



New Jersey Chapter

New Jersey | Independent Electrical Contractors

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TO: NJ-IEC Members

FROM: Eric DeGesero, Executive Director

RE: **Health Benefits Announcement**

The New Jersey Independent Electrical Contractors (NJ-IEC) continuously strives to bring members value added benefits which help reduce your expenses and increase your bottom line.

All employers are aware of the ever increasing cost of providing health benefits to your employees. The NJ-IEC Board of Directors has been working for months towards providing you a tool to help manage these costs. The NJ-IEC Board of Directors is therefore pleased to announce NJ-IEC's partnership with Association Master Trust (AMT). AMT is a unique not-for-profit multi-association benefits trust formed to serve the group benefit needs of participating association employer members, and has been doing so for over 30 years.

AMT offers *self-funded* health and dental benefits programs, combining employer units from fifteen independent trade associations to maximize claim stability, administrative efficiency, cost savings and a full menu of comprehensive benefits. AMT operates in accordance with the NJ MEWA law and is registered with the NJ Department of Banking and Insurance. This benefit is open to all NJ-IEC members in good standing including Industry Partners.

AMT has numerous plans available to meet your specific needs. Representatives of AMT are available to work with you and your employees on enrollment, claims, coverage continuation (COBRA, NJ Continuation) and HIPAA requirements. Currently, it contracts with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ to provide access to Horizon's outstanding network of hospitals and doctors in New Jersey. In addition, AMT provides the "Blue Card" which gives members access to the National Blue Cross Blue Shield network of participating providers. ***This is particularly important if you have a child in college outside of New Jersey who may not be covered by your current plan!***

In a world where most health insurance premiums increase between 25-40% annually, AMT's premium increases have been around 10% for 5 years. Additionally, AMT has just announced they are returning a cumulative \$2.5million in premium to all 2011 participants as a result of less than anticipated claim utilization.

Attached are answers to many of the questions you might have fielded about NJ-IEC's association with AMT, as well as the health benefit options. I encourage you to talk to a representative of AMT today to discover for yourself if you can reduce the cost of your health insurance. When doing so, keep in mind the compounded savings you could realize over time because of the lower annual rate increases AMT has generally passed on to its clients.