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Hance partners with MBCEA on apprenticeship program

Hance Construction, an Authorized Butler Builder®, has partnered with the Metal Building Contractors & Erectors Association and its education affiliate, the Metal Buildings Institute, on the first federally-recognized apprenticeship program in the country devoted exclusively to the metal building industry.

The apprenticeship for

Assembler, Pre-Engineered Metal Building is officially registered with the U.S. Department of Labor. "Many states and projects require contractors to have an approved apprenticeship program in order to be considered or be qualified for the work," said Arthur Hance, president of Hance Construction.

"The federal government

recognizes apprenticeship as the premier method of training the workforce and we did not have an apprenticeship for metal buildings until now. The apprenticeship program did critical time studies in terms of safety and best practices on various projects including a number of Hance Construction projects."

In the three-year program, apprentices learn to:

- Erect prefabricated metal buildings according to blueprint specifications and engineering drawings, using hand tools, power tools, and hoisting equipment;
- Erect frame buildings using a hoist;
- Bolt steel frame members together;
- Attach bracing and insulating materials to framework;
- Screw corrugated sheet

metal roof and siding panels to framework;

- Read blueprints to determine location of items such as doors, windows, ventilators, and skylights and install items using cutting torches, wrenches and power drills;

- Trim excess sheet metal using power saws, power shears and tin snips; and

- Install corner, gable, rake, door, window trims, gutters and downs spouts.

"Apprenticeship is recognized as the insurance a business needs, now more than ever, to ensure an ongoing stream of talent development that will maximize productivity, reduce turnover and increase levels of safety, which reduces workers compensation costs," said Gary Smith, founder and past president of the MBCEA Mid-Atlantic Chapter.