



## Enhancing Your Professional Expertise

# Management Education

ABC management education programs are comprised of national-level academies and institutes, as well as seminars and short courses that are conducted by ABC chapters at the local level.

### Construction Leaders Symposium

ABC's Construction Leaders Symposium is an outstanding educational program that is offered as part of the national convention. The program features national experts speaking on a variety of strategic issues facing today's construction industry. Each session addresses topics that are important to contractors—including how to improve internal operations for enhanced competitiveness and how to build the leadership skills of key employees.

### National Education Conferences

Each year, ABC presents four concurrent educational conferences with some of the industry's leading experts. The focused agenda of each conference instructs participants on cutting-edge practices in the industry and equips them with practical skills that apply on the job.

- Electrical Contractors Conference
- Mechanical Contractors Conference
- Safety Conference
- Training Professionals Conference

### Project Management Institutes

In conjunction with Purdue University, ABC offers two separate, weeklong project management institutes. One is targeted specifically to the needs of electrical contractors, and the other is geared to mechanical contractors.

### Seminars and Short Courses

ABC chapters provide a wide range of management education programs that help contractors improve their project and management skills. Classes range from blueprint reading to project management and estimating. These courses are offered both as one-time seminars and multi-session workshops.

### Management Education Program

The ABC Management Education program will be available in early 2004, providing ABC contractor members with a complete resource for their management education needs. The program is fully supported by website-accessible materials, a speakers bureau and lists of available courses. ABC members can access comprehensive training programs for construction professionals in the following positions: foreman, project manager, estimator, superintendent, safety director, marketing, purchasing, human relations, administrative assistant, and executive.

### Publications

ABC offers a variety of resources to help managers grow in their professional skills. Two of these key publications include ABC's *Emerging Contractors Reference Manual*, which provides start-up contractors with valuable tools for operating a successful construction business, and *Best Practices in the Construction Industry*, which reveals how contractors can use benchmarking to improve business performance.

### Diversity Assessment Tool

ABC's diversity self-assessment tool helps contractors evaluate their diversity programs—involving women and racial and ethnic minorities—as part of their long-term strategy to stay competitive. This resource enables companies to implement management practices that recognize the changing workforce and tap into the critical skills and experience that these individuals bring to the industry.