



NO MORE STATIC

Presented by THOMPSON LIGHTNING PROTECTION INC.



THE PROGRAM IS SET – THE DETAILS ARE ARRANGED!

LPI/ULPA 2010 Annual Conference

Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN

Tentative Agenda and

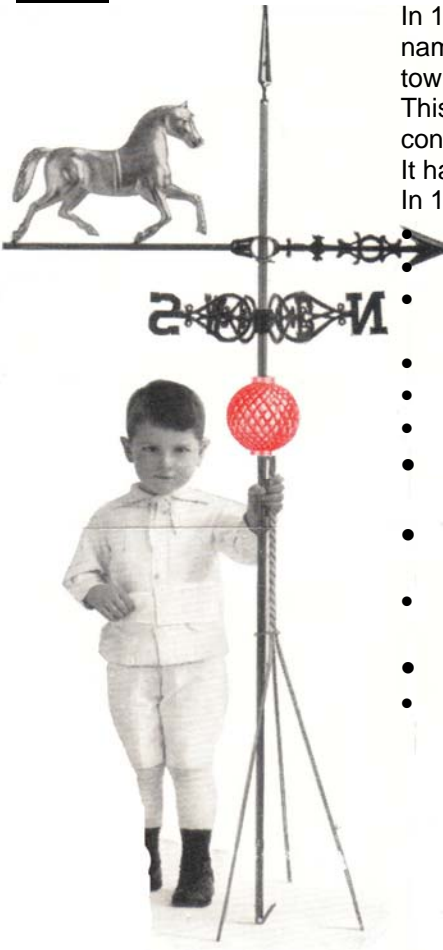
Program Highlights

Founded in 1932, the ULPA is an association of lightning protection manufacturers, engineers, contractors and technicians dedicated to promoting and supporting lightning protection codes and standards published by the National Fire Protection Association, Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. and the Lightning Protection Institute. Call us for information on ULPA membership at 1-800-668-ULPA.

<u>Mon-Tues</u> March 15-16	Engineering Seminar for Registered Participants
<u>Tues</u> March 16	LPI Board of Directors' Meeting
<u>Wed</u> March 17	LPI Certification Testing Hospitality Suite Opens ULPA Board of Directors' Meeting
<u>Thurs</u> March 18	LPI General Assembly Meeting Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Installation Round Table * Best Business Practices for Lightning Protection Firms * Marketing & Sales Tips for Dealer Contractors Evening at the "Wild Horse Saloon"
<u>Fri</u> March 19	UL Update Presentation CSST and NFPA Standards Ground Testing Federal Alliance for Safe Homes Insurance Information Institute NOAA Safety Awareness Promethean & Harvest Presentations by Members (Everyone should bring an entry for each!) Banquet
<u>Sat</u> March 20	LPI Certified Testing

If you haven't registered yet, you're late. BUT.....

you are welcome to join us! See the back page



In 1910 George M. Thompson founded a lightning rod installation company bearing his name, in Owatonna, Minnesota, a prosperous and growing farming and commercial town about 70 miles south of the capital city of Saint Paul. This year, Thompson Lightning Protection Inc. will celebrate our 100th anniversary of continuous operations. It has been an interesting and ever changing world since Thompson began operations. In 1910:

- The population of the United States was 92,000,000 (it's over 300,000,000 today)
- William Howard Taft was president
- Taft began the tradition of the president throwing out the first pitch of the baseball season
- Speaking of baseball, in this year the original Comiskey Park was opened
- And Cleveland Indian, Cy Young won his 500th game
- Barney Oldfield set a new land speed record of 131.7 miles per hour
- Henry Ford sold 10,000 cars but was still three years away from his original and first automated assembly line (In 2009, Ford sold just under 10 million cars)
- The first commercial air freight service was established by the Wright Brothers between Columbus and Dayton, Ohio
- The earth passed through the tail of Hailey's comet which caused considerable panic in some areas
- The Boy Scouts of America were incorporated
- Neon lights were seen for the first time



Since then, the world has been through:

- World War I
- The Roaring 20's
- The Great Depression
- Founding of the United Lightning Protection Association
- World War II
- Korean conflict
- The Atom Bomb/Atomic Energy and the Cold War
- Founding of the Lightning Protection Institute
- Moon Missions
- Viet Nam War
- The Arab oil embargo
- President Nixon and Watergate
- The internet and personal computer age begins
- Disco, sideburns, platform heels, and polyester leisure suits
- The World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks
- More booms, busts and recessions than we all care to remember, including the current one





WHAT IS THE I.E.C.?

First, it is an organization that the U.S. lightning protection industry needs to become familiar with. The International Electrical Commission is a world wide body that defines itself as “interested in the development, promulgation and use of globally relevant standards for the electrotechnical industry.”

The U.S. is represented by the USNC (United States National Committee) which defines itself as “a totally integrated policy committee of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The Institute provides administrative support to the USNC and its nearly 1,700 U.S. managerial, engineering, scientific, and professional participants. As the United States’ representative to the IEC and many related regional standardization bodies, the USNC/IEC serves as a conduit to the global standards-setting community for technical and policy positions arising in the U.S. and brings issues from the global arena to the U.S. for review, consideration, and response.”

Under the USNC there is Technical Committee No. 81 which deals with lightning protection. Mitch Guthrie is the lead technical advisor. Industry members include Matt Caie, Doug Franklin, Mark Harger, Bill Heary, Steve Humeniuk, Bud VanSickle, Christian Wolf, and Tom Harger. Dick Roux and John Tobias from NFPA are also involved. For further information go to www.ansi.org/usnc.



To learn more about the USNC and About the plans for IEC 2010, visit www.ansi.org/usnc

More information about Seattle can be found at www.visitseattle.org

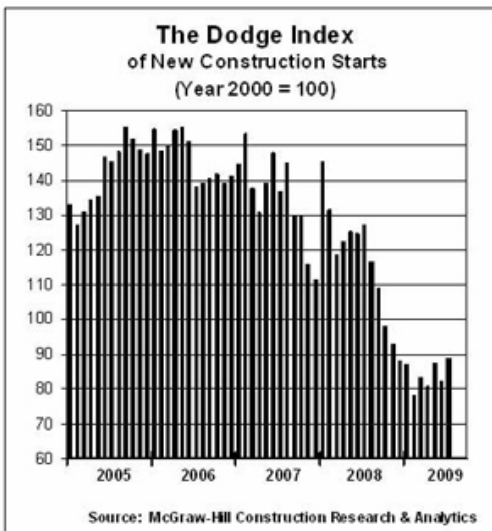


Where are we headed?

As shown here, it’s no secret the past two years have been very negative for the overall construction industry. Based on a recent report from McGraw-Hill Construction:

1. New construction starts in December improved 5% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$425.8 billion.
2. At the same time, the bottom for construction starts was reached in February, to be followed by an up-and-down pattern during 2009 which suggests that the transition has been made from steady decline to at least low-level stability.
3. Going into 2010, more improvement is expected for housing and public works, but commercial and institutional building will continue to be adversely affected by weak employment, tight bank lending, and the eroding fiscal health of states and localities.

Let’s hope the glass is starting back towards half full and beyond!



	December 2009	November 2009	% Change
Nonresidential Building	\$145,176	\$145,509	-0-
Residential Building	131,339	129,507	+1
Nonbuilding Construction	149,303	130,221	+15
Total Construction	\$425,818	\$405,237	+5

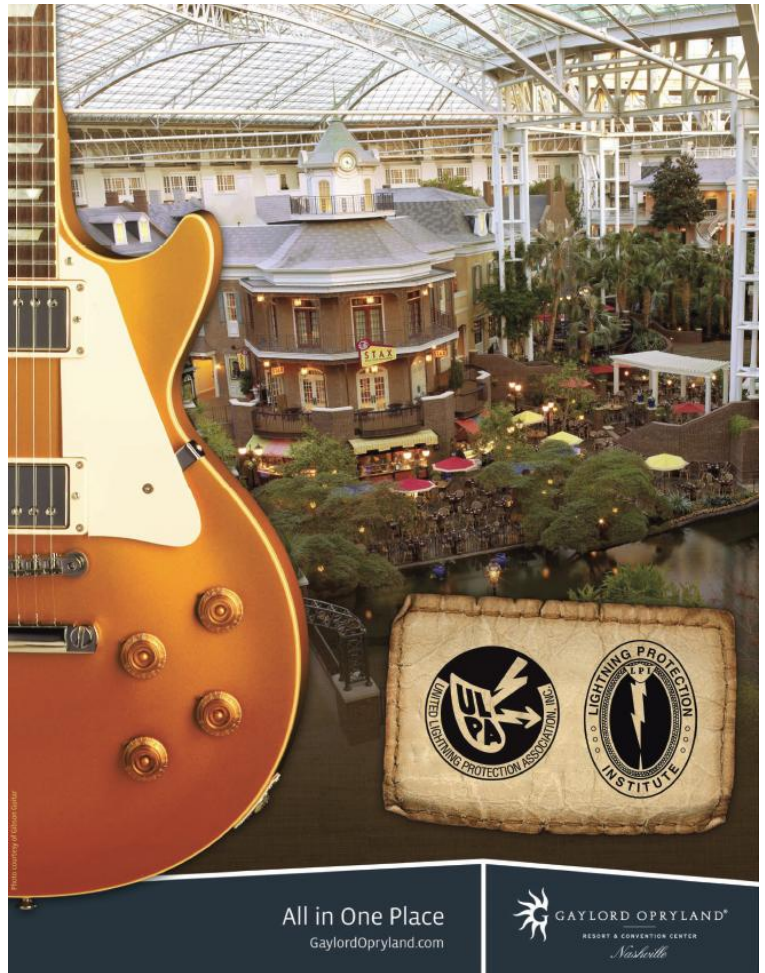
The Dodge Index
 (2000=100, Seasonally Adjusted)
 December 2009 90
 November 2009 86

It's Not Too Late!

You are still welcome to join us
in Nashville for the
2010 ULPA / LPI Conference!

But you need to sign up!

Go to
www.ulpa.org
for more information



All in One Place
GaylordOpryland.com

 GAYLORD OPRYLAND®
RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER
Nashville



U.L.P.A.
426 North Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048

LIGHTNING ROD PROTECTION, BASED ON BEN FRANKLIN'S INVENTION IN 1752, IS THE FIRST AND OLDEST PURELY UNIQUE AMERICAN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY