

SPECIAL DEAL ON FUEL FROM EMO TO ALL AECI MEMBERS

Tired of carrying receipts? ✓
Tired of paying high fuel prices? ✓

Trying to keep your business costs down? ✓

Need fuel at hundreds of locations across Ireland & the UK? ✓

Need to control fuel spending in your business? ✓

Want to measure how much fuel you have used on a monthly, weekly basis? ✓

If you ticked yes to 2 or more of the above statements, then look no further than the AECI / Emo SMART Fuelcard, developed exclusively for AECI members.

Call the Fuelcard customer service team in Emo Oil on 1850 66 33 66 or contact the AECI to avail of your weekly AECI / Emo fuel discount.

Benefits of the AECI / Emo Fuelcard

Prices sent weekly to your mobile.
30 days credit on purchases.
One monthly payment through your bank.
Easy VAT reclaim



AECI NEWS



AECI President's Christmas Message

Again it gives me great pleasure to greet you all as we quickly approach the Christmas season. Once again it has been a very busy year for the AECI.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce and welcome two new staff members to our AECI team, Vicki Crone, our new office Manager, and Kevin McHugh, Membership Development.

A membership recruitment program is currently underway, with Kevin actively travelling around the country meeting new prospective members. Expanding our Association will further strengthen our position and our influence within our industry.

Our Effective Charge-Out Rate and Tender Estimating training programmes are being held around the country over the 2007 / 2008 winter season and will run through until February. This forms part of our on-going commitment to providing development opportunities for our members in the skills require to successfully run an electrical contracting business in an ever increasingly competitive environment. I would encourage all our members to take advantage of the training and development opportunities that are available through the AECI training programmes. Our members are also encouraged to submit suggestions for training programmes that they would like to see the Association develop and run. If there is reasonable interest in any particular area we would certainly try develop a suitable programme to address our member's needs.

We have continued to develop our 'Unique Membership Benefits Program' having negotiated valuable discounts for our members with various companies such as Dell Computers, The Big Red Book Accounts package, EMO fuel, Lawlor & Partners Legal, Bunzi Safety, Arachas Insurance. Again I would encourage our members to suggest other Companies or products that they would like us to approach with a view to further expanding our 'Unique Membership Benefits Program'. For further information on any of the above please contact the AECI office.

Our Conference and Trade Show for 2008 will be held on 23rd/24th May in Whites Hotel, Wexford. We expect to have 60 trade stands, making this the biggest electrical Trade Show in the industry. Our annual golf competition will take place on Friday 23rd, with the Trade Show on the Saturday 24th followed by our dinner dance on Saturday night. This is a great opportunity for all our members to network, see the latest technologies in our industry in addition to being a very enjoyable weekend. I would make a special request to our all our members to attend this excellent and very popular weekend event.

I attended the EIFI Annual Ball on Friday 21st November and presented a substantial donation on behalf of the AECI to the EIBA which provides support for people within the electrical industry.

I would like to once again take this opportunity to thank all those who support our Association, actively contribute to its on-going management and for the personal support that I have received over the last three years while I have been President of the Association.

Wishing you all a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Dermot McClannon
AECI President

EPACE

AECI has withdrawn from its involvement in EPACE.

AECI, TEEU, & ECA have been the constituent member organisations to EPACE since it was set up in the year 2000.

EPACE was set up under the auspice of the labour-court to monitor & ensure compliance with the registered employment agreement.

This came about as a result of the wage negotiations in 1997 identifying the anomaly which existed whereby employer contractors who complied with the terms & conditions of the registered employment agreement were constantly undercut, when pricing or tendering for work, by non compliant contractor employers.

The aims of EPACE were two fold. (1) To provide a level playing field where all employers who fulfilled their legal obligations with the registered employment agreement encountered a similar cost basis for their labour, & (2) To ensure that the employees received their legal entitlements.

AECI supported & continues to support this endeavour.

AECI have withdrawn its involvement in EPACE because the EPACE operational procedures utilises TEEU officials to carry out the inspection process, including special arrangements for retired officials.

This is contrary to the partnership agreements "Towards 2016" which provides for independent inspectors, not aligned to any of the constituent member organisations, & directly employed by EPACE.

AECI have strongly promoted the use of independent inspectors in line with the partnership agreements, but EPACE refuse to adapt until some unknown time in the future.

AECI realise the vested interest & cannot support continuance of such.

tors, not aligned to any of the constituent member organisations, & directly employed by EPACE.



The Niall Mellon Township Trust

The Niall Mellon Township Trust aims to help the deeply impoverished in South Africa achieve the basic human right of a decent place to live. Through its programmes of house building, fundraising, skills training and volunteer drives, it is striving to eradicate shacks from the South African landscape. The mission of the charity is to provide quality built, low cost homes to those that cannot afford a decent place to live.

Irishman Niall Mellon founded the Section 21 company after he saw at first hand the dire conditions in which people were living in the townships across South Africa. Niall Mellon was so deeply touched by the warmth and dignity of the people in a Cape Town township, Imizamo Yethu, that he decided to act and established the Niall Mellon Township Trust. Though the South African government has been actively involved in building some 2.1 million homes since the fall of apartheid in 1994, 2.4 million families are still in desperate need of housing.

Niall Mellon personally donated one million euros to kick start funding for the charity and continues to pay for all administration costs. No money from donations is deducted for administration costs, one of the unique features of this innovative charity. In 2003 Niall organised the first of what was to become an annual one week Building Blitz for the charity. In that week, 150 volunteers ventured over to the first township, Imizamo Yethu, and built 25 houses. Since then, roughly 1,500 volunteers from Ireland have taken part in the annual Blitz. Each overseas volunteer raises a minimum of €4,000 in order to become involved. This year is to be the biggest Blitz yet, as 1,300 volunteers head to Cape Town in November 2007 to continue the NMTT mission of building homes for the homeless. The target of this year's Building Blitz is to build 200 houses in one week.

The Niall Mellon Township Trust is involved in house building all year round with a South African workforce of 1700 people, the vast majority of whom come from the townships. This year-round construction provides much needed employment in the townships in which the NMTT is based. The charity is involved in training and up-skilling its workforce which is a further integral part of the charity's ethos.

Since its inception, the charity has built more than 1000 homes across Cape Town. The aim this year is to radically upscale the number of houses to be built, with the target set at a massive 5,000 homes. The charity bought out a commercial house building company, Marnol, this year and as a result its capacity is greatly increased. It is now active in seven townships across the Western Cape, from George, to Khayletisha to Paarl. It is also building 3,000 houses in Gauteng.

The charity recognises that adequate shelter is a basic human right. By partnering communities in the delivery of houses, key community facilities and through job creation, the NMTT aims to reduce people's dependency on aid in a sustainable way and empower them to create opportunities for themselves.

WAGES

(a) The hourly rates for electricians shall be as follows:-

From 1st April, 2007

1st Year out of time (Craft Basic Rate)	€20.74
After 1 year's service	€21.01
After 2 years' service	€21.15
After 3 years' service	€21.26
After 4 years' service	€21.38
After 5 years' service	€21.49

Apprentice Rates

1st Year	€ 6.22
2nd Year	€ 9.33
3rd Year	€13.48
4th Year	€16.59

The length of service is determined by the number of years an electrician has worked in the electrical contracting industry. This is what will be used to establish an electrician's position on the above pay scale.

Note: Electricians who commence work under this agreement having worked as

an electrician outside the scope of the Agreement shall be paid the Craft Basic Rate.

For time worked 40 feet from the ground on ladders, hanging cradles or scaffolding

and suchlike temporary or mobile staging, an extra payment of 8 cent per hour shall

apply to the above rates.

ANNUAL LEAVE / PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

2007 / 2008

FRI	26 OCT	ANNUAL
MON	29 OCT	PUBLIC
MON	24 DEC	ANNUAL
TUES	25 DEC	PUBLIC
WED	26 DEC	PUBLIC
THURS	27 DEC	ANNUAL
FRI	28 DEC	ANNUAL
MON	31 DEC	ANNUAL
TUES	1 JAN	PUBLIC
WED	2 JAN	ANNUAL
MON	17 MAR	PUBLIC
FRI	21 MAR	ANNUAL
MON	24 MAR	PUBLIC
TUE	25 MAR	ANNUAL
WED	26 MAR	ANNUAL
THU	27 MAR	ANNUAL
FRI	28 MAR	ANNUAL
MON	5 MAY	PUBLIC
MON	2 JUN	PUBLIC
MON	21 JUL	ANNUAL
To	1 AUG	PUBLIC
FRI	4 AUG	PUBLIC
MON		



Dear Friend,

A fortnight or so has passed since returning from Cape Town in South Africa and it is only now that I'm coming back down to earth after an amazing experience.

Thanks to your generous donation, I raised just over € 21,000.00 for the Niall Mellon Township Trust - a sum of money that is both staggering and humbling.

I was one of around 1200 Irish volunteers who travelled to Cape Town for this year's project during which 203 new houses were completed in just seven days. That this was achieved was a tribute to Niall Mellon himself, the fantastic people who I was privileged to work alongside and of course, you the people whose support made it all possible.

It was only when you saw the looks on the faces of the local people - poor in the pocket but rich in their outlook on life - when they left their tin shacks for their new houses that the importance and scale of this project hit home.

So, I would like to thank you most sincerely for your fantastic support: your contribution has changed people's lives. Because of your help, it will be a very happy Christmas for thousands of people in South Africa this year.

I hope, also, that it will be a great one for you and yours.

With best wishes and grateful thanks.

Jack Hegarty.



Annual Conference & Trade Show 23rd & 24th May 2008. Whites Hotel, Wexford

Government New Conditions of Contract for public Works.

1 Day Seminar/Workshop

Designed specifically for Electrical Sub-Contractors.

Focuses on the terms of the Sub-Contract agreement for use with new Government Main Form of Contract.

Specific Aims are:

1. To ensure members understand the implications of the terms contained within the new Public Works Sub - Contract & Main Contract forms.
2. To ensure members understand the potential pitfalls in projects they may become involved in & how best to deal with them.
3. To ensure members are aware of the dispute resolution mechanism available to them & understand how they operate.

This training is designed specifically for AECl by Quigg Golden one of the country's leading specialists in Construction contract law, Dispute resolution, Arbitration, Conciliation/Mediation.

This Seminar will be run by AECl in Athlone when the new sub-Contracts are launched early in the New Year. Subject to adequate interest.

The cost per person attending will be in the order of €300.00 per person. (To be decided)

A minimum of 20 is required to prove viable.

At present we require an indication from members if they are interested in this seminar.

Please confirm if you are interested in booking a place or places for this seminar.

Please complete below and fax to 01 2885870 by Friday 21st of December 2007.

Name _____ . Company _____ .

Address. _____

Contact details. _____

No of places intended. _____ .

Signature of Owner/Director. _____

Annual Conference & Trade Show 23rd & 24th May 2008. Whites Hotel, Wexford

Electrical Contribution Rate 2008.

Detailed below are the Pension, Death in Service and Sick Pay contribution rates agreed by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electrical Contracting Industry for scheme year 2008 which commences on Monday 31st Dec'07. These contributions rates apply to all employers covered by the Registered Employment Agreement for the Electrical Contracting Industry.

	Employer	Employee	Total
Pension Benefit	€28.09	€18.73*	€46.82
Death in Service Benefit	€1.11	€1.11	€2.22
Sick Pay Benefit	€1.34	€0.67	€2.01
Sub Total	€30.54	€20.51	€51.05

* PAYE & PRSI ALLOWABLE

Detailed below are the weekly contribution rates for the Benevolent Funds, the Construction Workers Health Trust and Pensions and Conditions Electrical Ltd which are collected by way of combined payment.

Various	€0.57	€1.88	€2.45
Overall Total	€31.11	€22.39	€53.50