

Check us out on:



Ready for Everything

Infrastructure development becomes top priority

MARK RIECK, IRWA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Change is the norm with the new Trump Administration, and IRWA is ready for what's to come. In a recent IRWA member poll summarized on page 13, we see that 50 percent are forecasting more projects in 2017—and 26 percent plan to do more hiring. Also, 53 percent have plans and funding for training, especially for credentialing courses.

With the promise of making infrastructure development a priority of the new administration, IRWA is poised to inform and support you with new programs, products and services. Here is the rundown:

Advocacy Updates: We are ready for new executive orders and legislation with weekly reports from IRWA's new advocacy partner, Nossaman, LLP. Nossaman's experts will be reporting on key infrastructure policy issues, along with implications for our industry. Those reports can be found in the Leadership Resources section on IRWA's website, under the International header.

New Classes: IRWA members can get ready for new projects with online video-powered C100i, providing a powerful overview of fundamental right of way/ infrastructure concepts and an in-person classroom based compliment, Course 100, which is a two-day course. A dynamic construction module has been

added to our C218 Right of Way Acquisition for Electrical Transmission Projects and a train-the-trainer program is scheduled for instruction this month. And in March, IRWA will pilot our new Elevating Your Ethical Awareness course, combining IRWA's ethics and standards into one program.

With new pipeline and electric utility projects taking place across North America and beyond, IRWA's C225 Social Ecology course is more pertinent than ever before and is available for scheduling with our partner, Jim Kent & Associates. C230 Oil and Gas Land Basics and Related Surface Issues and C235 Canadian Oil & Gas pilot course are also available for scheduling. And don't forget about IRWA's Relocation Bundle of courses available online in partnership with ORC Training, and the launch of IRWA's Managing the Crowded International Underground Infrastructure Panorama, developed in partnership with IKT, Germany's Institute for Underground Infrastructure.

Seminars: IRWA Chapters, Industry Committees and Communities of Practice have developed a series of seminars this spring that can be found on IRWA's homepage by clicking the "More" button under Events. We also promote Chapter seminars across the Association on an ongoing basis through IRWA's social media applications.



IRWA Member Network: Have you visited the Member Network lately? It is filled with dozens of industry related discussions, events and resources that can shape how you do business and connect with your peers across your country and around the world. Check it out by clicking on the Member Network link on IRWA's homepage. And on IRWA's **Career Center**, there are 117 new jobs posted!

Conference: The Annual International Education Conference in Anchorage is shaping up nicely—with 45 all new sessions on topics that will benefit local members wherever you live and work, inform you on international projects we can learn from, and for the first time IRWA will mainstream our Young Professionals with a tract of targeted sessions throughout the conference schedule.

As our world changes, you can count on your Association to keep up with today's policies, programs and trends so you remain current and connected like never before. Onward. 🌟