



MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we race forward in 2023, it's important to consider how far we have come and celebrate the wins and lessons of this year – even as we keep our compass pointed north to the opportunities ahead. Innovation is not just technology. It is how we cultivate our skills to become creative leaders, problem-solvers, and trendsetters – to foster growth in our businesses and our industry.

Already in 2023, we have come together through the groundbreaking **MEP Innovation Conference** powered by Trimble, Milwaukee, and Procore, and held from **January 11 – 13, 2023 in Austin, Texas**. Over 600 subject matter experts representing NECA, MCAA (Mechanical Contractors Association of America), and SMANCA (Sheet Metal and Air Condition Contractors' National Association) joined forces to discuss the future of the industry and our collective path ahead. The conference included **54** educational workshops and sessions, **8** offsite tours of local shops, training and innovation centers, and **33** exhibitors sharing the latest cutting-edge solutions in construction technology. By proactively approaching the industry's challenges, teams can explore ways to reduce uncertainties, minimize rework, and optimize schedules.

Congratulations to **Todd Grossweiler, Executive Vice President of the Allison-Smith Company** on winning the NECA 2023 Innovator of the Year award. Todd's contributions to Allison-Smith, the NECA community, and the industry at large are notable through his curiosity for new solutions and passion for the people who are the fabric of our industry. In Todd's own words, "A conference like [MEP] is an opportunity for us to collaborate together outside of just one industry. It's a time to reflect on where we are and where we're heading as a company."

Most importantly, we must work on the business as well as in the weeds for day-to-day wins. How are you committing to applying innovation into your business in the months ahead? What new tech or strategies are you interested in learning more about and what challenges do you predict for 2023? How does culture play a part in this process?

Let us know what you're working on and how we can continue to work together to build the future of construction. What are you listening to and reading? What are your 2023 predictions? We look forward to hearing from you on the challenges and opportunities ahead!



Tauhira Ali
NECA Executive Director of Industry Innovation
innovation@necanet.org

INDUSTRY PIONEERS



"Being an innovator means pioneering a new effort or process that provides solution or optimization and fulfilling the responsibility to share it with or educate others."

Denise Devine

Director of Community Business Development at ProCal
NII Edison Cohort, 2021 – 2022

Scan for more info about the NECA Innovation Institute



"Stay hungry and be willing to learn and push yourself outside of your comfort zone."

Jeff Restine

Vice President and CFO of Fuller Electric



Scan to hear episodes of the Innovation Overload Podcast

Celebrate Your Innovators!

The **NECA Innovator of the Year** is awarded to an industry pioneer from a NECA member contractor who champions innovation and continuous improvement across their company and the entire NECA community.

Scan to nominate an innovative pioneer from your team today



AROUND THE INDUSTRY



WHAT WE'RE READING

- [Autodesk Launches Tandem Facility Monitoring Beta Program](#)
1/25/23, Engineering News Record
- [Why 3D Printing is Still Flat in Commercial Construction](#)
2/1/23, Construction Dive
- [The Story Construction Tells About America's Economy Is Disturbing](#)
2/5/23, The New York Times



UPCOMING EVENTS

- [NECA Association Executives Institute](#)
3/6/23 – 3/8/23 in Philadelphia, PA
- [Advancing Prefabrication](#)
3/14/23 – 3/17/23 in Phoenix, AZ
- [Builtworlds Venture West](#)
3/20/23 – 3/22/23 in San Francisco, CA

