

Randy Hendrickson of Crawfordsville Wins Lineworker Award

Randy Hendrickson, who retired earlier this year from Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power (CEL&P), was named the 2023 recipient of IMPA's Kerry Vincent Distinguished Lineworker Award at the Agency's Lineworker Appreciation Event in September. Hendrickson served as a lineman and Line Superintendent at CEL&P for 37 years prior to his retirement and continues his commitment to the industry by working as an instructor and educator with Tennessee Valley Public Power Association.

Hendrickson's dedication to the Crawfordsville community extends beyond his history with the city's utility. He has been a long-time volunteer for the local school system, driving buses in the evenings and weekends for students. Hendrickson is also an active member of his church, serving as a mentor to youth in the community. He has also served in countless roles with the school system and not-for-profit groups in the community.

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IMPA Hosts Third Annual Linemen Appreciation Event

On September 19, IMPA held its third annual Linemen Appreciation Event to celebrate the workers who dedicate their lives to keeping lights on in the Agency's member communities. Over 100 community leaders and utility workers from around the state joined to acknowledge these linemen, who consistently work to provide reliable electricity in their communities.

This year's event began with breakfast and an equipotential grounding training session led by IMPA Service Corp General Manager Jeff Vincent. Afterward, attendees spent time visiting dozens of vendors, participating in axe throwing and yard games, and networking with other utility employees from around the state.

The day's events also included recognition of public power linemen

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IMPA Collaborates with State Agencies to Build Stronger Communities

As part of IMPA's ongoing efforts to provide informational training and workshops to help member communities grow and thrive, the Agency often collaborates with state agencies and other institutions. Recently working with the Indiana Office of Technology (IOT) and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA), IMPA was able to host two sessions in September and October benefiting communities throughout the state.

Personnel from the IOT were on hand in September to present a cybersecurity workshop where participants—including IMPA member communities and government personnel—gained invaluable insights into resources available

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Site Selection Magazine Names IMPA “Top Utility in Economic Development”

In its September issue, Site Selection Magazine named IMPA as one of its Top 20 US Utilities in Economic Development for 2023. Utilities chosen for this designation are determined by examining corporate end-user facility project activity in 2022 within utilities' service territories and calculating those projects' jobs and capital investment numbers on a cumulative and per-capita basis. They also consider economic development programs and incentives for business, including energy efficiency and renewable energy programs, marketing/outreach, and rates. IMPA was selected for the honor based on the job creation and capital investment commitments

announced from project activity in 2022 within the IMPA service territory.

This year's designation is the fourth time that IMPA has been named a Top Utility in Economic Development over the last five years.

“IMPA is thrilled to be named as one of the top US utilities for economic development once again,” commented Bryan Brackemyre, Vice President of Member Services for IMPA. “We take pride in working with our member communities to attract businesses and industries to help grow and strengthen their economic base and quality of place. When our communities thrive, we thrive.” ●

Lineworker Award

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IMPA's Kerry Vincent Distinguished Lineworker Award was created in 2021 to honor the life and legacy of the late Kerry Vincent, a longtime employee of IMPA and advocate for public power. Kerry's career in the public power industry spanned the course of four decades, and his passion for the industry and the brotherhood of linemen was evident in everything he did. The Kerry Vincent Award was established to recognize a lineworker from a member community that embodies the traits Kerry exhibited in his everyday life: Commitment, Compassion, Character, and Community.

"We are honored to present Randy with this award," said Jack Alvey, IMPA President and CEO. "The value he has provided to CEL&P and the Crawfordsville community at large certainly deserves recognition, and Kerry Vincent would be proud to see Randy recognized in this way."

"Thank you very, very much for the award," said Hendrickson after receiving the distinction. "Being a lineman is a very rewarding career, and you truly are in a brotherhood with your colleagues. I couldn't have gotten where I am without the help of several people throughout my career, including Kerry Vincent. I'm so appreciative of what he meant to me, and to all of those at Richmond Power & Light and IMPA." •



Third Annual Linemen Appreciation Event

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and presentation of the Kerry Vincent Distinguished Lineworker Award. Speaking at the ceremony was Willie Daniels, Scottsburg Electric Superintendent, on what it means to be a lineman.

"Without electricity, people wouldn't be able to stay comfortable in their homes, cook dinner for their family, or preserve their food," said Daniels. "That's how we linemen help our communities, and it's something we should be proud of. Not only do we get to help our loved ones have access to electricity, but the brotherhood of linemen is always willing to help communities outside of their own. That mutual aid work on the state and national level has helped so many people and families across the country. It's all about helping lift people up and getting folks what they need, and that's the joy of being a lineman."

Lineworkers regularly take time away from their own families to ensure that everyone else's family has power. IMPA is proud to host the Linemen Appreciation Event each year to honor the hard-working line crews in all 61 of the Agency's member communities. •



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to safeguard against cybersecurity threats and attacks. The IOT also made participants aware of the numerous resources available to communities to assist in their cybersecurity efforts.

Weeks later, IMPA also worked with OCRA to host the Engaging Community, People, and Places Downtown Conference. This was the first time that IMPA and OCRA hosted the event since 2019. The well-attended event included sessions on planning for the 2024 solar eclipse, developing community through public art, downtown preservation, and more.

IMPA always seeks ways to engage and grow with its member communities and collaborators, and the Agency looks forward to hosting more opportunities to bring people together for the betterment of quality of life everywhere. ●



IOT Workshop



Downtown Conference