



# Pride and Opportunity Abound

## IBEW at Union Industries Show '99

One of the nation's largest and most popular trade shows was back on the East Coast this year, as the Union Industries Show (UIS) traveled to the new convention center in Atlantic City, New Jersey, May 14-17. The annual exposition of the pride and quality that go into union-made products and services once again had the IBEW in the middle of it all.

In addition to serving as a chance for the public to see the scope and breadth of union-made products and services, the show has also increasingly taken on the aspect of a job fair. Given the current low unemployment in the United States and the competition by employers for bright young workers, many companies and unions use the UIS to circulate information about job openings and career opportunities.

This year, many young people got a firsthand look at the wide range of good jobs available for those who prepare for them—and to see what trade unionism is all about. Thousands of schools from around the region were invited to bring students as a school-to-work activity. They came by the busloads on Friday morning—some 5,000 future job holders—before the show opened to the public. The AFL-CIO conducted seminars where representatives of different trades were asked about the qualifications, training and salaries of their professions. The students were also provided with a

“scavenger hunt” sheet of information which they could find at the show. Many teachers assigned students to talk to companies that represented the trades they were studying in school.

This year's show covered floor space in excess of six football fields and featured well over 300 unions and companies with union-represented employees. In the middle of it all, the hovering lights of the IBEW spacecraft and the talking robot, I-bew, delighted and amazed visitors, as they have done at past shows. The spacecraft has become something of an unofficial emblem of the show, as evidenced by the fact that the local newspaper featured a color photo of it on the cover of its May 15 edition.

Visitors were impressed by the booths of craftsmanship exhibits presented by members of the Brotherhood. All aspects of the electrical industry were included in the displays: construction including residential, commercial and industrial, as well as power distribution; public and private utilities including

installation, operation and transition, and natural gas as well as electrical utilities; communications including telephone and cable TV; electrical manufacturing including appliances, radio, television, wire/cable, computers, telephone equipment, etc.; radio and television broadcast engineers; government operations, particularly those concerning electrical operations of various sorts; railroad electrical and communications operations; and other areas like aerospace, movie studios, atomic research, signs, nuclear technicians, marine, motor winders, and office workers.

Some of the IBEW company partners at the show were ADT Alarm Systems; ASCO (Automated Switch); Cutler Hammer Corp.; Public Service Electric and Gas of New Jersey; Bacsí, a Bell Atlantic Company; Bell Atlantic Enterprises; Lucent Technologies; Pennsylvania Power and Light Resources; General Electric and Amtrak.

IBEW International-Secretary Treasurer Edwin D. Hill helped open the show and greeted the IBEW volunteers who staffed the various exhibits. He was joined by International Vice President Lawrence Rossa of the host Third District as well as Second District International Vice President Frank Carroll and Sixth District International Vice President Jeremiah O'Connor. International Secretary-Treasurer Hill said that the UIS “gives us

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Members of Local 94, Cranbury, New Jersey, demonstrate safe utility operating procedures.



Pictured shortly after the opening ceremonies are: (from left) Charles Wowkanech, President of New Jersey State AFL-CIO; Charles Mercer, President of the Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO; AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Richard Trumka; IBEW International Secretary-Treasurer Edwin D. Hill; IBEW International Vice Presidents Lawrence Rossa, Third District; Jerry O'Connor, Sixth District, and Frank Carroll, Second District. In the background, left, is I-beew, the popular robot.




Crowds throng around the IBEW exhibit area.

## Union Industries

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a chance to demonstrate to the public what unionism is all about—quality products and services built by proud, well-trained, safety conscious union members.”

Among the other popular exhibits on display were the New York Transit's Hyperbus, a bus run on electricity and billed as the transportation of the future; Boeing Aircraft with a 50-foot virtual tour of the company and its aircraft; Harley Davidson with design and pinstriping exhibitions; concept car displays from Ford, General Motors and Chrysler; a live Steelworkers display; live glass blowing—the way it was done in the early 1900s with a 2,000-degree furnace; cake decorating; movie props from the original Star Wars and other movies; a chance to sit behind the controls of a Conrail train and a Budweiser Clydesdale horse. 



Inside construction Local 351, whose jurisdiction includes Atlantic City, was especially helpful in making the show a success. Pictured at the booth run by the local, its contractor organization counterpart and their joint training committee are: (from left) Michael Becker, Alan Wolfe, Secretary-Treasurer Hill, Vice President Rossa, Bill Hosey, Vice President O'Connor, Rosemary McGloin, Jerome Klainer, Helene Weisberg, Vice President Carroll, Bob Nedohon, Steve Hill and Dennis MacGregor. Not pictured is Business Manager Edward Gant.

### IBEW locals whose members gave of their time and talents to make the 1999 Union Industries Show a success were:

**Local 3, New York, New York:**

Inside/Outside; Electrical Manufacturing; Utility; Government; Maintenance and Operation; Line Clearance and Tree Trimming; Cable Television

**Local 25, Long Island, New York:**

Inside/Outside; Radio Television Service; Cable Television

**Local 43, Syracuse, New York:** Inside; Radio-Television Service; Electrical Manufacturing

**Local 94, Cranbury, New Jersey:** Utility; Line Clearance and Tree Trimming

**Local 98, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:** Inside; Electrical Manufacturing; Alarm and Signal; Instrument Technicians

**Local 102, Paterson, New Jersey:** Inside/Outside

**Local 164, Jersey City, New Jersey:** Inside/Outside

**Local 201, Beaver, Pennsylvania:** Electrical Manufacturing

**Local 210, Atlantic City, New Jersey:** Utility

**Local 269, Trenton, New Jersey:** Inside/Outside

**Local 313, Wilmington, Delaware:**

Inside; Sound and Public Address

**Local 327, Dover, New Jersey:** Utility

**Local 351, Winslow, New Jersey:**

Inside/Outside; Sound and Public Address; Line Clearance and Tree Trimming

**Local 358, Perth Amboy, New Jersey:**

Inside/Outside

**Local 400, Asbury Park, New Jersey:**

Inside/Outside; Electric Signs

**Local 456, New Brunswick, New Jersey:**

Inside/Outside

**Local 675, Elizabeth, New Jersey:**

Inside/Outside

**Local 827, East Windsor, New Jersey:**

Telephone; Cable Television

**Local 1096, Blairsville, Pennsylvania:**

Electrical Manufacturing

**Local 1241, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:**

Radio-Television Broadcasting

**Local 1289, Lakewood, New Jersey:**

Utility

**Local 1298, Morristown, New Jersey:**

Utility

**Local 1303, Keyport, New Jersey:**

Utility

**Local 1309, Asbury Park, New Jersey:**

Utility

**Local 1314, Sayreville, New Jersey:**

Utility

**Local 1522, Allentown, Pennsylvania:**

Electrical Manufacturing

**Local 1560, Allentown, Pennsylvania:**

Manufacturing Office Workers

**Local 1600, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania:**

Utility; Cable Television

**Local 1820, Neptune, New Jersey:**

Utility

**Local 1898, Laureldale, Pennsylvania:**

Electrical Manufacturing

**Local 2249, Bloomington, Indiana:**

Electrical Manufacturing

**Utility System Council U-3** (Including

Locals 327, 1289, 1298, 1303, 1309, 1314), Jersey Central Light Co.

**Railroad System Council 7,** Philadel-

phia, Pennsylvania, and Affiliated Local Unions 