PROJECT NEWS SPOTLIGHT

Mass Bay Electrical Shines in MBTA Forest Hills Station Busway Upper Canopy Electrical Renovation

Architect and Engineer: AECOM, Boston, MA; GC: Barletta Heavy Division, Canton, MA

Mass Bay Electrical Corp., based in East Boston, has completed all electrical and lighting installations associated with the MassDOT’s Casey Arborway renovation project at Forest Hills Station Upper Busway Canopy. The project entailed installation of LED architectural lighting systems, passenger information system, paging system, passenger emergency call system, and fire alarm system.

The NECA Boston contractor met the fast-track, compressed schedule in a timely fashion, commencing work on November 1, 2018 and completing the project by mid-April 2019.

Project Executive Rick Broderick, Project Manager Mike Walsh and Foreman Chris Boyer headed the Mass Bay Electrical project team, managing a crew of seven IBEW Local 103 electricians. The NECA contractor worked in close coordination with the project’s architectural engineering firm AECOM and general contractor Barletta Heavy Division.

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Aldon Electric Completes Radius Apartments, 530 Western Avenue, Brighton, MA

NECA contractor teams with Architect: Prellwitz Chilinski Associates, Inc., Cambridge, MA; GC: Cranshaw Construction, Newton Lower Falls, MA; EE: WSP, Boston, MA; Developer: Mount Vernon Company, Boston, MA

Aldon Electric, Inc., headquartered in Weymouth, MA, has completed electrical construction of the new six-story, 171,244 square-foot Radius Apartments project, overlooking the Charles River and Boston skyline at 530 Western Avenue in Brighton.

The core and shell electrical construction project included all electrical installations for the level one parking garage, lobby, four residential floors comprised of 132 apartments, and a sixth floor rooftop / amenity space. Aldon’s comprehensive electrical scope included installation of primary and emergency power, electrical distribution, interior and exterior lighting and the state-of-the-art Lutron lighting control system, a HoneywellNotifier fire alarm system, and fit-out of all residential units.

The NECA Boston contractor also handled commissioning of the fire alarm system and is providing system monitoring. Tel/data installations were handled by Boxborough, MA-based Comm-Tract, working as a subcontractor to Aldon Electric.

The residential building’s sixth floor rooftop and amenity space is equipped with a fitness center, a meditation room with fiber optic lighting designed to replicate a star constellation, as well as exterior grilling stations, a fire pit, and outdoor seating enhanced by specialty overhead canopy lighting and LED accent lighting. The amenity space also includes a demonstration kitchen.

Aldon Electric managed a field crew ranging upwards of 16 IBEW Local 103 electricians at peak construction. The project team was headed by Project Manager Brendan Dilgard and Foreman Jason Ennis. Aldon commenced construction in December 2017 and the project was completed as scheduled, in May 2019.

The building’s physical length and unique design made it necessary to divide the construction project into four sections, which added to the scheduling and logistical challenges. Project Manager Dilgard commented, “The project required effective planning and management of equipment deliveries and scheduling of crews in close coordination with the general contractor, Cranshaw Construction, to ensure the owner’s schedule and budget requirements were met.”

The Radius project is designed and constructed to achieve LEED Silver Certification with numerous energy-efficiency features, including Nest Thermostats, LED lighting, and electric car charging stations.
On June 6th, 220 IBEW Local 103 apprentices graduated from Greater Boston’s industry-leading JATC Apprenticeship program at the 72nd annual Apprentice Graduation ceremony, held at the Local 103 Union Hall. The graduating class includes 195 new journeymen electricians from the Electrical Training Program and 25 technicians from the Telecommunications Program. The five-year training programs include 1,000 hours of intensive classroom instruction and 10,000 hours on-the-job field training. The JATC Greater Boston training program is co-sponsored by NECA Boston Chapter and IBEW Local 103.

Boston Chapter Executive Manager Glenn Kingsbury (shown above) and Local 103 Business Manager Lou Antonellis were commencement speakers. Featured guest speaker, Nic Bittle, founder of Work Force Pro, addressed the graduates with a message focused on building relationships, leadership, and performance at the highest level on a daily basis.

**Massachusetts Delays Start of Paid Family and Medical Leave Contributions by 3 Months**

On June 11, 2019, Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker, Senate President Karen Spilka, and House Speaker Robert DeLeo announced an agreement to delay the start of employer contributions to the new Massachusetts Paid Family and Medical Leave program until Oct. 1, 2019 (a three-month extension from the prior deadline of July 1, 2019). The delay comes with an increase in the payroll tax rate from 0.63% to 0.75% to fund the program, effective October 2, 2019.

In a joint statement, they announced: “To ensure businesses have adequate time to implement the state’s Paid Family and Medical Leave program, the House, Senate, and Administration have agreed to adopt a three-month delay to the start of required contributions to the program. We will also adopt technical changes to clarify program design. We look forward to the successful implementation of this program this fall.”

NECA electrical contractors provide a comprehensive range of electrical services for diverse projects, large and small. Working in partnership with the union electrical industries in Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire (IBEW Local Unions 103 in Boston, 490 in Concord, NH, 1253 in Augusta, ME and 567 in Lewiston, ME), the NECA Boston Chapter and its contractors have an unwavering commitment to bring the highest levels of experience, quality, reliability, and safety to each construction project.

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