

# SMRCA Roofing Roofer

November 2016

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## RF Radiation - Invisible Hazard

**Radiofrequency radiation or RF radiation** is a type of non-ionizing radiation. Common uses of RF radiation include microwave ovens, radar, industrial heating and sealing processes, and telecommunications and broadcast services. This category is the one of most concern to our industry, because you cannot see, touch or smell RF radiation.

Cellular, broadcast and other telecommunications antennas put workers at risk of exposure to an invisible hazard—radiofrequency (RF) radiation. Sources of RF energy on a rooftop often are not obvious and usually are not properly marked or defined as danger zones by warning signs. In many cases, for aesthetic reasons, transmitters or antennae are hidden by building elements that can obscure their presence yet not reduce the risk of serious harm to unsuspecting workers.

There are two types of radiation: ionizing and non-ionizing radiation. Both are forms of electromagnetic energy, but ionizing radiation has more energy than non-ionizing radiation.

**Ionizing radiation**, like x-rays or gamma rays, has enough energy to cause chemical changes by breaking chemical bonds. Sources of this type of radiation can be found in, for example, hospitals, nuclear energy plants and nuclear weapons facilities.

**Non-ionizing radiation** causes molecules to vibrate, which generates heat.

High exposures to RF can heat human tissue similar to how a microwave cooks food. This “thermal effect” can permanently damage tissue, especially the eyes, resulting in cataracts and harmful cognitive health effects. Direct physical contact with antennas can also cause shock and/or burns to the skin. High exposures of RF are dangerous because:

- RF radiation is hard to recognize—invisible, odorless and tasteless
- By the time symptoms are felt you are already overexposed
- Levels can be low at the start of work, then spike without warning
- RF radiation may interfere with medical devices (pacemakers) and concerns have been raised about possible non-thermal effects (nerve damage and psychological injuries)



There is less concern for exposures to the general public than for workplace locations such as rooftops where worker proximity to transmitters, along with longer exposure duration, can more readily occur. And though the full extent of the biological effects of RF exposures is not known, it is believed there is sufficient evidence to be concerned about occupational human exposures. Ultimately, the FCC is charged with evaluating the effects of RF exposures and determining exposure limits.

The following recommended precautions should be taken to minimize RF exposures:

- Ask a building owner or facility manager whether RF transmitters are present and, if so, their specific locations. The information should be provided in the form of a written map or drawing.
- Through the building owner or facility manager, ask the FCC licensee of the transmitter whether the equipment may be shut down or barrier devices installed for the duration of the roofing work. RF-blocking personal protective equipment is available that may be useful, such as eyewear and clothing that protects the wearer from RF radiation.



**SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION**

3560 E. Nine Mile Road, Warren, MI 48091 (586) 759-2140 Fax (586) 759-0528 [www.smrca.org](http://www.smrca.org)

RF Radiation continued from page 1:

- If the equipment can be shut down or shielded, written verification from the licensee of the dates and times the transmitter will be shut down or a shielding device put in place must be obtained and lockout/tag out procedures considered.
- If the transmitter must be removed and reinstalled to perform roofing work, a roofing contractor must inform the licensee so employees of the licensee can perform the removal and reinstallation.
- Roofing workers must be trained to recognize RF transmitters, told the hazards of working in areas where transmitters have not been shut down and the symptoms of RF exposure, and told the importance of heeding warning signs or restricted access areas and the warning signs and restricted access areas may not always be present.

Careful planning by both employers and workers can effectively reduce exposure to this invisible hazard.

## Birthday Wishes

**George Schena**

*Schena Roofing & Sheet Metal Co., Inc.*

November 13

**Jim Coppens**

*Mid Michigan Roofing*

November 15

**Brian Moore**

*Schreiber Corporation*

November 29

**Roger LaDuke**

*LaDuke Roofing & Sheet Metal*

December 13

**Kathy LaDuke**

*LaDuke Roofing & Sheet Metal*

December 21

**Dan Casey**

*T.F. Beck Company*

January 7

**Joe Crane**

*Crane Roofing, Inc.*

January 22

## Industry Schedule of Events

**January 19-20, 2017**

**CRCA Trade Show & Seminars**

Oakbrook Terrace, IL

[www.crca.org](http://www.crca.org)

**January 29 - February 1, 2017**

**Sprayfoam 2017**

Palm Springs, CA

[www.sprayfoam.org/expo/](http://www.sprayfoam.org/expo/)

**January 29 - February 2, 2017**

**Carolinas Mid-Winter Expo**

Greenville, SC

<http://crsmca.org/meetinginfo.php?id=8&ts=1465302960>

**February 27 - March 3, 2017**

**NRCA's 130th Annual Convention & Roofing Expo**

Las Vegas, NV

<https://theroofingexpo.com/>

**March 29-30, 2017**

**NERCA 91st Annual Convention and Trade Show**

Atlantic City, NJ

[www.nerca.org](http://www.nerca.org)

## Education Resources



**CAM Online**

[www.cam-online.com](http://www.cam-online.com)



**NRCA**

[www.nrca.net](http://www.nrca.net)



**MIOSHA**

[www.michigan.gov/miosha](http://www.michigan.gov/miosha)

## Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy's are extended to family and friends of:

**Joe Benson**, Benson Building Supply



## MiRCA Logo and Website

The MiRCA is getting a new logo and a re-designed website! Be on the lookout for this exciting new development!



Southeastern Michigan Roofing Contractors Association

Michigan Roofing Contractors Association

Detroit Roofers JATC Local 149

Roofers Local #149



## Just Build It 2016

On October 26, the 2016 “Just Build It!” Construction Career Expo was held at the Eastern Michigan Convocation Center presented by the Washtenaw Contractors Association in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Transportation. There were 1747 eight through twelfth grade students and young adults from 51 schools and youth programs located throughout southeast and central Michigan that attended.

Exhibitors included skilled trade apprentices, engineers, architects, general contractors, subcontractors, colleges, universities, and construction associations. The Expo provided a career exploration experience that is impossible to duplicate in a traditional educational setting.

The Roofers Union Local #149 and SMRCA joined forces and showed the kids how to heat weld and gave the students information on the roofing industry and apprenticeship program. Thank you to Bob Doyle, Adrian Bonds, Rafael Alcantar , Heather Hadley and Brian Gregg.



## FAA issues final rule to regulate commercial drone usage

The Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued a new rule for the commercial use of small unmanned air systems (UAS), commonly referred to as drones. The rule, effective Aug. 29, offers safety regulations for drones weighing less than 55 pounds that are conducting non hobbyist operations.

Under the final rule, a drone operator must be at least 16 years old, have a “remote pilot in command” certificate and keep the drone within a visual line of sight at all times. The new regulations also address height and speed restrictions and other operational limits, such as prohibiting flights over unprotected people on the ground who are not directly participating in the drone operation.



“With this new rule, we are taking a careful and deliberate approach that balances the need to deploy this new technology with the FAA’s mission to protect public safety,” says FAA Administrator Michael Huerta. “But this is just our first step. We’re already working on additional rules that will expand the range of operations.”

NRCA issued a response praising the FAA’s drone rule and describing the effect the rule may have within the roofing industry.

An excerpt of NRCA’s statement follows:

- NRCA believes the new rules issued by the FAA on the commercial use of unmanned aircraft systems will provide significant new opportunities for the use of such aircraft in the roofing industry.
- NRCA believes the final rule is a reasonable one and is especially pleased the FAA listened to some of the concerns NRCA expressed during the rulemaking process.
- The FAA rule contains a provision for waivers to some of its rules that, for example, should allow drones to be flown at night in situations where they don’t pose any danger.
- NRCA believes drone use can be of enormous benefit to the roofing industry over time. Drones can be used to evaluate existing roofs, help prepare estimates for new roofs, conduct thermal imaging and even measure reflectivity performance. And the use of drones will mean fewer people will need to be exposed to rooftop hazards to conduct routine inspections.

NRCA’s full statement is available at [www.nrca.net/0616-Drones](http://www.nrca.net/0616-Drones). Additional information about the rule is available at [www.faa.gov/news/press\\_releases/news\\_story.cfm?newsId=20515](http://www.faa.gov/news/press_releases/news_story.cfm?newsId=20515).

## NRCA 10@10 — November 2016

With the elections now generally concluded, Congress will reconvene in a lame duck session to deal with unfinished business before adjourning for the year. In addition, Washington, D.C., will be focused on the transition from the Obama to Trump administrations during the coming months. If you have questions or need more information regarding any of the following issues, please contact NRCA's Washington, D.C., office at (800) 338-5765.

### Presidential Election

Donald Trump stunned the political establishment with his come-from-behind victory to claim the presidency. Although surprising to most political pollsters who predicted a Clinton win, Trump's victory is consistent with historical trends that have seen one party capture the White House in three consecutive terms only once since World War II. In that instance in 1988, George H.W. Bush succeeded Ronald Reagan after years of strong economic growth. But in 2016, the relatively weak economic growth of recent years is the primary reason that more than 60 percent of voters tell pollsters the U.S. is on the "wrong track." This unhappiness with the status quo, combined with the perception that Hillary Clinton is "untrustworthy" among a majority of voters, set up the 2016 race as a typical "change" election. This classic scenario was somewhat obscured by Trump's own high unfavorable ratings, his campaign's relative lack of organization and resources compared to the Clinton campaign, and dissension within the Republican party regarding his controversial candidacy. In the end, Trump was able to capture most late-deciding voters with his populist message of change in key states dominated by Democrats in presidential elections for nearly three decades to capture the White House.

### Congressional Elections

In the Senate, Republicans retained majority control for the 115th Congress but did see their majority slip from 54 to 52 seats with the losses of incumbents Kelly Ayotte (R-N.H.) and Mark Kirk (D-Ill.). One remaining

Senate race in Louisiana remains to be decided in a run-off election in December, so a Republican loss there could further narrow the Republican Senate majority. In the House, Republicans also retained their majority but with a slight decline, as they lost a net six seats and now will have a 238-193 majority when the new Congress convenes in January. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) will need to work closely with president-elect Trump to develop bipartisan support for legislation in the Senate because most bills require 60 votes for passage. However, Republicans may use the "reconciliation" process that requires only 51 votes to move bills directly affect the federal budget. President-elect Trump now will have to make the transition from campaigning to governing and will need to reach out to congressional Republicans, some of whom he has substantial policy differences with, as well as across the aisle to Democrats, to move his agenda through Congress.

### Workforce Development

NRCA continues working in support of legislation (H.R. 5587) to improve career and technical education (CTE) programs. The bill includes recommendations from NRCA and allied groups designed to make CTE programs more responsive to employers' workforce development needs, including more effective engagement between employers and educators in program development, expanded opportunities for work-based learning and increased funding for CTE programs. The legislation was approved by the House with strong bipartisan support in September, and NRCA now is urging the Senate to approve the bill during the upcoming lame duck session of Congress. NRCA sent a grassroots Action Alert urging all members to contact their senators to urge Senate approval so the bill can be signed into law before the end of the year. Read NRCA's Action Alert and take action to provide new opportunities for roofing contractors to address their workforce development needs: [www.nrca.net/RoofingNews/nrca-issues-action-alert-regarding-cte-reform-legislation.11-3-2016.5675/Details/Story](http://www.nrca.net/RoofingNews/nrca-issues-action-alert-regarding-cte-reform-legislation.11-3-2016.5675/Details/Story).

### OSHA Record-keeping Regulation

NRCA continues working to address a new problem with a regulation issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) that requires employers to submit injury and illness records to the agency so they may be posted online for public inspection. In implementing the regulation, OSHA officials believe the risk of retaliation against workers for reporting injuries is so great there must be a limitation of mandatory post-accident drug and alcohol testing, despite the fact that this practice is widely used by employers to promote a safe workplace. The preamble to the final regulation expresses OSHA's opposition to mandatory post-accident testing, but the actual text is silent about its permissibility, thus creating uncertainty among employers regarding how the policy will be enforced. NRCA worked with 31 members of Congress to send a letter to OSHA that highlights the safety benefits of post-accident testing and urges OSHA to reconsider its counterproductive policy. Also, OSHA delayed the effective date of the regulation's anti-retaliation provisions (including the policy on mandatory post-accident drug testing) from Nov. 10 to Dec. 1 as a U.S. district court in Texas considers a lawsuit filed to challenge the legitimacy of these provisions.

### Section 385 Tax Regulations

NRCA scored a major victory when the Treasury Department issued its final rule under Section 385 of the tax code aimed at curtailing corporate inversions. The final rule allows the IRS to reclassify certain related-party debt as equity (stock), in whole or in part, for federal income tax purposes in an effort to curtail earning stripping transactions. NRCA aggressively opposed the proposed regulations and undertook numerous efforts to have member concerns addressed in the final rule. NRCA is pleased to report the final rule included nearly all the changes requested and virtually no NRCA members will be affected. The final rule includes exemptions for transactions made by S corporations and acquisitions of stock associated with employee compensation plans and allows businesses to continue using cash pooling

arrangements and short-term intercompany loans. The rule also allows exceptions for distributions (payments made to affiliated companies) to include future earnings and allows corporations to net distributions against capital contributions. NRCA is thankful for the bipartisan support from numerous lawmakers who helped highlight NRCA's concerns and that the Treasury Department issued a final rule that fully addresses them.

### Estate Tax Regulations

NRCA continues working to oppose the Department of Treasury's valuation regulations regarding the estate tax. The proposed regulations target family businesses for higher estate and gift taxes by forcing the estates of family-owned businesses to disregard important facts, such as control and marketability, when ownership of a business passes to the next generation. This can be harmful because lack of control and marketability greatly affect the value of a business. NRCA is supporting legislation, H.R. 6100, the Protect Family Farms and Businesses Act, sponsored by Rep. Warren Davidson (R-Ohio) which would prohibit the IRS from publishing the final rule. Currently, the bill is only supported by Republicans, but last year seven Democrats supported legislation to fully repeal the estate tax, so we are working to bring some Democrats on board. A public hearing regarding the proposed regulation is set for Dec. 1, and members of the Family Business Estate Tax Coalition, of which NRCA is a member, will testify in opposition to the proposed rule.

### Department of Labor Overtime Regulation

The Department of Labor's (DOL's) overtime regulation is scheduled to take effect on Dec. 1. The rule will more than double the current salary threshold of workers who are eligible for overtime pay under the Fair Labor Standards Act from \$455 per week (\$23,660 per year) to \$913 per week (\$47,476 per year) and also provides that the threshold be updated automatically every three years and tied to the 40th percentile of full-time salaried workers in the lowest-wage region of the U.S. NRCA supports several compromise bills to ease the burden of the regulation on businesses, including legislation that would phase in the overtime regulation's salary increase over a three- or four-year period and block the automatic updates. Litigation also is

pending in the courts. However, it appears unlikely that any relief will be given before the rule takes effect next month, so businesses should be making the appropriate changes to their payrolls or employee classifications as required by the regulation. More information is available on DOL's website: [www.dol.gov/WHD/overtime/final2016/](http://www.dol.gov/WHD/overtime/final2016/).

### Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces Regulation

In October, a judge issued a preliminary injunction against a new regulation that requires companies bidding on federal contracts worth \$500,000 or more to disclose labor law violations from the past three years as part of the bidding process. The regulation, which implements President Obama's "Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces" executive order, was set to take effect Oct. 25. In the court order, the judge wrote that the plaintiffs "properly demonstrated immediate and ongoing injury to their members if the rule is allowed to take effect," and that the regulation's requirements "are nowhere found in or authorized by the statute" under which it is authorized. The preliminary injunction is in effect nationwide and blocks all aspects of the regulation except the paycheck transparency provision, which requires some federal contractors to disclose to their employees various details about employee status and whether they are owed overtime compensation. The government may appeal the injunction, and a ruling likely would occur in early 2017. More information regarding this regulation is available on the Department of Labor's website: [www.dol.gov/asp/fairpayandsafeworkplaces/](http://www.dol.gov/asp/fairpayandsafeworkplaces/).

### EPA Jobs Evaluation Requirement

On Oct. 17, a federal court awarded summary judgement to Murray Energy in its lawsuit challenging the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for failing to evaluate lost power plant and coal mining jobs because of air pollution regulations. U.S. District Judge John Preston Bailey ruled that under Clean Air Act Sec. 321(a), the EPA is required to analyze the effects of its regulations on employment. Sec. 321(a) states: "The Administrator shall conduct continuing evaluations of potential loss or shifts of employment which may result from

the administration or enforcement of the provision of this chapter and applicable implementation plans, including where appropriate, investigating threatened plant closures or reductions in employment allegedly resulting from such administration or enforcement." The EPA argued that this requirement is discretionary, but the court ruled otherwise. This legal decision has potentially far-reaching implications, as it is possible that every regulation promulgated under the Clean Air Act since 1977, including those affecting the roofing industry, may be subject to challenge.

### ROOFPAC

For members heading to NRCA's Fall Meetings in Chicago, join your industry colleagues for a ROOFPAC reception Tuesday, Nov. 15, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Park Hyatt hotel. Sponsored by roofing software company FCS Control, this is a great opportunity to share a drink and network with your industry friends and colleagues while supporting ROOFPAC, the voice of the roofing industry in Washington, D.C.! ROOFPAC actively supported 67 candidates focused on pro-growth economic policies in the congressional elections Nov. 8 and achieved a success rate of nearly 90 percent. ROOFPAC contributions of \$50 per person are requested, and you may obtain more information or RSVP by contacting ROOFPAC Consultant Amanda Kornegay at (202) 246-6594 or [amanda@kornegay.org](mailto:amanda@kornegay.org). If you are not able to attend the ROOFPAC Fall Reception but want to support NRCA's political efforts, please go to the ROOFPAC page of NRCA's website: [www.nrca.net/roofing/ROOFPAC-622](http://www.nrca.net/roofing/ROOFPAC-622).



**NRCA Working To Collect Air-Monitoring Data**

NRCA continues to work with industry partners to collect air-monitoring data in advance of the enforcement of OSHA's new silica rule. The rule's enforcement is scheduled to begin June 23, 2017. NRCA is working closely with the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association and Tile Roofing Institute to conduct exposure testing to determine whether exposures are a concern and develop objective data as the rule allows to help members prepare for OSHA inspections. NRCA will have much more to report as the process continues, and they are grateful for the support they have received from affiliated roofing contractor associations.

If you (or someone you know) would like to be part of the Michigan Roofing Contractors Association (MiRCA), contact the Association Office at 586-759-2140 or email heather.hadley@smrca.org for information and an application.



**JATC Training Center Classes**

The 2017 term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows:

**Apprentice Two & Single Ply One**  
Monday evenings starting on January 23

**Apprentice One & Single Ply Two**  
Tuesday evenings starting on January 24

**BUR One & Steep Slope One**  
Wednesday evenings starting on January 25

**BUR Two & Steep Slope Two**  
Thursday evenings starting on January 26

All classes begin at 6:30 pm.

Journeyworkers Skill Advancement Training Classes are available at no cost to all Detroit 149 members.

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

The Training Center also offers:  
Fall Protection Competent Person Course

If you are interested in any of these classes contact the Training Center at 248-543-3847 or BGregg@DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements.

**The 2017 SMRCA Golf Outing will be at**

**The Links of Novi**

on

**Monday, May 22, 2017**

**Mark Your Calendar!**



**The 2017 MiRCA 52nd Annual Convention**

**July 20-23, 2017**

**Shanty Creek Resort—Summit Village**

**Reservations can be made online now at:**

**<http://reserve.shantycreek.com/?g=294366>**



# SMRCA

- S**AFETY A safe jobsite is assured because SMRCA crews complete the M.U.S.T. Safety Training and Drug Testing.
- M**ULTIPLE SERVICES A SMRCA Roofing Contractor has the ability to provide the roof you need because of our expertise in a variety of roofing applications and techniques.
- R**ELIABLE SMRCA Contractors are Union trained professionals bringing an Industry leading standard of service, quality and knowledge to every project.
- C**ONFIDENCE Projects completed by SMRCA Contractors provide a Michigan roofing contractor 2 year standard workmanship warranty.
- A**CCOUNTABILITY SMRCA Contractors are established companies with years of experience in providing responsive service, superior workmanship and exceptional value.

Call us today at 586-759-2140 to receive our free "Roofing Facts" brochure or contact one of the SMRCA Contractors below for a no-cost estimate on your next roofing project.

## Southeastern Michigan Roofing Contractors Association Members

### **T. F. BECK COMPANY**

Rochester Hills, MI  
(248) 852-9255  
www.tfbeck.com

### **LUTZ ROOFING COMPANY, INC.**

Shelby Twp., MI  
(586) 739-1148  
www.lutzroofing.com

### **ROYAL ROOFING COMPANY**

Orion, MI  
(248) 276-ROOF (7663)  
www.royal-roofing.com

### **J. D. CANDLER ROOFING CO., INC.**

Livonia, MI  
(734) 762-0100  
www.jdcandler.com

### **M.W. MORSS ROOFING, INC.**

Romulus, MI  
(734) 942-0840  
www.morssroofing.com

### **SCHENA ROOFING & SHEET METAL CO., INC.**

Chesterfield, MI  
(586) 949-4777  
www.schenarroofing.com

### **CHRISTEN/DETROIT**

Detroit, MI  
(313) 837-1420  
www.cdetroit.com

### **NEWTON CRANE ROOFING, INC.**

Pontiac, MI  
(248) 332-3021  
www.newtoncraneroofing.com

### **SCHREIBER CORPORATION**

Wixom, MI  
(248) 926-1500  
www.schreiberroofing.com

### **DETROIT CORNICE & SLATE COMPANY**

Ferndale, MI  
(248) 398-7690  
www.detroitcorniceandslate.com

### **NORTH ROOFING COMPANY**

Auburn Hills, MI  
(248) 373-1500  
www.northroofing.com

### **LADUKE ROOFING & SHEET METAL**

Oak Park, MI  
(248) 414-6600  
www.ladukeroofing.com

### **DAVE POMAVILLE & SONS, INC.**

Warren, MI  
(586) 755-6030  
www.PomavilleRoofing.com



www.smrca.org