

## **CONSUMERS ENERGY FOR BUSINESS**

**Trade Ally Newsletter July 2018** 



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As we pass the mid-year mark, I want to restate our commitment to you and your efforts in sustainability, reducing our carbon footprint and making this program stronger day by day. Just as you work to create energy efficiency for your customers, we are working on the efficiency of the Trade Ally Portal. Keep checking this newsletter for updates. I look forward to finishing 2018 strong.

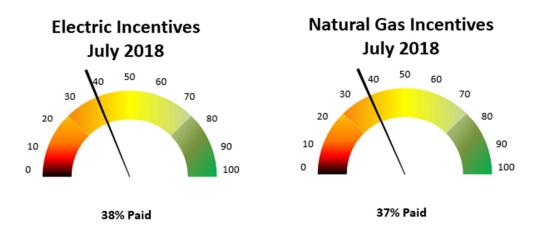
Thomas Quasarano Brand Manager Consumers Energy

Business Energy Efficiency Programs

## **Program Updates**

We're wrapping up another successful quarter for the 2018 program year, with many thanks to all our Trade Allies!

- We are not making any incentive changes for the next quarter! Please continue to submit your applications in accordance to the Program's <u>Policy and</u> <u>Procedures Manual located on the Trade Ally Portal.</u>
- 2. The next Request For Proposal (RFP) deadline is September 7th. Contact your Trade Ally Energy Advisor with your project as soon as possible.



### **Save the Date: Trade Ally Rollout**

We are changing up 2018's rollout. This year, we are hosting one event, at the **Lansing Center on Thursday, November 8**. Additionally, only Trade Allies and their respective customers are invited, so we can deliver valuable information to meet your needs and thank you for your support and commitment to energy savings. We want your input, <u>let us know</u> what you are interested in learning more about at this year's Trade Ally Rollout. Be on the look out for the invitation.

If you are not a Trade Ally, please reach out to a Trade Ally Advisor.



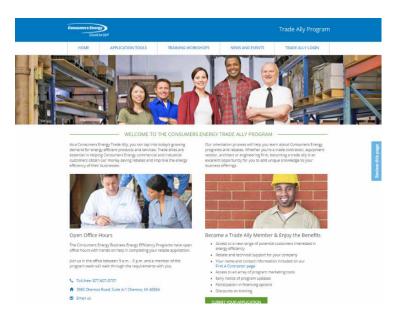
#### **Trade Ally Portal**

Thank you for making the Trade Ally Portal successful! In our ongoing commitment to you, we are always looking to enhance the features and usability of this tool. We added two new features, usable after you login, to benefit you, your business and, most importantly, your customers.

- 1. **Status filter:** Allows you to filter and easily identify projects in need of your attention for seamless progression through our program.
- 2. **Hyperlinked assigned reviewer:** Allows you to email them quickly regarding the project.

Using our Trade Ally Portal is easy and we are committed to improving and delivering the best services for you. Please stay tuned for updates and provide us with any feedback that would make the Trade Ally Portal experience more suitable for you!

If you are not a Trade Ally, please reach out to a <u>Trade Ally Advisor</u> to start <u>benefiting</u> from this tool today.





## **Energy Efficiency Training Center**

Staying up to date on available energy efficiency courses just got easier! The Consumers Energy website now provides a list of available courses for Michigan Businesses and our Trade Allies. A short course description, dates and registration links are now available at <a href="mailto:consumersenergy.com/eetraining">consumersenergy.com/eetraining</a>.

# Advanced Lighting Controls System Training 8/21/2018 and 8/22/2018 in Okemos, Michigan

This full-day technical training will provide attendees with knowledge of Advanced Lighting Controls technologies and how to help your customers save on their energy use. A hands-on session will teach you how to correctly design a lighting layout for control systems.

This training is presented by Steve Mesh and the Design Lights Consortium (DLC).

Attendees will understand how to educate customers on:

- Benefits of Advanced Lighting Controls Systems
- Energy Use Savings
- Non-Energy Impact
- Consumers Energy Incentives

Space is limited to the first 20 people who register. A continental breakfast, lunch, afternoon snacks and beverages will be provided. This training is complimentary to Consumers Energy Registered Trade Allies.

**REGISTER** 

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#### Got an Idea?

We want to hear about it!

We are excited to announce that Trade Allies now have the opportunity to submit energy efficiency ideas to our Pilot Origination and Design (POD) team. Our Pilot programs test emerging technologies and services that reduce energy and help you save money. Let's work together to shape our energy efficient future!

**SUBMIT IDEA** 

## **Smart Buildings**

Attention all Commissioning and Building Automation Systems programming professionals. We need additional service providers to perform Smart Building Facility IQ studies or apply the Smart Buildings Defined Actions for building owners/operators. Please visit our <a href="web page">web page</a> or contact our <a href="program manager">program manager</a> for more information and applications.



Upcoming: Smart Buildings Peer to Peer focus event later this quarter. It brings providers and current, past and prospective participants together to learn the benefits of the Smart Buildings Programs offerings.

### **Trade Ally Energy Advisor Bio**

#### Meet Jim Minthorn

Jim joined the Consumers Energy Business Energy Efficiency Program in May 2017 and is the Trade Ally Energy Advisor for northern Michigan. Jim is a graduate of Lake City High School and Michigan State University, where he received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. Jim worked many years in the energy industry throughout the Northeast U.S., as well as spending three years working in the Sahara Dessert of Algeria, North Africa, before becoming an Energy



Advisor with Consumers Energy last spring. In addition to his work professionally, Jim enjoys golfing with his three teenage sons; Lincoln, Grant and Washington. Jim also enjoys fishing and hunting as well as most anything to do with the outdoors.

## **Trade Ally Advisors**

Western Michigan - Aaron Prince 616-633-8686

Central Michigan - Gordon Plourde 517-375-0506

Eastern Michigan - David Kirk 517-896-5830

Northern Lower Michigan - Jim Minthorn 231-633-5467

Industrial Advisor - Ryan Chambers 517-202-9218

Northern Lower Michigan - Mark Bates 517-220-8800

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One Energy Plaza, Jackson MI 49201