R.J. Koning Electric, Inc. Honored as 25-Year NECA Member

Family-owned contractor displays broad capabilities in projects at Raytheon, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, MSPCA, and Harvard University

A tribute to commitment and service – NECA Eastern Region Field Representative Ben Nest, Robert J. Koning, Sr., NECA Boston President Joseph Bodio, Robert J. Koning, Jr., NECA Boston Executive Manager Glenn Kingsbury at September Chapter Meeting at the Seaport Hotel in Boston. To commemorate 25 years as a member of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the full-service electrical contractor, R.J. Koning was specially recognized at the September 24th NECA Boston Chapter meeting at the Seaport Hotel in Boston. To commemorate the milestone, company president Robert J. Koning, Jr., and founder, Robert J. Koning, Sr. were presented the NECA 25-Year Member Award by NECA Eastern Region Field Representative Ben Nest.

A family-owned and operated company, R.J. Koning Electric was founded in 1979 and joined NECA in 1990. The company is deeply rooted in Massachusetts' electrical construction industry, as three generations of the family have been members of IBEW Local 103. Bill Koning, uncle of Robert, Jr. and Richard Koning (Rob’s brother and Vice President of R.J. Koning Electric), was prominent in the electrical industry until the late 1970s, having successfully run William Koning Electric Company for many years.

R.J. Koning Electric, which was one of several NECA contracting firms that evolved from William Koning Electric, has served prominent clients across diverse market sectors throughout its history. In its earliest days, the company provided electrical services for a number of clients including MIT, MSPCA and Faneuil Hall Marketplace (aka Quincy Market). Also in the early 1980s, R.J. Koning’s project work for Kennedy Memorial Hospital (now Franciscan Hospital for Children) and Bank of New England helped solidify the company.

Today, R.J. Koning is well-diversified, providing comprehensive electrical upgrades and power distribution services, as well as tenant fit-out, lighting, fire alarm, tel/data and security system installations for prominent corporate and commercial facilities, hospitals, universities, retail stores, and banking facilities throughout eastern Massachusetts.

The firm's wide-ranging and dynamic capabilities are exemplified in a number of current and recent high profile projects, including:

Raytheon, Woburn, MA – Fire Alarm System Upgrade

R.J. Koning served as the prime contractor in providing a comprehensive fire alarm system upgrade to the 450,000 square-foot facility in 2014. The NECA contractor upgraded the facility’s horn/strobe system to a voice system, while building an entirely new push button infrastructure to support it. The comprehensive project required that all new addressable fire alarm devices be installed and programmed throughout the facility. Koning also installed specialty isolation modules on speaker circuits to meet the defense contractor’s high-level security requirements. The project was handled in an aggressive three-month schedule, from July through September 2014, to meet the owner’s special incentive requirements. A crew of 12 to 15 Local 103 electricians provided installations in the high-security facility. R.J. Koning partnered with Siemens on the project, as the fire alarm equipment manufacturer served as a subcontractor to the NECA member.

Faneuil Hall Marketplace – Uniqlo Fire Alarm and Quincy Market Fire Alarm System Upgrade

R.J. Koning has recently brought the new Uniqlo retail space at Faneuil Hall Marketplace online. Partnering with fire alarm service contractor, APA Protective Systems, the NECA member built comprehensive fire alarm system upgrades at the approximately 160,000 square-foot Raytheon facility in Billerica. The contractor commenced work on October 5th and the fast-track project is required to be completed by December 1, 2015. Koning is supervising a crew of six Local 103 electricians. Koning is serving as a subcontractor to Raytheon and working in collaboration with Siemens.

Deputy Secretary Carolyn Kirk Discusses Economic Development in Massachusetts at Boston Chapter Meeting

Deputy Secretary Carolyn Kirk, Massachusetts Deputy Secretary for Housing and Economic Development, was the guest speaker at NECA Boston’s Fall Chapter Meeting at the Seaport Hotel on September 24th. She spoke of new statewide initiatives introduced by the Baker administration that promise to spur continuing economic growth throughout all sectors of the economy and that will have a major impact on the construction industry. One example is the Massachusetts Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP), a tax incentive program designed to foster job creation and spur business growth throughout the State. The tax credit program is focused on making Massachusetts more competitive for companies looking to expand in the Commonwealth, offering tax incentives for communities that will result in millions of dollars in investments. Kirk referenced that 50,500 jobs have been generated in the Bay State since Governor Baker took office in January. Secretary Kirk was joined at the meeting by Tim Wilkerson, State Director of Economic Policy Development.

Speaking of a bright future...

Michael McDonald, President of McDonald Electrical Corp. and Secretary of NECA Boston Chapter gave a presentation on the electrical construction industry, also relating his educational background and industry experience at the NECA/Wentworth Student Chapter meeting at Wentworth Institute in September.
R.J. Koning Electric Completes Projects at Faneuil Hall, MSPCA and Harvard (continued)

Faneuil Hall Marketplace – Uniqlo Fire Alarm (continued)

a new fire alarm backbone infrastructure in this parallel system renovation. The project scope included installation of a new fire alarm command center and cross-tripping to the existing fire alarm system. In December, the firm will begin providing the fire alarm upgrade to the remainder of the Quincy Market Building. All buildings will be retrofitted to a new Notifier fire alarm voice annunciation system. The facility’s age presents logistical challenges that will be met by Koning and project team engineering firm, R.W. Sullivan. Work will be performed for Quincy Market’s property management company, Jones Lang LaSalle.

MSPCA-Angell – Expansion Projects and Electrical Upgrade

In November, R.J. Koning expects to start working on installation of additional exam rooms, and the upgrade of dental, radiology and endoscopy areas at the MSPCA. In 2016, the company will upgrade the facility’s 15kV electrical distribution system in partnership with fellow NECA contractor, State Electric Corporation. Koning Electric also provided a new MRI suite at the MSPCA in 2014, teaming with general contractor Shawmut Construction. Numerous recent projects the firm has handled have also been integral to the Angell’s expansion, including installation of a linear accelerator, CT scanner, and new electric chillers and controls.

Harvard University’s William James Hall Electrical Upgrade

In the educational sector, the contractor completed Harvard University’s William James Hall lecture hall electrical upgrade project in 2014. The project included installation of new power distribution and fire alarm systems, lighting and a Lutron graphic eye lighting control system. Koning has also completed electrical upgrades to the building’s 10th, 14th and 15th floors, and a complete upgrade to the building’s fire alarm system, including new command center and riser infrastructure upgrade.

Discussing what NECA membership has meant to R.J. Koning Electric, president Rob Koning said, “Goodwill between NECA contractors is unparalleled. It has been helpful in many aspects of the business. Associations with other contractors have helped generate business and build partnerships in projects where expertise in specialized areas of electrical construction is required. Though we often compete for some of the same projects, NECA allows us to build relationships and partnerships with our peers. We look to handle our work with the best in the business and the Association allows us to share ideas with, and when required, projects with the industry’s best contractors.”

What are the reasons for his firm’s successful 25-year track record? Koning said, “Performance and consistency in meeting completion dates are critical. Clients expect performance and the construction business requires strong work ethics and punctuality. We take pride in our longstanding relationships with clients. And, in recent years our company has been able to build solid new relationships with many leading general contractors in the Greater Boston area.”

Congratulations on work well done, and here’s to the next 25!

In the world of construction, quality and safety are critical to every project. Which is why leading architects, general contractors, building owners, and facility managers throughout Eastern New England rely on the skilled union electricians of Local 103 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the professional electrical contractors of the Greater Boston Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA). For more than a century, IBEW and NECA have literally helped build our region. From our most cherished historical sites and renowned educational institutions, to major transportation projects, leading technology companies, community schools, and libraries, our landmarks shine light on a century of electrical construction unsurpassed in quality.

Take a closer look at just a few of the recently completed projects by NECA Greater Boston Chapter members. It will tell you where to turn for the highest standards in electrical, telecom, and renewable energy construction. Rely on the power of quality electrical work. Call 1-877-NECA-IBEW for a complete directory of NECA Greater Boston Chapter Members, or visit us at www.bostonnea.org.

The future of renewable energy and green buildings is here.

For a complete directory of NECA Greater Boston Chapter member firms, call 1-877-NECA-IBEW or visit us at www.bostonnea.org.