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Montana Contractors' Association Newsletter

December 29, 2011



Don't Miss Out on "Twang!"

"Twang" is the rocking country band that features incoming MCA President Russ Olsen. They are playing at Big Sky on January 11, coinciding with the first evening of the MCA Winter Convention.

Time is running out to register! There are still rooms available, register today on the MCA website at www.mtagc.org.



MDT to Reinstate DBE Goals

MDT Civil Rights officials have indicated they may be compelled by FHWA to begin putting project-specific "Race Conscious" DBE goals in future bid lettings. Actual DBE attainment is running at 1.4 percent, while the approved goal is 5.83 percent. MDT is urging contractors to reach out to DBE companies, encouraging them to bid projects, but Civil Rights personnel also acknowledge that low bidders should get the work.

They indicated at a recent Highway Technical Committee meeting that if project-specific goals are implemented, a contractor's "good faith effort" will be taken into account if the bid does not meet the project goal. We have asked MDT to clarify its intentions and

Quick Links

[MCA Newsletter](#)

[MCA Training Page](#)

[MCA Website](#)

[MCA Winter Convention @ Big Sky](#) -
Online Registration is up!

Calendar

Jan 5-6

Understanding Hydraulics
Butte
[Registration/Information](#)

Jan 11-12

MCA Convention
Big Sky

Jan 18

Highway Technical Committee
MCA Office, Helena
9:00 a.m.

Jan 25

ACI Strength Testing Technician
Butte
[Registration](#)

Jan 26

Bid-Letting
MDT, Helena
9:00 am

Jan 26-27

timing, and will report back to members when more information is available.



Take a Brief Survey

This survey is from the MSU Extension office on renewable energy. There are only about 10 questions, if you have a few minutes, please take the time to provide your expertise to this subject. [Click here.](#)



MCA, Partners, To Announce "Montana Energy 2012"

Mark your calendars for the largest, most exciting business opportunity of 2012-"Montana Energy 2012" to be held April 3-4 at the Metra Park in Billings. The MCA is underwriting the event and co-hosting it with Big Sky Economic Development, Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson Engineering, and the Montana Petroleum Association.

We will publicly launch the announcements next week, but watch for high-profile economists and corporate execs from energy companies as speakers, and a tradeshow that you will not want to miss. During the conference, we plan to unveil the Economic Impact Study of Arch Coal's proposed Otter Creek Mine, which is being conducted by the UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, and funded by the MCA.

Several MCA members have already committed to substantial exhibit space, which we will be offering to members at a discounted price. Space will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis, and we are already taking reservations. Contact Maryann@mtagc.org to assure you're on the list! If your company wants to be positioned to take advantage of the growing energy development market in Montana, Billings is the place to be April 3-4.



ACI Field Testing Technician
Butte

[Registration](#)

Quote of the Week

"Successful people are simply those with successful habits."

- Brian Tracey

Header of the Week

A common sight in Montana is idled construction equipment during the winter season.

The MCA staff wishes all our members a safe and happy new year!

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Our Mission

To help our member companies become the best construction firms in Montana.



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