

Value-Added Education

GANA's Redefined Conference Provides Opportunities

by Ashley M. Charest

The Glass Association of North America's (GANA) Glass Fabrication and Glazing Educational Conference has been a staple in the industry for many years, even before GANA existed. With extensive sessions focused on insulating, laminating and tempering glass in the commercial architectural fabrication industries, an average of 150 to 200 attendees each year have increased their knowledge and value to their respective companies by attending Glass Fabrication. This year, however, we have expanded our focus, and the results promise to bring even more value to the industry.

GANA has merged its annual Contract Glazing Education Conference with Glass Fabrication. By adding 100 to 150 commercial glazing project managers, sales and estimators to the mix, a new synergy brings excitement and crossover sharing of knowledge to the table. Add Vegas to the mix, a city with one of the highest commercial building growths in the country right now, and we have the makings for a very special event. As a result, Glass Fabrication is a must for anyone who has been in the industry for less than five years.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EXPERTS

Our sessions are designed for maximum impact and education. Each process focus is supervised by an industry volunteer to provide a real world perspective on the topics at hand. The insulating session is run by Jon Kimberlain of Dow Corning Corp. The session focuses on all aspects of IG unit fabrication and maintenance. The laminating session is run by Dan Laporte of Solutia Inc. It focuses on



The audience for Glass Fabrication will grow this year as it combines with the Contract Glazing Education Conference.

the process of laminating glass, as well as properties, potential pitfalls and solutions to many issues faced by fabricators. The tempering glass session is run by Cliff Monroe of Arch Aluminum & Glass Co. Inc. That session focuses on the preparation and fabrication of heat-treated glass for commercial use. The new contract glazing session is run by Max Perilstein of Arch Aluminum & Glass Co. Inc., who is also the GANA Building Envelope Contractors (BEC) Division chairman. The session will focus on a variety of issues project managers and estimators need to consider, from mock-up and field testing to software useful to contract glaziers.

OF IMPORTANCE TO ALL

In addition to the individual sessions, Glass Fabrication features general sessions that combine the different processes into more generalized issues of importance to all. Topics for these include a look at Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) requirements and green building in general, glass clean-

ing during the fabrication processes, causes for glass breakage, proper care and handling of coated glass and more. All of the educational presentations at the event are led by experts in each respective field. In the past, featured speakers such as industry legends Stan Joehlin and Bob Maltby have volunteered their time and knowledge to lead individual sessions, and the results have been appreciated by attendees.

The 2008 Glass Fabrication and Glazing Conference will take place at the Monte Carlo Resort and Casino in Las Vegas on April 21-23, 2008. Make plans to attend now. You may register for the event on our website at www.glasswebsite.com. We look forward to providing you with that extra knowledge to help your company and your career in the glass and glazing industry. ■

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