

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**PUGET SOUND WASHINGTON IEC WINS
FIRST EVER “CHAPTER WEB SITE OF THE YEAR” AWARD**

Olalla, WA—October 30, 2006— “IEC is pleased to announce that the Puget Sound Washington IEC Chapter won the first ever Chapter Web Site of the Year Award at the 49th Annual IEC National Convention and IEC Electric Expo 2006 in Denver, Colorado.”

When the Chapter was formed in 2002, members immediately recognized the importance of a Web site that looked professional and was a vital link for members and visitors. Since its launch in 2003, the Web site has logged 10,502 visits and remains at the top of most search engines using key words such as Washington apprenticeship, Washington electrical contractors, Puget Sound apprenticeship, electrical training, etc.

The site features a “Benefits of Membership” link as well as an “About Us” link. The Chapter has also developed a password protected JobBoard where members look for employees and unemployed electricians can post their applications online. The user friendly, self service site is a service for those looking for work and a great benefit for member contractors. The site also features a “Consumer-Find a Contractor” link that helps consumers find a bona fide contractor in their area.

In addition, the site features links for CEU classes, a scrolling banner with headline news, archived newsletters, press releases, a photo gallery, a calendar and much more. The site can be viewed at www.pugetsoundwaiec.org.

The purpose of the Chapter Web Site of the Year Award is to recognize those chapters who have developed outstanding chapter Web sites to keep members informed and up-to-date on local and national news and events.

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For more information about the IEC or membership in the Puget Sound WA chapter, call Executive Director Meredith Lambert at 360-876-1299, go to their website at www.pugetsoundwaiec.org., or email the office at pugetsoundiec@cs.com

Established in 1957, IEC is a trade association made up of more than 3,500 members with 74 chapters nationwide. Headquartered in Alexandria, Va., IEC is the nation's premier trade association representing America's independent electrical and systems contractors. IEC National aggressively works with the industry to establish a competitive environment for the merit shop – a philosophy that promotes the concept of free enterprise, open competition and economic opportunity for all. For more information, contact Marlise Drischler, Public Relations Manager at (703) 549-7351, or via email: mdrischler@ieci.org.



(L) Emerson Smoker (OR) and (R) National President Dennis Thomas present Meredith Lambert, Executive Director of the Puget Sound WA Chapter of Independent Electrical Contractors with the award.