

Electrical Marketing®

THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 10, 2023 • Volume 48, Number 5

People On the Move

Current (Greenville, SC): **Bill Tolley** was appointed as interim CEO. Departing CEO Manish Bhandari was instrumental in leading the company through the pandemic and the acquisition of Hubbell's C&I Lighting business.

Tolley has served on Current's board of directors for several years. He has decades of experience in the electrical and lighting industry as a long-time senior executive of Hubbell. He will focus on implementing the company's strategic and tactical agendas while identifying and onboarding a permanent CEO.

Turtle & Hughes (Linden, NJ): The company's Integrated Supply division promoted **Blake Varbero** to vice president, Business Development, responsible for leading the division's national sales efforts. Varbero has spent his entire Turtle & Hughes 13-year career in this division, which provides MRO (maintenance & repair operations) supply chain services to Fortune 100 companies. He is a graduate of the University of Connecticut where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics with a minor in Business.

Schaedler Yesco Distribution (Harrisburg, PA): **Matt Healy** is now residential construction sales manager. Schaedler Yesco has built a reputation serving the industrial and commercial market, and is now working to also build sales in the residential market. Healy has been with Schaedler Yesco since 2019 as a customer experience manager.

Crawford Electric Supply/Sonepar (Houston): Regional Vice President **Tim Horny**,

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Billion-Dollar EV Plants, Airports, Offices & Data Centers Lead Project Activity in 1Q 2023

When *Electrical Marketing's* editors updated our database of the largest construction projects of over \$100 million in total contract value for this quarter, we found that the sheer size of the many new construction projects obscured the national trend in the overall construction market.

While many construction economists expect the overall market to decline in 2023, it's not hard to find dozens of large projects that either broke ground or entered the planning stage over the last three months. We found that airports, data centers and, surprisingly, large office projects were among the largest project types. Several semiconductor plants and electric vehicle factories or plants that manufacture EV batteries also topped \$1 billion in total contract value.

Tops on our project list is Brightline's \$10 billion high-speed rail link between Las Vegas and the Los Angeles metropolitan area that's scheduled to start construction later this year.

According to a post at www.sfgate.com, the 218-mile long rail link is expected to create 35,000 construction jobs.

The \$4.2-billion Terminal 6 at New York's JFK Airport, which broke ground last month, was the second largest project *EM's* editors could find. It was the largest of several airport projects now under construction, including the \$1.3-billion expansion of Sacramento's airport; the \$322-million expansion of BWI Airport in Baltimore; the \$150-million expansion of Spokane International Airport; and the \$110-million Gerald R. Ford expansion in Grand Rapids, MI.

The billions of dollars expected to be spent on semiconductor or EV plants over the next few years is flat-out amazing. Supported in part from the CHIPS semiconductor bill and federal infrastructure funding are several newly announced projects that broke ground or are in the planning stage,

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Handful of Metropolitan Areas Will See the Bulk of Residential Building in 2023

Building permit activity for 2022 was quite consolidated, with the majority of the activity in the Sunbelt or Intermountain states. The 10 largest markets (see chart on page 3) account for 33% of all single-family building permits, while the Top 25 metros account for more than half the permits. The Top 50 metros account for an estimated 70% of all activity.

Builders in the three Texas markets ranked in the Top 10 pulled a crazy number of combined permits — 111,331 single-family permits. The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX, MSA (47,633 permits) led the state's Big Three, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth, Arlington, TX, MSA (43,409 permits); and Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown, TX, MSA (20,289 permits). Add in San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX, MSA (10,173 permits), and these four metros alone account for more than 121,000 single-family permits. These four Texas

MSAs together had more single-family permits than any other entire state except for Florida, which had 133,750 single-family permits for 2022.

Despite the massive number of permits builders pulled in these markets last year, many of the top markets actually experienced some sizeable declines in permit activity. While each of the 10 largest markets saw builders pull at least 12,000 permits through Dec. 2022, nine of these Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) saw year-over-year declines of at least 2,000 permits. It's interesting to note that the two market areas with year-over-year increases in single-family building permits of more than 1,000 were actually smaller or medium-sized markets — the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA, MSA (+1,294 increase) with 3,694 single-family permits, and the Punta Gorda, FL, MSA (+1,202 increase) with 4,637.

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Arlington's Tom Stark passes on.. p. 6

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Project Watch — Largest Jobs to Watch in 1Q 2023

Contract Value (\$ Millions)	Project	City/State	Project Type	Status	Source
10,000	Brightline West's 's 218-mile high speed train line from Las Vegas to Los Angeles metro	Los Angeles/Las Vegas, CA/NV	Rail	Feb. 2023 project update	www.sfgate.com
4,200	JFK Airport's Terminal 6	New York, NY	Airport	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.businesstravelerusa.com
4,000-5,000	Hyundai Motor Group & SK	Bartow County, GA	EV Battery Plant	Plans announced Dec. 2022	www.marketscreener.com
3,500	Honda/LG Solutions EV Plant	Jefferson Township, OH	EV Plant	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.daytondailynews.com
3,180	Metro-North Penn Station Access Project	Bronx, NY	Mass Transit - Rail	Ceremonial Groundbreaking Dec. 2022	www.newyorkyimby.com
3,000	RXR's Veridea mixed-use project	Apex, NC	Mixed-Use	Feb. 2023 project update	www.newsobserver.com
3,000	The Mix mixed-used development	Frisco, TX	Mixed-Use	Dec. 2022 groundbreaking	www.constructiondive.com
1,900	EMP Shield semiconductor plant	Burlington, KS	Semiconductor Plant	Plans announced Feb. 2023	theconstructionbroadsheet.com
1,300	Sacramento Airport Expansion	Sacramento, CA	Airport	Plans announced Feb. 2023	www.enr.com
1,000	Two \$500-million segments of Facebook data center	Sandston, VA	Data Center	Plans announced Dec. 2022	www.construction.com
1,000	Prime Data Center campus	Elk Grove Village, IL	Data Center	Jan. 2023 groundbreaking	www.construction.com
1,000	St. Jude Children's Research Hospital clinic & office towers	Memphis, TN	Hospital/Office	Construction permits filed Feb. 2023	www.hhmglobal.com
810	Envision AESC battery plant to supply BMW EV factory	Florence, SC	EV Battery Plant	Plans announced Dec. 2022	www.scnow.com
760	Renewable energy battery plant	Weirton, WV	EV Battery Plant	State funding for project signed Feb. 2023	www.apnews.com
750	High Banks wind farm	Belleville, KS	Renewables - Wind	Jan. 2023 groundbreaking	www.construction.com
650	GM/Lithium Americas Thacker Pass lithium mine	Humboldt County, NV	Lithium Mine	Permit approved Feb. 2023	www.electrek.co
600	44-story headquarters building for Mutual of Omaha	Omaha, NE	Office	Jan. 2023 groundbreaking	www.constructiondive.com
575	Spark Therapeutics Gene Therapy Innovation Center at Drexel University	Philadelphia, PA	Office/Lab	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.audacy.com
515	Amazon data center	Hilliard, OH	Data Center	Jan. 2023 groundbreaking	www.construction.com
500	Vantage data Center	Sterling, VA	Data Center	Entered planning stage Dec. 23	www.construction.com
500	Northwestern Mutual downtown office tower	Milwaukee, WI	Office	Groundbreaking possible later in 2023	www.radiomilwaukee.org
460	CoStar Group corporate campus	Richmond, VA	Office	Jan. 2023 groundbreaking	www.construction.com
400	Sunset Industrial Park warehouse	Sunset Park, NY	Warehouse	Plans announced Dec. 2022	www.construction.com
400	Acute Neuropsychiatric Hospital	Los Angeles, CA	Hospital	Entered planning stage Dec. 23	www.construction.com
400	Barber-Colman redevelopment project	Rockford, IL	Mixed-Use	Feb. 2023 plan status report	www.rstar.com
375	Tesla lithium refinery	Nueces County, TX	Lithium Refinery	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.caller.com
332	BWI Airport expansion	Baltimore, MD	Airport	Construction expected to start late 2022	www.cbsnews.com
325	Westfield Data Center	Westfield, MA	Data Center	Entered planning stage Jan. 23	www.construction.com
315	USC Discovery and Translational Hub laboratory building	Los Angeles, CA	College & University	Entered planning stage Jan. 23	www.construction.com
313	Clackamas County Courthouse	Oregon City, OR	Government - County	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.djc.com
300	Norfolk Naval Shipyard renovation of Dry Dock 8 and adjacent berths	Norfolk, VA	Military - Port	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.navy.mil
300	Great Wolf Lodge at Foxwoods Casino	Ledyard, CT	Hotel/Resort	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.cbia.com
300	Calabasas apartment projects	Los Angeles, CA	Multi-Family	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.spectrumnews1.com
275	Illinois District Data Center	Chicago, IL	Data Center	Entered planning stage Jan. 23	www.construction.com
211	Granary Lab & Office Building	Salt Lake City, UT	Office/Lab	Entered planning stage Jan. 23	www.construction.com
200	Mixed-use building	Gowanus, NY	Mixed-Use	Jan. 2023 groundbreaking	www.construction.com
192	HCA North Florida Hospital	Gainesville, FL	Hospital	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	healthcaredesignmagazine.com
185	Hollywood Casino	Joliet, IL	Casino	Plans announced Dec. 2022	www.construction.com
185	Life sciences building	Philadelphia, PA	Life Sciences	Entered planning stage Dec. 23	www.construction.com
160	Smith County Courthouse	Tyler, TX	Courthouse	Plans announced Dec. 2022	www.construction.com
150	The Cove residential community	Sacramento, CA	Single-Family Residential	Jan. 2023 groundbreaking	www.construction.com
150	Spokane International Airport expansion	Spokane, WA	Airport	Underway 2022-2023	www.spokesman.com
127	Fresno Yosemite International Airport Expansion	Fresno, CA	Airport	Federal grant money announced March 2023	www.gvwire.com
126	Oklahoma Fairgrounds Coliseum	Oklahoma City, OK	Arena	Feb. 2023 groundbreaking	www.news9.com
110	Gerald R. Ford International Airport expansion	Grand Rapids, MI	Airport	Underway 2023	www.mlive.com

Dodge Momentum Index Rises in February

The Dodge Momentum Index (DMI), issued by Dodge Construction Network, advanced +1.9% in February to 203 points (2000=100) from the revised January reading of 199.3 points. In February, the commercial component of the DMI rose +1.4%, and the institutional component increased +2.9%.

“The Dodge Momentum Index returned to growth in February after falling -9% last month,” said Sarah Martin, associate director of forecasting for Dodge Construction Network, in the press release. “The continued elevation in the DMI should provide hope that construction activity will grow in 2024. Owners and developers tend to put projects into planning until well after economic conditions weaken. During the Great Recession, for example, the DMI did not substantially decline until 2009. Therefore, the anticipated mild economic growth in 2023 could cause the DMI to moderate over the year, but it’s unlikely to fall below historical norms.”

Commercial planning in February was bolstered by almost +20% growth in office planning activity, as data centers contin-

ued to steadily enter the planning queue. Institutional planning was driven higher by growth in education and healthcare projects, notably the continued investment in research laboratories. On a year-over-year basis, the DMI remains +43% higher than in February 2022. The commercial component was up +55%, and the institutional component was +22% higher.

A total of 22 projects with a value of \$100 million or more entered planning in February. The leading commercial projects included the \$500-million Northwestern Mutual Headquarters in Milwaukee, and the \$375-million Legacy Highlands warehouse and retail project in Beaumont, CA. The leading institutional projects comprised of the \$500-million University of Michigan Residence and Dining Hall in Ann Arbor, MI, and the \$213-million Center of Innovation laboratory building in Emeryville, CA.

The DMI is a monthly measure of the initial report for nonresidential building projects in planning, shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential buildings by a full year.

Texas Dominates 2022 Building Permit Activity

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While many of the Sunbelt’s larger MSAs logged some impressive permit totals last year, several smaller and medium-sized markets actually grew faster. You can use the Housing Hotness Index to compare large and small markets in terms of building activity. To level the playing field when comparing smaller market areas to the nation’s largest MSAs, this index ranks metros based on the number of single-family permits per 1,000 residents.

It’s interesting to note that seven MSAs in Florida ranked in the Top 10 in the Housing Hotness Index — The Villages; Punta Gorda; North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton; Lakeland-Winter Haven; Cape Coral-Fort Myers; Naples-Marco Island; and Port St. Lucie. Rounding out the Top 10 in the Housing Hotness Index were Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown, TX; Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach, SC-NC; and Provo-Orem, UT.

— Jim Lucy

2022’s 10 Largest Markets for Single-Family Building Permits

Rank	Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	Single-Family (SF) Permits	SF YOY # Change	SF YOY % Change
1	Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX	47,633	(5,086)	(10)
2	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	43,409	(8,587)	(17)
3	Phoenix-Mesa-Chandler, AZ	26,828	(7,519)	(22)
4	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Alpharetta, GA	26,382	(5,178)	(16)
5	Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown, TX	20,289	(4,197)	(17)
6	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC	18,987	(1,843)	(9)
7	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL	16,194	(1,601)	(9)
8	Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro-Franklin, TN	15,189	(2,233)	(13)
9	Jacksonville, FL	14,368	(2,168)	(13)
10	New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA	12,495	(452)	(3)

Around the Industry

Rockwell acquires Knowledge Lens

Rockwell Automation acquired Knowledge Lens, a services and solutions provider based in Bengaluru, India. Following the acquisition, Knowledge Lens will merge with Rockwell Automation’s digital services business, Kalypso. The financial terms of the acquisition are not yet disclosed.

The increase in demand to scale connectivity, as well as enable data-driven predictive and prescriptive insights, is aiding growth of Rockwell Automation’s digital transformation services business. The addition of Knowledge Lens will further expand Rockwell Automation’s capabilities to harness the power of data and enable autonomous manufacturing. Founded in 2013, Knowledge Lens caters to a broad range of manufacturers, with a focus on highly regulated industries.

Home Depot to grant \$200,000 in scholarships for women in construction

The Home Depot Foundation announced an investment of \$200,000 in trade school scholarships for women, in celebration of Women in Construction Week (March 5-11). The Home Depot Foundation’s Path to Pro Scholarship for Women will provide \$4,000 in financial assistance to women entering or currently enrolled in construction trades programs.

“The Home Depot Foundation has invested more than half of a million dollars in trade school scholarships to extend support beyond our training programs and help bridge the opportunity gap for more students seeking high-earning careers,” said Shannon Gerber, The Home Depot Foundation’s executive director in the press release. “We’re proud to have trained more than 39,000 trades professionals and awarded nearly 200 trade school scholarships to-date, and we’re thrilled to continue that momentum with an intentional focus on women.”

CES opens 10th Michigan branch

After a three-month renovation project, the City Electric Supply branch in Fenton, MI, is open for business. It’s the 10th CES branch in Michigan. CES Fenton will be led by Branch Manager Maxwell George.

“We are trying to expand our web of branches here in Michigan, and we wanted to put a new CES location in Fenton,”

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Industry Events

April 19-20, 2023

Upper Midwest Electrical Expo

Minneapolis; North Central Electrical League
www.ncel.org

May 21-23, 2023

LightFair Trade Show & Conference

New York; www.lightfair.com

May 23-25, 2023

NAED Annual Conference

Marco Island, FL; www.naed.org

June 12-14, 2023

NAED Women in Industry Forum

Salt Lake City, UT
www.naed.org

June 14-16, 2023

NAED Adventure

Salt Lake City, UT
www.naed.org

September 18-20, 2023

IDEA eBiz

Nashville, TN; IDEA
www.idea4industry.com

September 30-October 2, 2023

NECA Show

Philadelphia; National Electrical Contractor Association (NECA)
www.necashow.org

October 18-20, 2023

AD Electrical North American Meeting

Dallas; Affiliated Distributors
www.adhq.org

November 6-8, 2023

NAED Eastern Conference

Marco Island, FL; www.naed.org

November 8-9, 2023

NEMA Annual Meeting

Manalapan, FL; www.nema.org

January 15-17, 2024

NAED Western Conference

Austin, TX; www.naed.org

Jan. 29- Feb. 1, 2024

NEMRA Annual Conference

Dallas, National Electrical Manufacturers Representatives Association
www.nemra.org

Trophy Job Segment of Construction Market Shows No Signs of Slowing Down

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including the Hyundai Motor Group/SK EV factory in Bartow County, GA, with a total contract value of \$4 billion to \$5 billion; the \$3.5-billion Honda/LG Solutions EV plant that broke ground in Jefferson Township, OH, last month; a \$1.9-billion EMP Shield semiconductor plant in Burlington, KS; the \$810-million Envision/AESC battery plant that will supply a BMW EV factory in Florence, SC; and a \$760-million renewables energy battery plant in Weirton, WV.

Despite the swing toward remote officing, several companies are moving forward with large office projects, including the \$600-mil-

lion Mutual of Omaha headquarters in Omaha, NE; the \$575-million Spark Therapeutics Gene Therapy Innovation Center at Drexel University in Philadelphia; \$500-million Northwestern Mutual downtown office tower in Milwaukee; and the \$460-million CoStar corporate campus in Richmond, VA.

Billion-dollar data centers in Sandston, VA, and Elk Grove, IL, as well as several smaller facilities made the top project list (see chart on page 2).

EM's complete list of projects breaking ground or in the planning stages can be downloaded at www.electricalmarketing.com.

— Jim Lucy

NEMA's EBCI Index Shows Huge Growth in January as Execs See Stronger Demand

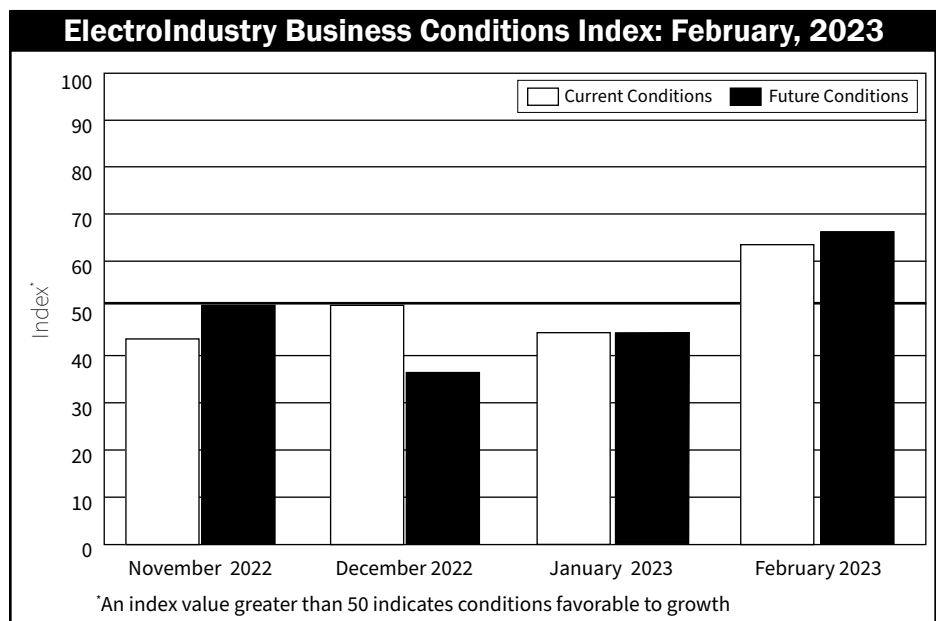
After spending nearly all of 2022 in unchanged or even contractionary territory, the current conditions component improved dramatically just two months into 2023 as the February reading added 17 points to January's score to reach 63.3 points.

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.

The move toward electrification and infrastructure investments, as illustrated

in one comment that described "strong continued demand in EV, utility and data centers," played a role as did strong orders activity and easing supply chain pressures.

The future conditions component made an even bigger improvement, gaining 20 points to hit 66.7 points in February. A sharp pullback in the proportion of respondents who expected "worse" conditions in six months was the primary driver of the increase, with only 7% sharing that perception, while 40% indicated that "better" conditions lay ahead. Although comments pointed out potential weakness, such as in residential construction, on net they reflected a buoyed outlook compared to recent sentiment.



January Total Constructions Sees Slight Dip to \$1,825.7 Billion But is Tracking +5.7% YOY

Total construction spending during Jan. 2023 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,825.7 billion, -0.1% below the revised December estimate of \$1,827.5 billion. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the January figure is +5.7% above the Jan. 2022 estimate of \$1,726.6 billion.

Private construction. Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,442.6 billion, virtually unchanged from the revised December estimate of \$1,442 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$847.4 billion in January, -0.6% below the revised December estimate of \$852.1 billion. Non-residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$595.2 billion in January, +0.9% above the revised December estimate of \$589.9 billion.

The private Manufacturing category was once again in the spotlight, with a +6% gain in January to \$139.4 billion. The Computer/electronic/electrical sub-category did most of the heavy lifting with a +8.8% monthly increase and +157.9% YOY increase to \$60.9 billion.

The private Office category showed a small +0.5% monthly increase to \$90 billion, but that figure was up a surprising +14.5% over Jan. 2022.

Public construction. In January, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$383.1 billion, -0.6% below the revised December estimate of \$385.5 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$84.1 billion, -0.6% below the revised December estimate of \$84.6 billion.

Around the Industry

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said District Manager Brad Jenks in the press release. “This CES location will help connect some dots between our existing branches, such as Brighton, Waterford and Lansing, to help support our existing business and help new customers with their needs as well.”

Signify acquires controls company

Signify, Eindhoven, Netherlands, acquired Intelligent Lighting Controls Inc. (ILC), Edina, MN, a U.S. manufacturer of wired control systems, expanding its connected portfolio. Intelligent Lighting Controls’ sales are primarily focused on energy-saving control systems in applications such as healthcare, education, offices and sporting venues. Founded in 1990, ILC will continue to be headquartered and maintain its manufacturing in Edina.

Going forward, ILC will sell its brand of wired control systems as part of Cooper Lighting Solutions, a business unit of Signify’s Digital Solutions division. ILC’s wired control systems expand the Cooper Lighting Solutions portfolio of energy-saving solutions, providing enhanced opportunities to sell a broad range of energy efficient LED lighting products in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

The financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Electrical stocks hit 52-week highs

Although the overall stock market performance has been uneven so far in 2023 and the market took a big hit on March 7 because of Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell’s comments on rising interest rates, three stocks on *Electrical Marketing’s* watch list hit 52-week highs over the past 10 days.

Shares of Rockwell Automation, hit \$303.20 on Mar 3 following the news that the company had acquired Knowledge Lens on Mar 1. Zacks ranks Rockwell as a “Buy.” The stock is up +14% year-to-date.

W.W. Grainger is up +23.5% year-to-date and hit a 52-week high of \$686.88 on March 2. Zacks rates Grainger as a “Strong Buy.”

WESCO International also hit a high recently a 52-week high of \$173 and is up an impressive +36% so far this year. Zacks is also a big fan of WESCO and rates the company as a “Strong Buy.”

Value Of New Construction Put In Place — January, 2023

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

	Jan. '23 ₁	Dec. '22 ₂	Mo. % Change	Jan. '22	YTY % Change
Total Construction	1,825.7	1,827.5	-0.1	1,726.6	5.7
Total Private Construction:	1,442.6	1,442.0	0	1,381.7	4.4
Residential ²	847.4	852.1	-0.6	881.9	-3.9
New single family	374.4	380.7	-1.7	458.6	-18.4
New multifamily	120.5	120.1	0.4	99.9	20.6
Nonresidential	595.2	589.9	0.9	499.8	19.1
Lodging	21.6	21.4	0.9	15.4	40.5
Office	83.0	82.6	0.5	72.5	14.5
Commercial	121.4	125.4	-3.2	99.5	22.1
Health care	44.1	44.3	-0.3	39.4	12.1
Educational	20.5	20.6	-0.7	17.9	14.2
Religious	3.1	2.9	4.7	2.8	11.2
Amusement and recreation	14.7	14.8	-0.4	13.0	13.7
Transportation	19.0	18.8	0.8	15.1	25.9
Communication	24.9	24.9	0.2	24.0	3.6
Power	100.5	99.5	1	107.5	-6.5
Electric	77.2	77.4	-0.3	83.1	-7.2
Manufacturing	139.4	131.5	6	90.6	53.8
Total Public Construction:	383.1	385.5	-0.6	344.9	11.1
Residential	9.6	9.5	0.2	8.9	7.9
Nonresidential	373.5	376.0	-0.6	336.0	11.2
Office	13.0	12.8	2.2	11.9	9.2
Commercial	4.1	4.1	-1.6	3.3	23.3
Health care	11.6	11.4	2.3	10.2	13.7
Educational	84.1	84.6	-0.6	80.5	4.5
Public safety	10.8	11.0	-2	10.0	8.1
Amusement and recreation	14.0	14.4	-2.5	13.0	8
Transportation	42.5	41.6	2	41.2	3.1
Power	11.1	11.1	-0.2	9.5	16.7
Highway and street	117.3	118.4	-0.9	100.8	16.4
Sewage and waste disposal	32.4	33.2	-2.4	28.0	16
Water supply	21.4	22.8	-6.4	18.2	17
Conservation and development	10.3	9.5	8.6	8.5	21.5

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

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a 18-year-company veteran, will be retiring March 31. He has more than 40 years of industry experience and established the distributor's San Antonio market. The press release said Horny built a successful career recruiting talented associates, mentoring future generations of leaders, executing strategic plans that increased market share and contributed to shaping the company's profitable growth.

McNaughton-McKay Electric Co. (Madison Heights, MI): **Donald Slominski Jr.**, chairman and CEO, retired on March 31. The board of directors has appointed **Mark Borin** to succeed Slominski as CEO on April 1. Following this transition, Slominski will continue to serve on the organization's board of directors in the role of executive chairman.

Slominski joined McNaughton-McKay Electric Co. in 1996 as the director of finance and was elected president and chief executive officer in 2005. He guided McNaughton-McKay through the successful transition from a family-owned to an employee-owned organization, delivering a number of strategic acquisitions and transforming the company from 800 employees and \$450 million revenues to 1,750 employees and \$2.2 billion in revenues. Borin joined the McNaughton-McKay leadership team as president in June 2020. Prior to joining the company, Borin spent 12 years at Pentair plc, most recently as executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Graybar Electric Co. (St. Louis): Effective April 1, **Andy Ciccone** has been named District vice president in Richmond and **Mark Hirst** has been named vice president of Technology.

Ciccone currently serves as Graybar's VP and CIO. Since joining the company more than 30 years ago, he has worked in sales, branch management, district management and corporate leadership roles. In his new assignment, he will lead Graybar's business in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and portions of South Carolina and Tennessee. Ciccone holds a bachelor's degree in business administration in marketing from Texas A&M University and is a graduate of the Rutgers-Graybar Supply Chain Management Program. He currently serves as director, Architecture and Operations for Graybar.

Obituary

Tom Stark, president and owner of Arlington Industries, passed away on Monday, March 6. Stark was widely respected throughout the electrical industry as the consummate entrepreneur and inventor. He grew Arlington from a small fittings manufacturer to a powerhouse in fittings market that was known for launching dozens if not hundreds of new products over the years and investing in large end-user advertising and marketing programs to promote them. Stark was also a big supporter of the National Electrical Manufacturers Representatives Association (NEMRA) and Arlington's dedicated network of independent manufacturers' reps. For a rep agency, getting the Arlington line is considered to be a huge accomplishment because of the wide acceptance of the company's products by end users and the company's consistent marketing support and new product launches.

Stark held many patents for Arlington products and loved to talk with electrical contractors and other customers at trade shows to see what type of job-site challenges they were having, and then designing products to overcome these challenges. He was also intimately involved with the company's manufacturing processes, and enjoyed adapting machinery on Arlington's production lines to the company's constant flow of new products. He also built a company culture at Arlington that attracted top salespeople and regional managers who dedicated much of their electrical careers to the company.

A company statement on his passing said that although Arlington is saddened by the loss of Tom Stark the business operation will continue unchanged.

Arlington was purchased by his father Eugene Stark, Sr. in 1949. Tom became president of the company after graduating from the University of Florida in 1975. Stark was born in South Florida on Nov. 9, 1953 and attended the University of Florida where he met his wife, Betty (Elizabeth) and earned his degree in Accounting. He is survived by his wife, Betty, two daughters: Meredith (Camille) Oostwegel and Allison (Aaren) Riley, and three grandsons: Spencer and Winston Oostwegel, and Sawyer Riley; as well as his brother Gene (Jean) Stark and sister Patricia Stark.

Services will be at Kraeer Funeral Home, 1655 University Drive, Coral Springs, FL 33071. (954) 753-8960. Funeral plans will

be announced once the arrangements are completed by the family.

The staff of *EM*, *EW* and *EC&M* pass along our condolences to Betty Stark and her family and Arlington's employees.

Rep News

Axis Lighting has selected **Next Generation Lighting** to represent the company's full portfolio in north Georgia, including Atlanta. **ALESCO/NGL South** will represent Axis Lighting and BalancedCare in central and south Georgia, including Augusta, Macon, Columbus and Savannah.

Next Generation Lighting and ALESCO/NGL South specialize in architectural lighting and controls for new construction, design build renovations and retrofit projects.

Electrical Marketing

Subscriptions: 877-382-9187

(8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Central Time)

or ElectricalMarketing@omeda.com

Subscription rates: \$99 per year. Group subscription discount rates are also available.

Electrical Marketing is published semi-monthly by Endeavor Business Media, LLC, 1233 Janesville Ave., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Electrical Marketing, PO Box 3257, Northbrook, IL 60065-3257. Subscription prices: U.S. (\$99.00); Canada/Mexico (\$99.00/year); All other countries (\$99.00). All subscriptions are payable in U.S. funds. Send subscription inquiries to Electrical Marketing, PO Box 3257, Northbrook, IL 60065-3257. Customer service can be reached toll-free at 877-382-9187 or at ElectricalMarketing@omeda.com for newsletter subscription assistance or questions.

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