

# **Convention Connection**

Safety • Courtesy • Show • Efficiency • Evaluation

**JULY 2024** 

### **Letter from the President**

Well, with the very hot days, it is safe to say Summer arrived over the Fourth of July weekend. Lots to do now with schools out for the summer, so have fun and be safe. The Mariners are looking good, holding first place in the West Division, and hopefully can continue their winning ways and make it to the playoffs!!

We are very busy in July, coming off a full building schedule in June. As we wrap the previous month up, it looks to be one of the best months the Center has ever had. With food and beverage revenues of over \$6 million, we can certainly say it was very successful. Microsoft MCAPS is in both buildings now and the rest of the month will be rocking. Thank you, everyone, for working so hard to keep the buildings looking good, ready for our clients, and meeting their needs, we really appreciate all your efforts.

The Board is finalizing the search for the new CEO, with virtual interviews on July 24th and 25th and final interviews scheduled for August 6th and 7th. I'm contracted to stay with the Center through July and will be talking to the Chairman about what he would like to see in the month of August as well. This is a very important decision, and making sure we choose the right candidate entails time to process, vet applicants, and go through a series of extensive interviews. We will keep you informed as we get through the search process to find the right person for SCC.

I will be here for the All-Staff next week, Thursday, July 18, and look forward to seeing you all then.

Jeffrey A. Blosser President & CEO





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# **Celebrating Employees**

### Featured Employee | Husam Al-Shabbani, Building Operating Engineer



Husam Al-Shabbani grew up in a family where mechanical tinkering and problemsolving were a part of everyday life. His father was a skilled mechanic and he spent countless hours in the garage with him learning how things work and how to fix them when they didn't. This early exposure sparked his interest in engineering and laid the foundation for his technical skills. When he talks about his job here at the Center, he describes himself as "passionate about his role as a building operating engineer," a role he has had for the last year and four months.

The Building Operating Engineers (BOEs) are responsible for maintaining and ensuring efficient operation of the facility's mechanical and plumbing systems. Their duties include HVAC maintenance and operation, plumbing systems oversight, emergency response, compliance and safety, coordination with the event staff, energy management, and more. Husam likes the variety of tasks, the opportunity to learn,

and the team collaboration. Most of all, he likes problem-solving, which he counts as the most important quality a BOE should have. When problem solving, they diagnose issues, develop solutions, and implement repairs or adjustments to ensure the building systems operate effectively.

Husam has moved far beyond his father's garage. He earned his degree in Commercial Building Engineering from Renton Technical College; he is a licensed City of Seattle Journeyman Refrigeration Mechanic; he earned his EPA Universal Technician Certification; and he is a licensed City of Seattle Boiler Fireman Grade IV. The BOE team engages in ongoing training and development to keep updated with the latest technologies and best practices, and to enhance their skills and knowledge. It takes a lot of effort for the BOEs to learn everything.

Off the job, Husam spends time with family and friends. In the future, he wants to travel to new places and experience different cultures and cuisines.

### Half-a-Dozen Questions | James Cadungug, OneStop Manager, Sales

- If you were a character in a movie, who would you be?
- A Kwai Chang Caine.
- In your life, what is life's greatest lesson?
- A In many times throughout life, it's not about making the right decision but making the decision right.
- If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?
- A The Philippines the setting is beautiful; the people are passionate; the culture is deep and rich.

- What's the one word you would choose to describe yourself?
- A Balanced.
- Who in your life has influenced you the most? How did they do that?
- A My older sister she always set an example for me to be strong in many aspects and encouraged me to go beyond the limits of my own and others' expectations.
- What is the best dish you cook?
- A White Rice. ©



### **Event Calendar**

EVENT	VENUE	ATTENDANCE	DATES
NCMA's 2024 World Congress National Contract Management Association	Arch	2,600	7/17-7/25
PES - 2024 IEEE Power & Energy Society General Meeting The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers	Summit	3,000	7/19-7/26
Costco 2024 International Managers' Conference	Summit	2,000	7/28-8/1
AAD 2024 Innovation Academy American Academy of Dermatology	Arch	3,100	7/29-8/4
2024 Seattle Interactive Conference	Arch	1,800	7/30-8/1
Visit Seattle All-Team Meeting	Arch	65	7/31
CEMA Summit 2024 Professional Convention Management Association	Summit	550	8/1-8/7
APA 2024 Annual Convention American Psychological Association	Arch	10,000	8/5-8/11
Flock Fiber Festival	Summit	4,000	8/9-8/11



#### To: Tyler Ackerman



Thank you for building a customized 4" ramp for MozCon 2024 event! It had nothing to do with temporary power, but you went above & beyond. You saved the day by providing safe access to the stage for the keynote speaker.

From: Sun Kim

#### To: Genet Mitiku 🌱



Your hard work on all events during this first week of June.

From: Earl Taylor

#### To: Sarah Quartararo



Thank you for catching the Ignite graphics installed at Build. That was truly above & beyond.

From: Cathy LaVenia

# To: Scott Rossi



A functioning camera computer screen is crucial for work efficiency & safety. It broke. I appreciate you, Scott, for taking the initiative to look "under the hood" and fix the issue. You're IT!

From: Joy MacGregor

# **All Staff Reminder**



❖ Breakfast buffet starts at 7:15am in Summit Flex A.







#### **Poster Wall**

The colorful poster wall that will greet visitors using the 9th Avenue entrance at Summit is part art installation and part active advertising. The permanent art, on the upper portion of the wall, will be complete soon. A final piece will be added to the display, which showcases multiple artists.

Below the permanent posters are rotating event posters. Keep Posted, a local business, will update the event posters about once a month.

Keep Posted is a Puget Sound Area business that distributes art and entertainment posters, maintaining displays throughout Seattle over the last 30 years with a focus on the needs of the performance industry in Seattle.



The art and poster wall in Summit by the 9th Avenue doors.



Scan this QR code to go to <a href="https://hub.catalogit.app/11425/folder/eb1b49c0-3c6d-11ee-8ef6-353f9b72fac8">https://hub.catalogit.app/11425/folder/eb1b49c0-3c6d-11ee-8ef6-353f9b72fac8</a> to view a library of art at Seattle Convention Center in Arch and Summit.

# **Client Compliments**



First off... THANK YOU! What an incredible experience it was to bring our Start Strong+ event to the Seattle Convention Center Arch building. You and your team Tommy were so easy to work with when we were onsite. Thank you so much for the partnership and we are looking forward to coming again in October to the Summit building. WAHOO!!!

Thanks again for your help! You are our HEROES!!!

Jason 'Jazz' Gray, Microsoft Aspire Team



To: Tony Sheehan

Sharing your time and knowledge with Laura to help her with creating a Sales Specific Sharepoint page.

From: Michael McQuade



To: May Truong

Thank you for helping me today June 18th on the lobby trash refresh on Level One Summit Lobby.

From: **Edith Espinoza** 



To: Mary Clare Kersten



Helping to manage data to meet calendar needs.

From: Linda Willanger

To: Jesus Perez



Your hard work on all events during this first week of June.

From: Earl Taylor

To: Misgina Habtemicael



Excellent job maintaining all event spaces in the Arch building during the CVPR event. Thank you!

From: Bek Hassanov

To: Pei-Hua Yen-Roy

Thank you for your assistance covering my work load while I was out.

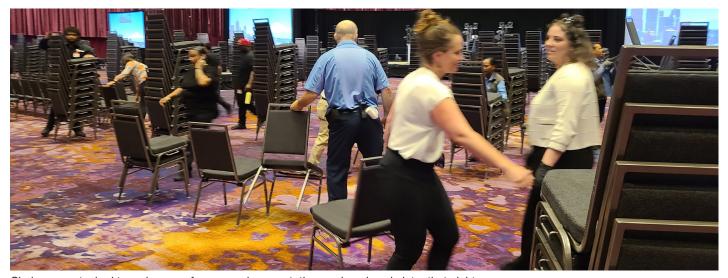
From: **Emily Hoyt** 



# **Chair Strike**



The SCC team converged on the Summit Ballroom on Thursday, June 20, for a chair strike.



Chairs were stacked to make room for an evening event, then replaced again later that night.



The team stacked 3,654 chairs in 13 minutes.

# **Summer Travel Safety Tips**

When traveling this summer, either locally or for a destination vacation, use these useful tips to make sure you have a great time both on your trip and when you return.

- 1. Make copies or digital backups of important documents.
- 2. Tell friends and/or family about your travel plans and check in depending on the length of the trip.
- Research the destination to plan what items to bring, to prevent over-packing, and to make sure that extra travel isn't needed to reach necessary or desired services.



- 4. Be smart about your money always have at least two payment methods and store them in different locations. Bring some cash in the local currency.
- 5. Try to blend in when possible. It's better to look like a local than a tourist.
- 6. Use reputable transportation you are comfortable with and verify vehicles and drivers before getting into the vehicle.
- 7. If traveling outside the country, know the local numbers for emergency services and the location of the nearest US embassy.
- 8. Use the right bag for your type of travel to prevent added fatigue or unforeseen baggage charges.
- 9. Be cautious using public Wi-Fi. Do not enter any personal information while using public Wi-Fi.
- 10. Drink and/or smoke responsibly, and make sure you are always aware of your surroundings.
- 11. Trust your instincts. If something or someone is making you uncomfortable, there's most likely a reason.

