



Attracting and Retaining a New Generation of Regulators and Contractors: PEI Education Center & Technical Certification

Scott C. Boorse

PEI Vice President of Technical Programs & Industry Affairs

National Tanks Conference
September 25, 2025
Spokane, WA





Agenda

- Workforce Development
- PEI Education Center
- Technical Certification Program
- Questions



Scott Boorse Bio



PEI Vice President of Technical Programs & Industry Affairs

- 35+ years of industry experience
- 7+ years at PEI
- Over 20 years in retail fueling for a major C-Store chain (Wawa)
- 8+ years as a consultant (domestic & international)
- Geologist with an MBA





PEI Workforce Development

PEI Workforce Development



PEI Workforce Development

The problem

- **Skilled Trades:** A widespread shortage already a critical economic issue
 - Potential \$1 trillion hit to U.S. economy
- U.S. construction industry needs **439,000 – 725,000** additional workers to meet **current** demand.
 - Electricians, plumbers, HVAC, etc.



PEI Workforce Development

The problem

- **Demand** is outpacing replacement
 - Expected to grow at 4.7%/yr over next 10
- U.S. construction industry needs ***hundreds of thousands*** in the coming years!!
 - Less than that entering workforce
- Multiple factors affecting shortage



PEI Workforce Development

The problem



➤ ***Aging workforce:***

- ✓ Many entering retirement years
- ✓ 41% of current construction workforce to retire by 2031

➤ ***Negative perception of trades:***

- ✓ Many perceive skilled trades as less prestigious

➤ ***Evolving skill requirements:***

- ✓ Technical jobs require advanced, specialized training

PEI Workforce Development

The problem



➤ ***Strained training pipelines:***

- ✓ Shortage of instructor's limits capacity to train new entrants to meet demand.

➤ ***Competition from other sectors :***

- ✓ Construction competes for talent with other sectors – manufacturing, transportation, etc.

➤ ***Increased demand driven by infrastructure projects***

- ✓ Federal investments in infrastructure,
- ✓ Renewable energy and,
- ✓ Demand for data centers.



PEI Education Center

PEI Education Center



PEI Education Center

Why?

Part of PEI's mission is ***to be the leading authority for education within the energy handling equipment industry.***

- An industry training resource for PEI members for workforce development.
 - ❖ The focus is to support the learning and development of our members, non-members and the industry.
- Develop a career path for NTI
- Obtain basic knowledge
 - ❖ Core competency



PEI Education Center

Overview

- Online training platform to educate the Next Generation
 - ✓ flexible instruction that provides industry content
 - ✓ caters to all learning styles
 - ✓ eLearning coursework to support technical aspects
- Courses based on industry recognized PEI content



PEI Education Center

Overview

- Independent learning to train the NTI
 - Small chunks - over 1 – 2 weeks
 - Combine with on-the-job experience
- Scientific teaching for retention
 - Audible – Visual – Kinesthetic
 - 80% better retention



PEI Education Center

Overview

- Established course bundles to meet needs
 - ❖ HS Prep – Onboarding – Install & Removal – Inspect & Test
 - ❖ Recommended Practice Core Competency
 - ❖ *Technical Certification - new*
- Leads to a PEI Technical Certification



PEI Education Center

Overview

- ❖ Developed over past 3 years
 - ✓ More than 1,200 users
 - ✓ Over 660 courses completed
 - ✓ EHE 101 & 102 best selling
 - ✓ Established specialty courses
 - ✓ Built for the Industry by the Industry



PEI Education Center

What Else?

❖ Added Specialty Courses to Education Center

- ☐ Six (6) additional RP courses
 - 600, 700, 800, 1000, 1300 & 1400
- ☐ Individual specialty certification
- ☐ Must have PEI Technical Certification
- ☐ Specialty badge



PEI Education Center

Demonstration

- Accessed via the PEI website
 - ✓ Log in to PEI.org
 - ✓ Under Education
 - ✓ Select PEI Education Center
 - ✓ Watch short video
 - ✓ Click 
- When PEI Education Center Opens
 - ✓ View and select courses
- [Demonstration](#)





PEI Technical Certification Program

PEI Technical Certification



PEI Technical Certification Program



The PEI Technical Certification Program is designed to:

1. Provide consistent relevant training
2. Prepare the next generation in 5 easy steps
3. Deliver a skilled workforce for the energy handling equipment industry



PEI Technical Certification Program

Step 1

Step One: Complete on-line course work



- ✓ Pass 8 Online Courses – 80% or better
 - ❑ Two Introduction Courses
 - EHE 101: Introduction to Energy Handling Equipment
 - EHE 102: Introduction to Repair and Maintenance of Energy Handling Equipment
 - ❑ Six Recommended Practices
 - RP 100, 200, 500, 900, 1200 & 1700



PEI Technical Certification Program

Step 2



Step Two: Complete API WorkSafe Program

- Complete API WorkSafe course
 - API 1646
- Score 80% or better
- Submit certificate with application

PEI Technical Certification Program

Step 3

Step Three: Complete 1200 Hours of on-the-job training



- ✓ 100 Hours of Installation & Removal Activities
- ✓ 100 Hours of Service & Maintenance Activities
- ✓ 1000 Hours to be spent performing installation and/or maintenance duties appropriate to the job

PEI Technical Certification Program

Step 4



Step Four: Complete & Submit Application

- ✓ Complete the PEI Technical Certification on-line application
- ✓ Document on-the-job work
- ✓ Upload and submit information to PEI Education Team



PEI Technical Certification Program

Step 5

Step Five: Supervisor & PEI Verification

- ✓ Supervisor verifies on-the-job work
 - Must be a PEI member company
- ✓ Supervisor signs application and
- ✓ PEI Education Team verifies info
- ✓ After successful verification - certification issued



PEI Technical Certification Program

Timeline



Timeline for Roll Out – 2025/2026

- ❖ Pilot Program Underway
 - ❖ Seeking regulatory participation
- ❖ Implement certification – 2026
- ❖ Anticipated roll-out mid year 2026

In Summary

- Workforce Development
- PEI Education Center & Demo
- Technical Certification Program





Questions

Thank you for your time and attention!

sboorse@pei.org

610-513-6542

