



# CURRENTS

SAN DIEGO ELECTRICAL TRUSTS

Issue 63

June 2012

## TRANSFERRING HOURS VIA RECIPROCALITY

The Trust Office receives regular inquiries from participants who are, or had been, working outside of the jurisdiction of Local 569 relative to when they will receive credit for their hours worked in another IBEW jurisdiction. First, it is important to recognize that the local Trusts have no means of monitoring or controlling when hours worked in another jurisdiction will be transferred back to these Trusts in contrast to the very close scrutiny given to the remittance of all hours and contributions due for work performed within the Local Union 569 jurisdiction. The collective bargaining agreements governing work within the jurisdiction of Local 569 require that all report forms and contributions for hours worked in any particular calendar month are received by the 15th (or first business day following) of the next month. It then takes the remainder of the month for the Trust Office to process all of these reports and then credit each participant with those hours for Health & Welfare and Pension purposes, whichever is applicable. For example, April work hours are due to be reported by May 15th and it is not until the first few days of June that all such hours are actually credited and participant eligibility records updated.

Conversely, when a local participant travels to another IBEW Local jurisdiction the collection of those hours and contributions is the sole responsibility of the Board of Trustees in that particular jurisdiction. It is also a requirement under their collective bargaining agreements that the employer remit all hours and contributions to the visiting Trusts to be processed by their Trust Office. **If, and only if, the traveling employee has registered in ERTS to have their hours transferred back to their designated Home Fund** will the visiting Fund be in a position to transfer the hours and contributions back to their Home Fund. However, it should be understood that there will be at least a one month delay in the Home Fund receiving any hours/contributions via the reciprocal system. In some cases it can take 2-3 additional months depending on when the hours/contributions are actually received by the visiting Fund(s).

When there are delays in receiving reciprocal hours from other Trusts, even if the participant has their pay stubs, it is possible they may receive a notice advising that their health insurance coverage may be terminated due to their Reserve Account being short of the necessary hours required to maintain coverage for a particular month.

Upon receipt of reciprocal hours they will be processed with all other reported hours received in that calendar month and must be credited to the month in which they were worked in the same fashion as if they had been worked and reported locally on a timely basis. Therefore, it is very important to understand that when working out of town, participants should pay very close attention not only to the timely reporting of their hours to the Trust Funds where the work is performed, but that they are properly registered online to have their hours transferred (for Health & Welfare and/or Pension) back to the Local Union 569 related Trusts and that the Trust Office receiving their hours/contributions is prompt in scheduling them for transfer. In the interim, participants who remit a Direct Payment to maintain continuous health coverage will be refunded any portion of their payment that would not have been necessary had all hours been received and processed in a more timely fashion.

One final point to be made about the reciprocal transfer process is that under the International Reciprocal Agreements contributions are to be transferred as follows:

Health & Welfare - The lower of the contribution rates between that of the visiting Fund or the Home Fund.

*Continued on inside-*

## SIMNSA PPO NETWORK IN MEXICO TERMINATES PARTICIPATION

As a reminder, effective June 1, 2012 providers who were part of the SIMNSA Network in Mexico will no longer be considered as PPO providers which, unfortunately, means there will no longer be any PPO providers in Mexico. Due to the termination of this Agreement by SIMNSA there are no PPO providers in Mexico for employees and dependents who may reside in Mexico, or previously sought medical treatment in Mexico.

The use of medical providers and facilities in Mexico is permissible under the PPO plan. The providers will be considered out of network or non-PPO providers for which the level of benefit payments may be less than for PPO providers. However, fees routinely charged by medical facilities and providers in Mexico are substantially less than in the United States. Therefore, the cost to the participant who elects to use non-PPO facilities or providers in Mexico may still be lower than what would be owed by using PPO or non-PPO providers in the United States.

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## CHECKING EXPLANATION OF BENEFIT FORMS ("EOB")

Once a PPO claim is processed through the Trust Office an EOB is sent to all participants outlining the provider and date(s) of all billed service(s) as well as the portion of billed charges that are considered as eligible expense under the Plan taking into consideration if the provider is in the Blue Cross PPO, whether any part of eligible expenses may be applicable to the calendar year deductible, how much of the remaining eligible expense is payable by the Plan and how much, if any, is actually owed by the participant. The EOB will also outline the amount of any applicable PPO discount to be written-off by the provider.

NOTE: Please do not pay a provider anything other than an office visit co-payment until receiving an EOB.

Recognizing that the Trust Office has no way of knowing if the patient/participant actually saw the billing provider and/or received service(s) on the date(s) appearing on their billings, which are now sent directly to Blue Cross by the service providers, it is strongly recommended that each EOB be reviewed very carefully and that any discrepancy or question as to the accuracy of what was billed being reported to the Trust Office (x-310) so that a proper investigation can be conducted. Preventing the Plan from paying claims for services that were not rendered will help control overall costs which then helps to minimize the amount of contributions required to fund the Plan.

## THE SAN DIEGO ELECTRICAL JATC IS AN OFFICIAL CENTER FOR THE ELECTRICAL VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE TRAINING PROGRAM (EVITP)

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS, JULY 10 - AUGUST 9, 2012 IN ROOM 101 FROM 5-8PM

The Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) has been established to provide the Electrical Vehicle Transportation sector of the electrical industry, and all stakeholders, a structured platform to facilitate training and certification for the installation of Electrical Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) across Residential and Commercial/Public markets. The program addresses the technical requirements, safety imperatives and performance integrity of industry partners.

EVITP has created a national training and certification program that provides the EV industry with the highest level of verifiable knowledge and technical understanding to support the sound, safe and successful growth of the EV market. EVITP's training content will incorporate and reflect the requirements, high standards and concerns of industry partners and stakeholders.

Because the lecture and lab work moves along at a challenging pace, all participants must be a state - certified general electrician. Participants must bring current state certification card to the first night of class. This is a 30-hour, 10 session course and covers topics such as the history of electric vehicles, electric vehicle service equipment (EVSE) manufacturers, customer relations, NEC rules and regulations, utility policy and integration. In order to be certified at the completion of the class, the participants must pass a written exam. Certification is through EVITP. Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions in order to take the certification exam.

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Pension - 100% of the visiting fund's contribution rate.

When reciprocal contributions are received by the San Diego Electrical Trusts they are credited as follows:

Health & Welfare - If the incoming contribution rate is less than the current Plan A rate then the corresponding number of hours will be pro-rated as illustrated in the following example:

The current Local 569 Plan A rate is \$6.63/hr.

If 100 hours are transferred at \$4.97/hr, for a total of \$497 in contributions, then the 100 hours would become 75 hours in order to generate \$497 at \$6.63 per hour.

Pension - If the total amount of contributions received for any employee exceeds the Journeyman's contribution rate in the then current Inside Agreement the excess amount will automatically be transferred to the San Diego Electrical Annuity Plan and deposited into an account for that employee. All other contributions will be credited to the Pension Plan.

The current rate is \$4.35/hr.

Please address any questions relative to the reciprocity transfer process to the Trust Office and pay very careful attention to the reporting of all hours worked, regardless of the IBEW jurisdiction in which the work is performed.

## CHANGES IN PLAN C DEDUCTION AMOUNTS

Under various Local Union 569 collective bargaining agreements the Health & Welfare rate for Journeymen includes \$ .96/hr that is presently being applied toward paying Plan C Kaiser premium for participating Retirees who qualify for subsidized rates by meeting prior Plan A service requirements.

When work was plentiful in the past the Board of Trustees utilized increased Plan C reserves to substantially reduce the deductions for Plan C participants who qualified for subsidized rates. From 2008 through 2010 subsidized deduction amounts were reduced to as low as 5%-10% of the actual cost of Plan C Kaiser premium.

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing Plan C participants with very comprehensive group medical insurance coverage at a shared premium that doesn't exceed 50% of the actual Plan C Kaiser premium cost. However, from 2006 to 2010, Plan C premium rates charged by Kaiser increased by 78.3% for Non-Medicare coverage and by 49.6% for Medicare coverage. After increasing the deduction amounts as of January 1, 2011 back to where they were for 2006 and 2007, the current deductions account for only 35% of the Plan C Kaiser premium.

Therefore, for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 the Board of Trustees found it necessary to uniformly increase the Retiree contribution rates for all Plan C participants who qualify for subsidized rates by an amount that will increase the Retiree's share to approximately 45% of total Plan C Kaiser premium. Presently, contribution amounts are determined by the gross amount of the recipient's pension benefit and whether or not they have Medicare coverage.

Please note that effective **July 1, 2013, and expected to continue with future renewals**, it is the Board's intent to set Retiree deduction amounts at levels that will generate 50% of the monthly Plan C Kaiser premium.

Should there be any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Trust Office (x-310).

# UPCOMING JOURNEYMAN CLASSES FOR SUMMER 2012

For more courses, descriptions and registration information please see the online schedule at [www.positivelyelectric.org](http://www.positivelyelectric.org).

Class	Day	Start	Sessions	Room	Time
AC Theory	Fri	06/22/2012	1	Room 201	4:30pm-8pm
Anti-Harassment Prevention Training for Employees	Tue	06/19/2012	1	Room 208	5-7pm
Anti-Harassment Prevention Training for Employees	Tue	07/17/2012	1	Room 208	5-7pm
Anti-Harassment Prevention Training for Managers and Supervisors	Tue	06/26/2012	1	Room 208	5-7pm
Anti-Harassment Prevention Training for Managers and Supervisors	Tue	07/24/2012	1	Room 208	1-3pm
Audio Systems: Components	Tue	06/19/2012	1	Room 110	5-8pm
AV Controls	Tue	07/17/2012	1	Room 110	5-8pm
Basic CPR and First Aid for Adults	Mon	06/04/2012	1	Room 201	5-9pm
CALCTP (California Advanced Lighting Control Training Program) Technical Course	Sat/Mon*	06/02/2012*	13	Room 101/210	5-8pm Labs 7:30am-4:30pm Lectures
CALCTP (California Advanced Lighting Control Training Program) Technical Course	Sat/Thu*	06/02/2012*	13	Room 101/210	5-8pm Labs 7:30am-4:30pm Lectures
CALCTP (California Advanced Lighting Control Training Program) Technical Course	Sat/Tue*	06/02/2012*	13	Room 101/210	5-8pm Labs 7:30am-4:30pm Lectures
CALCTP (California Advanced Lighting Control Training Program) Technical Course	Sat/Wed*	06/02/2012*	13	Room 101/210	5-8pm Labs 7:30am-4:30pm Lectures
Chart International, Inc. (OSHPD Inspector)	Mon	07/16/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Code Calculations: Box Fill	Fri	08/10/2012	1	Room 201	4:30-8pm
Code Calculations: Conductor Ampacity	Fri	07/13/2012	1	Room 201	4:30-8pm
Code Calculations: Raceway Fill	Fri	07/27/2012	1	Room 201	4:30-8pm
Code Calculations: Voltage Drop	Fri	08/24/2012	1	Room 201	4:30-8pm
Conduit Bending	Thu	07/12/2012	2	Room 108	5-8pm
Conduit Bending	Tue	07/10/2012	2	Room 108	5-8pm
Confined Space Entry	Tue	07/24/2012	1	Room 201	5-8pm
Confined Space Entry	Tue	07/31/2012	1	Room 201	5-8pm
Contractor Law	Mon	07/09/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Contractor Law	Tue	08/07/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Customer Relations	Tue	07/10/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Electrical Contracting Risk	Tue	06/19/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Electrical Engineering Requirements	Tue	06/12/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Electrical Foreman Responsibilities	Mon	06/04/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Electrical Inspection Requirements	Mon	06/11/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Electrical Requirements for Health Care Facilities, NEC Article 517	Mon	06/25/2012	1	Room 201	5-8pm
Electrical Requirements for Health Care Facilities, NEC Article 517	Mon	07/02/2012	1	Room 201	5-8pm
Electrical Review	Mon/Wed	07/09/2012	10	Room 206	5-8pm
Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP)	Tue/Thu	07/10/2012	10	Room 101	5-8pm
Equipment Rental	Tue	08/14/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Estimating/Job Costing	Mon	06/25/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Fire Alarm Installations	Tue/Thu	06/05/2012	20	Room 111	5-8pm
Fire/Life Safety/VDV Prep For State Certification	Tue	06/05/2012	10	Room 204	5-8pm
FOA Fiber Certification	Tue	06/05/2012	10	Room 112	5-8pm
Introduction to Networking	Wed	06/06/2012	10	Room 110	5-8pm
IP Addressing and Networks	Thu	07/12/2012	5	Room 110	5-8pm
Job Planning (system approach to installations)	Tue	07/31/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Math for Electricians	Wed	07/11/2012	5	Room 112	5-8pm
OSHA 10	Mon	06/11/2012	4	Room 208	5-8pm
OSHA 30/EM-385 Construction Hazard Awareness	Mon/Wed	07/09/2012	12	Room 201	5-8:30pm
Refresher For Basic CPR and First Aid For Adult	Thu	07/12/2012	1	Room 214	5-7:30pm
Refresher For Basic CPR and First Aid For Adult	Tue	06/05/2012	1	Room 208	5-7:30pm
Refresher For Basic CPR and First Aid For Adult	Wed	06/06/2012	1	Room 201	5-7:30pm
Refresher For Basic CPR and First Aid For Adult	Wed	07/11/2012	1	Room 214	5-7:30pm
Residential AV	Tue	07/10/2012	1	Room 110	5-8pm
RF/CATV Distribution	Tue	07/24/2012	1	Room 110	5-8pm
SDG&E Control Center	Tue	07/24/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Seismic Requirement per California Building Code	Tue	07/17/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Service Department	Tue	06/26/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Soldering, Wire Types and Connections	Tue	06/12/2012	1	Room 110	5-8pm
Specification and Bidding	Mon	07/23/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm
Transformer Testing and Meggering	Thu	07/26/2012	1	Room 201	5-8pm
Transformer Testing and Meggering	Thu	08/02/2012	1	Room 201	5-8pm
Video Systems: Components	Tue	06/26/2012	1	Room 110	5-8pm
Welding	Fri	06/15/2012	6	Shop 1	5-8pm
Welding	Mon	06/11/2012	6	Shop 1	5-8pm
Writing an RFI	Mon	08/13/2012	1	Room 214	5-8:30pm

### Three easy ways to register:

1. **On-line** at [www.positivelyelectric.org](http://www.positivelyelectric.org)
2. **By telephone.** Dial (858) 569-6633, ext. 156 or ext. 301 (Spanish).
3. **Walk-in;** drop by our office and complete a registration form.

# SAN DIEGO ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY TRUSTS

P.O. BOX 231219  
SAN DIEGO, CA. 92193 - 1219

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San Diego CA



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## HEALTH INFORMATION SOURCES

Best Doctors - 1-866-904-0910 or [www.bestdoctors.com](http://www.bestdoctors.com);  
Caremark - [www.Caremark.com](http://www.Caremark.com); Specialty medications -  
CVS/Caremark at 1-800-237-2767;  
"NurseLine"-24/7 access to Registered Nurses at 800-250-6181 or  
<http://healthresources.caremark.com/topic/specialty>; and for  
researching doctors and hospitals: [www.healthgrades.com](http://www.healthgrades.com),  
[www.leapfroggroup.org/](http://www.leapfroggroup.org/); [www.Calhospitallcompare.org](http://www.Calhospitallcompare.org);  
[www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov](http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov); <http://www.npdhhipdb.hrsa.gov/>  
National Practitioner Data Bank/Healthcare Integrity and Protection  
Data Bank may be used to verify information  
on a healthcare provider; and  
<http://www.medbd.ca.gov/lookup.html> -  
Medical Board of California for physician licensing.

**The California Health Care Foundation supports  
[www.CalHospitalCompare.org](http://www.CalHospitalCompare.org) which combines ratings for quality of  
care, patient safety and patient experience in an effort to help  
consumers make informed choices.**

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## REPORTING DIVORCES AND LEGAL SEPARATIONS

It is important to understand that a spouse will usually continue to be eligible as a covered dependent where dependent coverage is applicable under either Plan A, B or C until there is an actual Judgment of Dissolution issued by a Court. However, federal COBRA law requires notification of the divorce or legal separation to be submitted to the Plan within 60 days to prevent a loss of COBRA election rights by the former spouse. In the event the Plan becomes aware of a divorce after the fact a thorough review of all claims and service fees paid on behalf of any dependent for services rendered after the date their coverage actually terminated will be conducted by the Trust Office and full restitution will be sought for any amounts that should not have been paid.

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## NEW SHARP REES-STEALY SORRENTO MESA FACILITY

As a reminder, Sharp Rees-Stealy has opened a brand new medical center Sorrento Mesa at 10243 Genetic Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92121 which is just east of I-805 off of Mira Mesa Blvd, and is only a few miles from the current Mira Mesa facility. It is important to note that most of the doctors and services presently available at the Mira Mesa facility on Activity Road will move to the new Sorrento Mesa location. Therefore, if you previously utilized the Mira Mesa facility or doctors, when making an appointment over the phone or online please be sure to verify at which location the doctor or service(s) may be accessed.

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## PROSTATE CONDITION MEDICATION

The PPO plan has been amended to provide coverage for daily use Cialis (2.5 mg or 5 mg dosages) only when prescribed by a physician following prostate cancer surgery or for various prostate related conditions such as BPH (non-cancerous enlarged prostate) and an array of medical conditions that may arise as a result thereof.

It is important to note that the filling of a prescription for daily use Cialis at either 2.5 mg or 5 mg is solely conditioned upon the physician seeking and receiving **Prior Authorization** from Caremark who will determine whether the underlying medical condition and/or diagnosis falls within established parameters in this regard.

With respect to the prescription of Cialis or any other PDE Type 5 Inhibitors (Viagra, Levitra, etc.) for any other medical condition, the current limitation of a maximum of 8 doses per month will continue to apply.

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