



News Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: Tobias Sellier, APPA Senior Communications Specialist, 202/467-2927

NINE TEAMS AND TEN INDIVIDUALS WIN AWARDS AT NATIONAL LINEWORKERS RODEO

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 14, 2012—Nine teams and ten individuals won awards at the American Public Power Association’s twelfth annual Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo, held April 13-14, in Cleveland, Ohio, in conjunction with APPA’s annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference.

Forty-five teams and 59 apprentices from not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities across the nation participated. The “rodeo” is a series of competitive events demonstrating the safe work practices that lineworkers must carry out at their utilities.

There are two levels of competition within the rodeo—journeyman and apprentice. The journeyman teams consist of three members—two climbers and a ground person—and can include an optional alternate. A qualified journeyman has more than four years of experience within the electric utility trade. An apprentice lineworker has four or fewer years of experience.

The awards honor lineworkers’ expertise, and the events are judged based upon safety, work practices, neatness, ability, equipment handling, and timely event completion. All safety rules established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the APPA Safety Manual were observed during events. Winners are:

Apprentice – Overall

First Place – Joseph Cowley, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Second Place – Jordan Walsh, Nebraska Public Power District

Third Place – Casey Boyette, North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems

Fourth Place – Jeff Bremer, Cleveland, Ohio, Public Power

Fifth Place – Mike Buckner, Colorado Springs, Colo., Utilities

Apprentice – 3-Phase Fuse Replacement

First Place – Joseph Cowley, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Second Place – Jeremy Savage, Westerville, Ohio, Electric Division

Third Place – Justin Hirschi, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

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Apprentice – Hurtman Rescue

First Place – Justin Hirschi, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Second Place – Louis Jimenez, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Third Place – Josh Freshour, Greeneville, Tenn., Light & Power System

Apprentice – Obstacle Course

First Place – Jordan Walsh, Nebraska Public Power District

Second Place – Jeremy Savage, Westerville, Ohio, Electric Division

Third Place – Louis Jimenez, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Apprentice – Streetlight Change Out

First Place – Justin Hirschi, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Second Place – Joseph Cowley, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Third Place – Josh Freshour, Greeneville, Tenn., Light & Power System

Apprentice – Written Test

First Place – Casey Boyette, North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems

Second Place – John Gligor, Santee Cooper, Moncks Corner, S.C.

Third Place – Jordan Walsh, Nebraska Public Power District

Journeyman – Overall

First Place – Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service, Tommy Barksdale, Matt Heathman, Mathew Woodside, Jay Truett

Second Place – Santee Cooper, Moncks Corner, S.C., Drew Jordan, Joe Sawyer, Chad Williams

Third Place – Modesto, Calif., Irrigation District, Doug Cameron, Sean Coulson, Victor Madrigal, Brian Szuggar

Fourth Place – Kissimmee, Fla., Utility Authority, Steve Bray, Chris Ketner, Logan Murphy, David Wolfe

Fifth Place – Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service, John Minor, Cody Roberts, Timmy Sanford, Jeremy Woodside

Journeyman – 12 kV Arrestor Event Change Out

First Place – Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service, Tommy Barksdale, Matt Heathman, Mathew Woodside, Jay Truett

Second Place – Kissimmee, Fla., Utility Authority, Steve Bray, Chris Ketner, Logan Murphy, David Wolfe

Third Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Branden Carter, John Moe, Lucas Raley

Journeyman – Cross Arm Change Out

First Place – North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems, Chris Bosnick, Connie McGowan, Mike Harper, Brian Small

Second Place – Modesto, Calif., Irrigation District, Doug Cameron, Sean Coulson, Victor Madrigal, Brian Szuggar

Third Place – Santee Cooper, Moncks Corner, S.C., Drew Jordan, Joe Sawyer, Chad Williams

Journeyman – Hurtman Rescue

First Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Branden Carter, John Moe, Lucas Raley

Second Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Keno Grigsby, Todd Prangle, Matthew Wilson

Third Place – Greeneville, Tenn., Light & Power System, Jason Cook, Chris Derry, Bobby Gregg, Randy Riddle

Journeyman – 4kV Jumper Replacement

First Place – North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems, Chris Bosnick, Connie McGowan, Mike Harper, Brian Small

Second Place – Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service, Tommy Barksdale, Matt Heathman, Mathew Woodside, Jay Truett

Third Place – Santee Cooper, Moncks Corner, S.C., Drew Jordan, Joe Sawyer, Chad Williams

Journeyman – Transformer Change Out

First Place – Modesto, Calif., Irrigation District, Doug Cameron, Sean Coulson, Victor Madrigal, Brian Szuggar

Second Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Keno Grigsby, Todd Prangle, Matthew Wilson

Third Place – Kissimmee, Fla., Utility Authority, Steve Bray, Chris Ketner, Logan Murphy, David Wolfe

For further information about APPA and the Lineworkers Rodeo, visit PublicPower.org.

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APPA is the national service organization for the nation's more than 2,000 community- and state-owned electric utilities serving 46 million people.