

## Around the Industry

### Investment firm completes purchase of Current, Powered by GE

GE says it has completed the sale of its Current, powered by GE business unit to American Industrial Partners (AIP), a New York-based private equity firm focused on buying, improving and growing industrial businesses. Financial details were not disclosed in the press release. The consumer lighting business of GE Lighting is not included as part of the transaction.

Current's portfolio spans LED and traditional lighting solutions, along with a wide variety of intelligent controls, sensors and software. The business delivers energy savings and operational productivity for its customers, which include commercial offices, retail stores, industrial facilities and cities. Under a long-term licensing agreement, Current will continue using the GE brand on its products and services moving forward.

"Three and a half years ago, we formed Current as a new kind of startup within the walls of GE, and today we are thrilled to celebrate the successful conclusion of that journey as we prepare to embrace our next," said Maryrose Sylvester, president & CEO of Current, in the press release. "Current has an important role to play in this emerging industry, and we look forward to working with our customers to continue building the future of digital lighting innovation."

### OmniCable opens first Canadian facility in Toronto suburb

Omni Cable Corp. (OmniCable), West Chester, PA, opened its first branch outside of the United States in Toronto, Canada. "For

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## IHS Markit Sees Global Economic Slowdown Through 2023 & Decline in U.S. GDP to Under 2%

Two interrelated and troubling developments are coloring the global economic picture. First, trade growth is slowing sharply. The IHS Markit Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for new exports has been falling for six months in a row — the largest drop since 2016. Second, the global manufacturing PMI highlights the stagnation in the industrial sectors.

Key economies whose manufacturing industries are in recession include the Eurozone, Japan and China. While U.S. protectionist policies have worsened the outlook for trade volumes and factory output in many parts of the world, the industrial recession in China — brought on by the government's deleveraging campaign — is, arguably, a bigger drag. The good news is the Chinese government has (once again) begun to provide modest stimulus. This move will stabilize manufacturing in China and the other parts

of the world. Equally encouraging is the lack of "contagion" from manufacturing to services. Both these trends will sustain growth for a while.

**United States.** IHS Markit/Global Insight sees the U.S. economy downshifting to 2%. Real GDP grew at a 2.6% annual rate in the fourth quarter of 2018; full-year growth was 2.9%, a pace bolstered by tax cuts and federal spending increases. In the very near term, GDP growth has slowed sharply, to about 1.3%, reflecting a sharp, but temporary deceleration in consumer expenditures in the wake of December's financial market turbulence and a reversal of a weather-induced surge in utility bills late last year.

Real GDP growth is forecast to increase 2.4% in 2019 and 2.1% 2020, as the boost from fiscal stimulus first peaks and then fades. After 2020, GDP growth is projected

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## PV Generating Plants & Wind Farms Growing Despite Fewer Financial Incentives

Folks at the nation's electric utilities are probably pretty familiar with much of the data on the generation and consumption of electricity that the federal government's Energy Information Administration (EIA) tracks in its monthly and annual Electric Generator Reports.

EIA's most recent data report, published several weeks ago, offers good insight into the renewable generating facilities either underway or recently approved. On the *electricalmarketing.com* site we offer an interactive map that shows the location of several hundred wind, photovoltaic (PV) and battery facilities, along with some key details on these renewable plants.

Although federal subsidies for the construction of these facilities aren't quite what they had been in years past, there are still some very large projects underway or in the pipeline. We counted 17 solar projects of at least 100 MW and 41 wind farms in various

stages of construction or consideration.

These are large projects. As a point of reference for wind farms, the Department of Energy says a 1.5 MW commercial-scale wind turbine in a moderately windy area (with a 35% capacity factor) can power between 400 and 500 homes. In the EIA database, the two largest wind farms under construction are the 500MW Goodnight wind farm being built in Armstrong County, TX, by FGE Goodnight that's scheduled for completion in March 2020, and the Power Company of Wyoming's 500MW Chokecherry and Sierra Madre wind farm in Carbon, WY, scheduled for completion in 2024. (See the 50 largest on page 2.)

The solar farms listed by EIA are quite a bit smaller, with only five generating facilities of 200 MW or more. The largest, the 240MW Misae Power facility in Childress, TX, owned by Childress Solar Park, is

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## 50 Largest Renewable Generating Facilities Under Construction or Approved

Plant Name	Entity Name	County	Plant State	Technology	Nameplate Capacity (MW)	Planned Operation	Status
Goodnight	FGE Goodnight	Armstrong	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	500	Mar. 2020	U
Chokecherry and Sierra Madre Wind	Power Co. of Wyoming	Carbon	WY	Onshore Wind Turbine	500	Dec. 2024	U
Hale Community Wind Farm	Hale Wind Energy	Hale	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	478	Jun. 2019	V
Foard City Wind	Foard City Wind	Foard	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	352.8	Jun. 2019	U
Santa Rita East	Invenergy Services	Irion	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	302.4	Jun. 2019	U
Emmons-Logan Wind	Emmons-Logan Wind	Emmons	ND	Onshore Wind Turbine	300	Dec. 2019	T
Ranchero Wind Farm	Ranchero Wind Farm	Crockett	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	300	Sept. 2019	U
Torreillas Wind Energy	Torreillas Wind Energy	Webb	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	300	Feb. 2019	TS
Upland Prairie	Interstate Power and Light Co.	Clay	IA	Onshore Wind Turbine	299.3	Mar. 2019	V
Solomon Forks Wind Project	Engie North America	Thomas	KS	Onshore Wind Turbine	275.6	Jul. 2019	U
Misae Solar	Childress Solar Park	Childress	TX	Solar Photovoltaic	240	Dec. 2019	U
Rio Bravo Windpower	Rio Bravo Windpower	Starr	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	237.6	Jun. 2019	V
Maverick Solar	Maverick Solar	Riverside	CA	Solar Photovoltaic	225	Dec. 2020	T
Grady Wind Energy Center	Pattern Operators LP	Curry	NM	Onshore Wind Turbine	220.5	43586	V
Green River Wind Farm	Green River Wind Farm	Lee	IL	Onshore Wind Turbine	212	Oct. 2019	U
Mesteno	Mesteno Wind	Starr	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	201.6	Dec. 2019	T
Reading Wind Project	Southern Power Co.	Lyon	KS	Onshore Wind Turbine	200.1	Dec. 2019	T
Blazing Star Wind Farm 1	Blazing Star Wind Farm	Lincoln	MN	Onshore Wind Turbine	200	Dec. 2019	T
Chilocco Wind Farm	Chilocco Wind Farm	Kay	OK	Onshore Wind Turbine	200	Jun. 2020	U
Twiggs Solar	GA Solar 4	Twiggs	GA	Solar Photovoltaic	200	Dec. 2019	U
Techren Solar II	Techren Solar II	Clark	NV	Solar Photovoltaic	200	Jun. 2019	U
Wright Solar Park	Wright Solar Park	Merced	CA	Solar Photovoltaic	200	Oct. 2019	U
Whispering Willow North	Interstate Power and Light Co.	Franklin	IA	Onshore Wind Turbine	199.9	Jan. 2020	T
Live Oak Wind Project	Engie North America	Schleicher	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	199.5	Feb. 2019	TS
Golden Plains	Interstate Power and Light Co.	Winnebago	IA	Onshore Wind Turbine	198.8	Mar. 2020	T
East Fork Wind Project	Engie North America	Thomas	KS	Onshore Wind Turbine	195.8	Apr. 2020	U
Scioto Ridge Wind Farm	Innogy Renewables US	Logan	OH	Onshore Wind Turbine	189.2	Oct. 2020	T
Lockett Windfarm	Lockett Windfarm	Wilbarger	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	183.8	Sept. 2019	U
Gallegos Wind Farm, Phase 1	Gallegos Wind Farm	Union	NM	Onshore Wind Turbine	180	Jun. 2021	U
Townsite Solar Project	Skylar ResourcesLP	Clark	NV	Solar Photovoltaic	180	Dec. 2019	T
Patriot Wind Farm	Patriot Wind Farm	Nueces	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	178.5	Mar. 2019	V
Sugar Creek Wind One	Sugar Creek Wind One	Logan	IL	Onshore Wind Turbine	175	Oct. 2020	T
English Farms	Interstate Power and Light Co.	Poweshiek	IA	Onshore Wind Turbine	169.9	Mar. 2019	V
La Joya NM	Avangrid Renewables	Torrance	NM	Onshore Wind Turbine	166	Dec. 2020	U
Midway Wind	Midway Wind	San Patricio	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	162.9	Mar. 2019	V
Pine River Wind Park	DTE Electric Co.	Isabella	MI	Onshore Wind Turbine	161.3	Mar. 2019	V
Camilla Solar Energy Project	Invenergy Services	Mitchell	GA	Solar Photovoltaic	160	Dec. 2019	U
Sholes Wind Energy Center	Sholes Wind Energy Center	Wayne	NE	Onshore Wind Turbine	160	Jul. 2019	U
Gopher Creek Wind Farm	Fluvanna Wind Energy 2	Borden	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	158	Sept. 2019	U
Mariah East	Mariah del Este	Parmer	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	152.5	Dec. 2020	T
Kossuth	Wisconsin Power & Light Co.	Kossuth	IA	Onshore Wind Turbine	150.5	Sept. 2020	T
CA Flats Solar 150	CD Arevon USA	San Luis Obispo	CA	Solar Photovoltaic	150	Feb. 2019	V
Desert Harvest	Desert Harvest	Riverside	CA	Solar Photovoltaic	150	Dec. 2020	T
Foxtail Wind	Foxtail Wind	Dickey	ND	Onshore Wind Turbine	150	Sept. 2019	U
North Rosamond Solar	North Rosamond Solar	Kern	CA	Solar Photovoltaic	150	Apr. 2019	V
Palmas Wind	Acciona Wind Energy USA	Cameron	TX	Onshore Wind Turbine	144.9	Jan. 2020	U
Colonial Trail West	Dominion Renewable Energy	Surry	VA	Solar Photovoltaic	142.4	Dec. 2019	U
Pegasus Wind	Pegasus Wind	Tuscola	MI	Onshore Wind Turbine	141.1	Nov. 2019	U
Robins Air Force Base Solar	Georgia Power Co.	Houston	GA	Solar Photovoltaic	139	Dec. 2019	T
Voyager Wind I	Terra-Gen Operating Co-Wind	Kern	CA	Onshore Wind Turbine	131.1	Nov. 2019	U

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA) monthly and Annual Electric Generator Reports. Status key: T: Regulatory approvals received. Not under construction; U: Under construction, less than or equal to 50% complete; V: Under construction, more than 50% complete; TS: (TS) Construction complete, but not yet in commercial operation

## Global Economy Will Continue to Slow Down Through 2013 According to IHS Markit/Global Insight Forecast

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to ease further to a 1.7% annual average through 2023. The unemployment rate, after bottoming out at 3.5%, is forecast to drift higher — a profile that we think balances the risks between an outlook of continuing trend growth and an outright recession. Financial conditions have improved of late, with equity values starting off this month's forecast about +5% higher than last month, and both term and risk spreads starting somewhat lower.

**Europe.** More evidence of weak growth, but a recession is still not the most likely outcome. The Eurozone's real GDP growth in the fourth quarter of 2018 was confirmed at a soft 0.2% quarter on quarter (Q/Q). Year-on-year (Y/Y) growth was revised down slightly to 1.1%, the lowest rate in five years. The industrial sector was already in recession in the second half of 2018, as evidenced by the IHS Markit PMIs.

The risk of an economy-wide recession stems from ongoing spillovers and event risks (a “no-deal” Brexit and U.S. auto tariffs). Nevertheless, growth supports include rising household real income, supported by lower oil prices and sustained employment growth; easing fiscal policies; and a rebound from event- and sector-specific drags in the second half of 2018 (weather and emissions testing in Germany).

**China.** The Lunar New Year distorts the data, but the underlying fragility is apparent. At the opening of the recent National People's Congress, Premier Li Keqiang announced China's 2019 real GDP growth target will be 6% to 6.5%, a range consistent with the IHS Markit forecast of 6.3%. Growth momentum will moderate with a weakening in real estate markets and foreign trade. Faster growth

in infrastructure investment and tax cuts will help to counter the slowdown. January economic data are scant, as the Chinese authorities do not report most economic indicators for January and February individually because of the shifting Lunar New Year.

Other large emerging markets are showing the strain. Data on recent growth trends in the emerging world have been disappointing. Some economies, such as Argentina, Iran and Turkey, have already slipped into recession. Others such as Brazil, India and South Africa have seen growth fall below expectations. While a few countries (India, the Philippines and Vietnam) will continue to grow at robust rates, others will struggle to achieve growth rates above 1% to 2%. The latter group includes Brazil, Saudi Arabia and South Africa.

Reasons for this poor performance are clear. Growth in the developed world is slowing sharply and commodity prices are flat to down. The industrial recession in key economies, especially China, is hurting emerging-market exports, as is the trade war between China and the United States. A case in point is the plunge in export growth of two Asian powerhouses, South Korea and Taiwan. Geopolitics is also a growing risk. The escalating tensions between India and Pakistan are a big threat to a region that has performed better than most over the past few decades.

The bottom line is that growth is slowing everywhere in the global economy. It's encouraging that policymakers seem concerned enough to do what is necessary (within limits) to prevent a recession.

—*IHS Markit Chief Economist Nariman Behraves and Sara Johnson, Executive Director, Global Economics*

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many years, Canadian electrical distributors have encouraged OmniCable to open a facility and bring our value-added services and solutions to the marketplace,” said Jeff Siegfried, OmniCable's chairman and CEO, in a press release. “Our commitment to Canada has been well thought out and researched. OmniCable made significant investments so that we can bring the same deep and diverse inventories and services to the market.”

The 50,000-sq-ft Toronto facility opened its doors on April 1 at 8025 Dixie Rd., Brampton, Ontario. It's OmniCable's 13th branch and services electrical distributors throughout Canada.

### Acuity Brands logs growth in its fiscal 2Q2019 with 2.7% increase in net sales

Acuity Brands Inc. announced that its fiscal 2019 second quarter net sales increased \$22.3 million, or 2.7%, to \$854.4 million compared with the prior-year period. Operating profit for the second quarter of fiscal 2019 increased \$6.4 million, or 7.2% to \$95.9 million.

Vernon Nagel, the company's chairman, president, and CEO, said in the press release, “We remain cautiously optimistic for the remainder of fiscal and calendar year 2019 and do not believe that the demand outlook has meaningfully changed from our outlook provided last quarter. Our wide and varied base of customers generally remains positive about current year growth prospects. Many customers continue to have record backlogs, though they too are concerned about the timing of releases, particularly for larger projects, and the potential impact that tariffs and higher prices may have on overall demand. Third-party forecasts and leading indicators continue to suggest that the North American lighting market, our primary market, should grow in the low-single digit range in fiscal 2019.”

“We continue to believe the lighting and lighting-related industry as well as building management systems have the potential to experience solid growth over the next decade, particularly as owners and users of lighting equipment and buildings see the potential to transform those investments into strategic assets by deploying our distinctive solutions. We believe we are uniquely positioned to fully participate in this exciting industry.”

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**IHS Markit Forecast for Global Economy 2018-2023**

<b>Real GDP growth (percent change)</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
World	3.2	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9
United States	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.6
Eurozone	1.8	1.2	1	1.2	1.3	1.4
Japan	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.9
China	6.6	6.3	6	5.9	5.8	5.7
<b>Exchange rates (year end)</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Dollar/euro	1.15	1.11	1.11	1.13	1.19	1.22
Yen/dollar	110.83	111.8	111.03	109.96	108.89	108.17

## Industry Events

April 2-5

**AD Spring Network Meeting – Electrical**  
Austin, TX; AD, [www.adhq.com](http://www.adhq.com)

April 15-18

**NAILD Innovation 2019**  
Reno, NV; National Association of Innovative Lighting Distributors, [naild.org](http://naild.org)

April 23-25

**NAAUD Annual Meeting**  
Napa, CA; North American Association of Utility Distributors, [www.naaud.org](http://www.naaud.org)

April 25-27

**PEARL Annual Conference & Exhibition**  
Grand Rapids, MI; Professional Electrical Apparatus Reconditioning League, [pearl1.org](http://pearl1.org)

May 4-7

**NAED National Meeting**  
San Francisco; NAED, [naed.org](http://naed.org)

May 19-23

**LightFair International**  
Philadelphia; [www.lightfair.com](http://www.lightfair.com)

May 20-23

**AWEA WindPower**  
Houston; American Wind Energy Association, [www.windpowerexpo.org](http://www.windpowerexpo.org)

June 17-20

**NFPA Conference & Expo**  
San Antonio, TX; National Fire Protection Association, [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)

June 20-23

**Lake Michigan Club**  
Lake Geneva, WI; NAED, [www.naed.org](http://www.naed.org)

July 17-19

**NAED LEAD Conference**  
Nashville, TN; NAED, [www.naed.org](http://www.naed.org)

August 8-10

**IES Annual Conference**  
Louisville, KY; IES, [www.ies.org](http://www.ies.org)

September 14-17

**NECA Convention**  
Las Vegas; [www.necaconvention.org](http://www.necaconvention.org)

October 20-22

**IMARK Annual Meeting**  
Orlando, FL; IMARK Group, [www.imarkgroup.com](http://www.imarkgroup.com)

## DuPont Electronics & Imaging Completes Sale of OLED Lighting Business to LG Chem

DuPont Electronics & Imaging, Wilmington, DE, has completed the sale of its soluble organic light emitting diode (OLED) technology and associated assets to LG Chem, Ltd.

The press release announcing the completion of the sale said the assets included are intellectual property related to DuPont's soluble OLED technology, and certain equipment for the production of soluble OLED materials and devices. The sale did not include assets or business associated with DowDuPont's existing evaporative OLED business.

This division of DuPont is a global supplier of materials and technologies serving the semiconductor, advanced chip packaging, circuit board, electronic and industrial finishing, photovoltaic, display, and digital and flexographic printing industries.

Dupont Electronics & Imaging made news in the lighting market back in 2009 when it received a \$2.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to develop a solid-state lighting source using low-cost organic light emitting diode (OLED) solution-processing manufacturing techniques.

## NEMA's EBCI Index for Current Conditions Drops in March But Still in Growth Territory

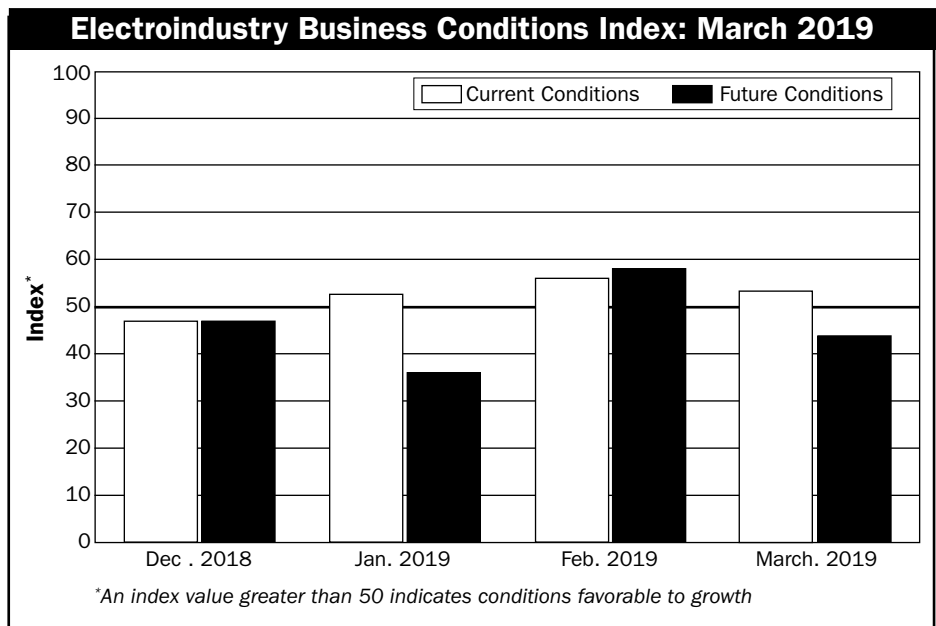
Despite a slight drop, from 55.9 points last month to 53.3 points in March, the current conditions component remained in expansionary territory. The share of electrical manufacturers that noted unchanged conditions increased as reports of both better and worse conditions declined.

The ElectroIndustry Business Conditions Index (EBCI) is a monthly survey of senior executives at electrical manufacturers published by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), Rosslyn, VA. Any score over the 50-point level indicates a greater number of panelists see conditions improving than see them deteriorating.

Although no glaring concerns surfaced, some comments cited policy uncertainty, especially related to tariffs, as well as the

desire that federal policymakers turn their attention to the nation's infrastructure needs.

The future conditions component continued its gyrations about the expansion demarcation line of 50. March's retreat to 43.3 from 58.8 in February marks the sixth time in eight months that the look-ahead measure fell below 50. As with the current component responses, the share of those that foresee unchanged conditions increased, while better and worse expectations declined. A solid majority of respondents now sees unchanged conditions in six months, but the proportion expecting better conditions pulled back sharply. One respondent directly noted an expected slowing of growth ahead, while others based anticipations on some resolution of political and policy uncertainties.



# Value of New Construction Edges Up +1% in February to \$1,320.3 Billion

Construction spending during Feb. 2019 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,320.3 billion, +1% above the revised January estimate of \$1,307.3 billion, according to the US. Census Bureau. The February figure is +1.1% above the Feb. 2018 estimate of \$1,305.5 billion. During the first two months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$181.9 billion, +1.4% above the \$179.4 billion for the same period in 2018.

**Private construction.** Spending on private construction in February was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$994.5 billion, +0.2% above the revised January estimate of \$993 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$540.9 billion in February, +0.7% above the revised January estimate of \$536.9 billion. Nonresidential construc-

tion was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$453.6 billion in February, -0.5% below the revised January estimate of \$456.0 billion.

The -0.8% monthly and -6.6% annual decrease in Private Commercial construction appears to be due largely to several double-digit declines in the retail segment, where the automotive (-18.5% YOY) and shopping center (-33.8% YOY) and shopping mall (-28.6% YOY) categories were particularly weak.

**Public construction.** In February, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$325.8 billion, +3.6% above the revised January estimate of \$314.4 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$76.3 billion, +0.8% above the revised January estimate of \$75.7 billion.

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## Turtle & Hughes supplies switchgear for microgrid in NY's Hudson Yards

Turtle & Hughes, Linden, NJ, provided switchgear and related products for New York's \$25 billion Hudson Yards complex, the largest construction project in Manhattan since Rockefeller Center and the largest urban redevelopment project in the nation. The project was in the news recently for the opening of its signature honeycomb-shaped Vessel sculpture.

According to the Turtle & Hughes Technology Blog, the switchgear was installed in two co-generation plants that are part of the complex's smart microgrid, which is "designed to keep Hudson Yards running even if the national grid goes down."

"The switchgear our team built into the microgrid is instrumental in keeping it ready, reliable and efficient as it seamlessly transfers power from the national grid to local power, when required," according to the post in the Turtle & Hughes blog. "By building a redundant system using a combination of ring-breakers, the microgrid can be prevented from ever going down. The smart microgrid also has two-way digital communication between smart devices to the national grid. This provides data that can be analyzed to ensure that whenever there is going to be a disruption in power, the Hudson Yards grid is ready to take over.

"The goal for all types of alternative grids is the same as those at Hudson Yards: better security, more efficient transmission, a resilient infrastructure, and lower costs for consumers."

## Offshore oil market starting to improve

As oil prices head toward \$70 a barrel, offshore drillers are very optimistic, according to several recent news reports. A March 28 *Bloomberg* article said several oil drilling executives at the recent Scotia Howard Weil Energy Conference in New Orleans saw an industry revival coming. "The offshore recovery is underway today," Jon Baksht, chief financial officer at Enasco, told investors at the conference, according to *Bloomberg*. "This isn't something that we're waiting for."

The most recent Baker-Hughes market data for offshore rigs in operation off the coast of Louisiana showed 20 rigs in operation on March 29, eight more than in March 2018.

## Value of New Construction Put In Place — Feb. 2019

Value of Construction Put-in-Place (\$ billions, seasonally adjusted annual rate)

	Feb. '19 <sub>1</sub>	Jan. '19 <sub>2</sub>	Mo. % Change	Feb. '18	YTY % Change
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,320.3</b>	<b>1,307.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1,305.5</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>994.5</b>	<b>993.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1,013.3</b>	<b>-1.9</b>
Residential	540.9	536.9	0.7	560.2	-3.4
New single family	267.2	270.1	-1.1	287.7	-7.1
New multifamily	65.3	65.6	-0.4	60.7	7.5
Nonresidential	453.6	456.0	-0.5	453.1	0.1
Lodging	32.2	32.1	0.1	30.1	7.0
Office	65.8	66.1	-0.4	62.8	4.8
Commercial	83.7	84.3	-0.8	89.6	-6.6
Health care	33.1	33.0	0.3	33.9	-2.2
Educational	20.1	21.1	-4.4	20.8	-3.0
Religious	3.1	3.2	-4.0	3.2	-3.0
Amusement and recreation	14.4	14.5	-0.8	14.3	0.6
Transportation	17.9	19.2	-7.0	16.4	9.0
Communication	23.0	23.3	-1.1	26.0	-11.3
Power	92.3	91.8	0.6	91.0	1.4
Electric	67.4	67.1	0.4	68.6	-1.8
Manufacturing	66.6	66.0	0.9	64.5	3.4
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>325.8</b>	<b>314.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>292.2</b>	<b>11.5</b>
Residential	5.7	5.7	-0.6	6.8	-16.3
Nonresidential	320.1	308.7	3.7	285.5	12.1
Office	9.8	9.7	1.2	9.1	8.3
Commercial	4.2	4.4	-6.5	3.5	20.3
Health care	8.3	8.9	-7.0	8.7	-5.3
Educational	76.3	75.7	0.8	72.4	5.5
Public safety	9.1	8.8	3.1	8.7	4.6
Amusement and recreation	13.0	12.6	2.5	10.8	20.2
Transportation	34.8	35.5	-2.0	33.6	3.5
Power	6.2	5.9	3.8	5.2	19.5
Highway and street	111.1	101.5	9.5	90.5	22.8
Sewage and waste disposal	23.0	21.9	5.2	21.6	6.5
Water supply	14.2	13.5	5.2	12.8	11.4
Conservation and development	8.5	8.5	0.6	7.2	19.3

1—Preliminary; 2—Revised

Note: The U.S. Census department changed its construction categories beginning with its May 2003 statistics.

With the changes in the project classifications, data now presented are not directly comparable with those data previously published in the regular-format press releases and tables. Direct comparisons can only be made at the total, total private, total state and local, total federal, and total public levels for annual and not seasonally adjusted monthly data. For more information, check out <http://www.census.gov/const/www/c30index.html>.

## People

*Sonepar USA (Charleston, SC):* **Christy Jacobs** has been named the new VP of finance for Sonepar USA's West Region. She began her career at KPMG where she worked with Sonepar USA as an auditor for five years. Jacobs made the move to Sonepar USA in 2007 as corporate director of accounting, where she worked on accounting improvements and implementing new consolidation and reporting tools. After three years, she was promoted to shared services director of accounting and in this role, she worked to transition and integrate various Sonepar USA businesses into the shared services environment. In 2015, Jacobs moved to San Diego, CA, to join OneSource as VP of finance.

*Remke Industries (Vernon Hills, IL):* **Jim Lillig** is now Remke's digital marketing director. He has more than 20 years of experience leading digital marketing efforts for industrial and B2C companies, most recently for Robert Bosch Tool Co. He served as digital marketing manager, Brand, for that company and was responsible for providing vision, strategy, implementation and optimization of all brand digital marketing activities.

*NABCO (Burbank, California):* **Will Marcus** joined the company as senior VP of sales. He will be responsible for driving sales growth and customer satisfaction for the NABCO portfolio of companies and report to Rob Logan, NABCO CEO. Marcus joins NABCO from Emerson/Appleton Group,

## Renewable Generating Facilities Showing Good

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scheduled for completion this December. The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) says the national average for the number of homes that can be powered per megawatt of solar power is 190, but cautions that there are many variables to consider, including the dramatic differences in the use of air conditioning and electric heat, as well as the size of home. Using the SEIA calculation, a 100MW solar farm can power 19,000 homes.

To learn more about the renewable generating projects in the EIA database, [www.electricalmarketing.com](http://www.electricalmarketing.com) offers a downloadable file of more than 300 renewable generating facilities, along with the interactive map mentioned earlier.

— Jim Lucy

where he served as the director of global accounts for the past 13 years.

Previously, Marcus spent eight years in a variety of sales management and national account roles with Pass & Seymour - Legrand.

Marcus also worked with Leviton Manufacturing company as a field salesperson, twice winning the award for salesperson of the year. He serves on the board of the NAED Lake Michigan Club, and he is a newly elected board member for the Chicago Electrical Association. He is a graduate of Texas Christian University with a BA in marketing.

*Enespro PPE (Oak Brook, IL):* This manufacturer of electrical safety personal protective equipment (PPE) products hired **Mike Gillette** as Northeast regional manager. In his new role, Gillette will be responsible for new business development in the northeastern United States and he will report to Richard Gojdics, VP of business development. In Gillette's previous role at Fastenal, he led his team to surpass growth goals in sales and earnings through customer service and cost savings solutions. He also oversaw daily operations and sales activities. Enespro PPE sells directly to electrical contracting, industrial manufacturers and electric utilities via its e-commerce website.

*Summit Electric Supply (Albuquerque, NM):* **Judd Rogers** has been hired as the company's vice president of supplier & product strategy. In this role, he will be responsible for enhancing relationships with Summit's suppliers as the company continues to strengthen its position within the industry.

Rogers entered the electrical industry in 2001, starting in sales, operations, and production. Over the years, he has held management positions for large electrical distributors, managed key accounts for electrical manufacturers, and most recently held a vice president position for an industrial lighting manufacturer.

He holds an MBA in strategic management from the University of North Texas and a master of science in entrepreneurship from Southern Methodist University.

## Rep News

**Blanchard Associates**, Ontario, CA, Remke Industries' independent manufacturers' rep in Southern California, is now stocking the company's cord grips and cable connectors.

## Obituary

**John Robert Bovyer**, 73, Hudson, OH, a well-known independent manufacturers' rep, passed away on March 24. He is survived by his wife Cynthia; and sons John Robert Bovyer III (Cecelia Lotz) and Brian Bovyer. According to a post by his family on Facebook, "John and Cindy started Electrical Sales of Ohio together in 1979 where they both worked along with their son John Bovyer III until they sold the business in 2018. John served on the National Electrical Manufacturers' Representative Association (NEMRA) board of directors, and the board of directors for the Electrical League of Ohio (18 Years). He also served as chairperson of the Cleveland Electro-Expo in 2000."

According to his obituary in *Cleveland's Plain Dealer*, a memorial gathering will be held on April 20 from 1 pm to 4 pm at Johnson-Romito Funeral Home, Hudson, OH, followed by a closing celebration of John's life at 4 pm. Details available at [www.johnsonromito.com](http://www.johnsonromito.com).

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In Memoriam:

George Ganzenmuller, 1924-1986  
Thomas Preston, 1927-1991

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