



Research & Education

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Web-Based “Trainers’ Exchange” Approved for Rollout

I am pleased to announce the rollout of our web-based Trainers’ Exchange – *“A place to share what you know and acquire what you don’t.”*

The web-based Trainers’ Exchange will enable local union instructors nationwide to share a multitude of training documents and resources. It is just one more effort of the Roofers and Waterproofers Research and Education Joint Trust Fund to make high-quality training materials available to all our locals nationwide. The Exchange is limited to coordinators, instructors, business agents and other affiliated individuals in our union.

The web-based Exchange has been in development for about a year. At our August Trainers’ Workshop in Chicago, members of the fund’s National Training Committee made a final review and pronounced it ready for rollout. These trainers have been involved in testing the Exchange and populating it with downloadable materials.

The number of files available on the Exchange keeps growing. By the end of the year, the number is expected to be in the hundreds. These files include manuals, booklets, PowerPoints, video clips, curriculum lesson plans, research studies, and federal and state codes and regulations.

As our National Training Committee members add more materials in the months ahead, instructors from other locals across the nation will initially be given “download rights,” which is the ability to



Participants at the Trainers Workshop include John Barnhard (standing) and (left to right) Marty Headtke, Chicagoland Roofers JATC, Indian Head Park, IL; International Representative Eric Anderson; Dan Knight, Roofers Local 2 JATC, St. Louis, MO; Jim Currie, Roofers Local 10 JATC, Haledon, NJ; Brian Gregg, Roofers Local 149 JATC, Oak Park, MI; Mark Woodward, Roofers Local 70 JATC, Howell, MI; Rod Wolford and Beth Larson of FOF Communications; Mike Kujawa, Roofers Local 134, Toledo, OH; Clint Mapes, Oregon and SW Washington Roofers JATC, Portland OR; and Keith Vitkovich, NW Indiana Roofers Local 26 JATC, Merrillville, IN.

download materials from the site. Then, as users become more familiar with site operations, the rights will be expanded to permit the other users to upload files.

As coordinators and instructors share more and more materials through the web-based Trainers’ Exchange, every local’s training program will benefit from our union’s combined skill and knowledge. This will ensure that our union training continues to be the best available, and it will help fulfill the aim of our Research and Education Joint Trust Fund to assist and serve all local unions.

If you are a local union coordinator, trainer or business agent and would like to gain access to this valuable resource, please email johnb@unionroofers.com. I will reply with instructions and provide a user name and password to give you access to start downloading materials from this important new site. ■

