



# Watt's Current

## at the Minneapolis Electrical JATC

December 2023

### Apprentice of the Month

The Milwaukee Tool Apprentice of the month for December is fifth year wireman: **Berhanu Senbeta**

Congratulations Berhanu!

### Code Corner

What is the minimum number of receptacle outlets and minimum number of 120 Volt, 20-ampere branch circuits required for 65 feet of show window?

*Answer will appear in next month's newsletter.*

Last month's answer: The maximum allowable length of PVC with out requiring the use of an expansion fitting would be 5.13 feet. In accordance with 352.44, if the length change will exceed 1/4" per Table 352.44(A), then an expansion fitting is needed. For a change of 120 degrees (100 – negative 20), the coefficient is 4.87 in. / 100 feet.  $(4.87 / 100) * \text{Length} = .25"$ , therefore, length =  $(.25" * 100) / 4.87 = 5.13$  feet. The expansion fitting should be set per the manufacturer's instructions according to 110.3(B). Typically a line is marked in the center of the fitting to allow for the fitting to both contract and expand for the raceway. It should not be set fully closed or fully open.

### Feedback

Questions, comments, or something you'd like to see in a future newsletter? Email Anna at [amarx@mplsjatc.org](mailto:amarx@mplsjatc.org).

### Happy Holidays from the JATC!

Wishing you a joyous holiday season filled with laughter, warmth, and the company of loved ones! As we wrap up another incredible year of learning and growth in your apprenticeship journey, take a moment to reflect on your achievements. May the festive spirit bring you renewed energy and inspiration for the exciting challenges that lie ahead. Cherish the memories made, embrace the lessons learned, and enter the new year with enthusiasm. With all of that being said, I know the unfortunate part of this season is some of you are experiencing unemployment. We don't take this lightly and are hopeful that we can get you back out soon. The work picture for the upcoming year looks very bright. I am hearing of many opportunities on the horizon. The upcoming year may be one of the busiest we have seen in some time.

Thank you for your dedication and hard work. Happy holidays, IBEW 292 apprentices! May the coming year be filled with even more opportunities, success, and moments of pure happiness for all of you.

Trevor Turek, Assistant Training Director

| DECEMBER 2023   |                     |                        |                     |                                      |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| M   | T                   | W                      | T                   | F                                    |
|   |                     |                        |                     | 1                                    |
| 4   | 5                   | 6                      | 7                   | 8                                    |
| APPR CLASS - WEEK 11 OF 30 (SENIOR SPARKY WEEK)             |                     |                        |                     | MEMBERS XMAS PARTY AT 292 HALL 5-9PM |
|   |                     | 6PM ST. CLOUD MTG      |                     |                                      |
| 11  | 12                  | 13                     | 14                  | 15                                   |
| APPR CLASS - WEEK 12 OF 30 (FAIR CONTRACTING PRESENTATIONS) |                     |                        |                     | 9AM JATC MTG                         |
|   | 5:30PM 292 MTG      | TOYS FOR TOTS DEADLINE |                     |                                      |
| 18  | 19                  | 20                     | 21                  | 22                                   |
| APPR CLASS - WEEK 13 OF 30                                  |                     |                        |                     | JATC CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE (OBSERVED) |
| 2PM COCOA & COOKIES   | 2PM COCOA & COOKIES | 2PM COCOA & COOKIES    | 2PM COCOA & COOKIES |                                      |
| 25  | 26                  | 27                     | 28                  | 29                                   |
| NO APPRENTICESHIP CLASS                                     |                     |                        |                     | JATC CLOSED NEW YR'S EVE (OBSERVED)  |
| JATC CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY                                   |                     |                        |                     |                                      |

## Ask a Senior Sparky

Each month we will present questions anonymously from the apprentices to the 292 Retiree Group. They will choose one to respond to in a future newsletter. If you would like to submit a question for consideration, please drop it off at the front desk or email to Anna at [amarx@mplsjatc.org](mailto:amarx@mplsjatc.org).

Dear Senior Sparky,

As an apprentice, I enjoy control work, how do I get into doing more control work in the future?

Sincerely, Apprentice

Dear Apprentice,

It would be recommended that you take as many courses as possible at the JATC that relate to controls such as PLCs, VFDs, and Building Automation. Have a conversation with the labor manager of the shop to express your interest in doing control work. If you are not at a shop that does control work, talk to the Training Director about transferring to a shop that does.

Sincerely, Senior Sparky

Thank you to the Retirees for their insight & wisdom from many years of experience in the electrical field.

12/4-12/7 is Senior Sparky Week at the JATC. Please stop by the Commons during afternoon break to chat with the retirees and enjoy some coffee and cookies.

## Toys for Tots

The JATC is collecting Toys for Tots again this year. New, unwrapped toys can be donated by placing them in the marked bin in the Commons next to the Christmas tree. Cash & gift card donations can be made at the Front Desk and will be used to purchase additional toys. Donations will be accepted through 12/13. See the front desk if you have any questions. Thank you to all who participate in this event and who have donated in past years.

## IDEAL Challenge Champion - Jose Renteria

Congratulations to our 2023 graduate, Jose Renteria, who won the top spot at the 8th annual IDEAL National Championship in Tampa. Jose competed against nine other top qualifying apprentices from across the country to complete two projects judged on some of the most important tenets of the electrical industry: accuracy, workmanship, and safety. In addition to winning the title of Champion, Jose also received the \$40,000 grand prize.

The original live stream videos of the championship rounds are available to view on the IDEAL Facebook page.



Images Courtesy of:  
IDEAL Industries, Inc.



## Harassment Reporting

The JATC takes a firm non-tolerant stance on harassment, as does the IBEW and NECA. If you have witnessed unlawful harassment of any kind on the jobsite or at the JATC it should be reported immediately to your shop, the JATC, and/or the 292 Hall.

New forms will soon be available on our website under the Apprentice Forms tab that can assist you with reporting harassment. No one should feel uncomfortable at work, so please speak up if you or others around you are experiencing negative behavior.

## Upcoming Affinity Group Meetings & Events

**EWMC** 12/15 Holiday Wish List Gift Wrapping Event at IBEW 292 Hall at 4:30pm  
12/16 Heritage Commons Volunteer Event at IBEW 292 Hall at 10:30am  
Contact EWMC for more info: [ewmc@ibew292.org](mailto:ewmc@ibew292.org) or 612-513-5440

**RENEW** 12/26 Meeting at IBEW 292 Hall at 4:30pm

**SIS** 12/12 Meet for happy hour at Mad Jack's Sports Cafe in Brooklyn Park at 4pm before attending the General Membership Meeting

**Vets** No events scheduled for December