [khughlett@leelewis.com](mailto:khughlett@leelewis.com)

**West Texas AGC | your Chapter • AGC | your Association**  
*Working together on your behalf, to be the most professional and profitable company,  
in your specialized field and area of expertise*  
**AGC of America • The Construction Association**