



Upcoming Events

December 8, 2011
Stormwater Design Training
Register/more information: [Here](#)

January 17 — 19, 2012
Superintendent & Foreman's Workshop

January 30 — Feb. 3, 2012
Electric Metering Workshop (Basic & Advanced)

February 8 — 9, 2012
IAMU Winter Meeting, Ramada Tropics Resort, Des Moines

March 7-8, 2012
Advanced H2O Water Treatment & Distribution Workshops



Staying Connected
IAMU Winter Meeting 2012

IAMU Winter Meeting
February 8 & 9, 2012
Ramada Tropics Resort, Des Moines



Save the date!



Agenda, registration coming soon

Fed cell phone use final ruling impacts utility drivers

◆ U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood has announced a final rule specifically prohibiting interstate truck and bus drivers from using hand-held cell phones while operating their vehicles.



This rule includes employees of municipalities and municipal utilities who operate official vehicles with a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). The joint rule from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is the latest action by the U.S. Department of Transportation to end distracted driving.



Transportation Secretary LaHood

"When drivers of large trucks, buses and hazardous materials take their eyes off the road for even a few seconds, the outcome can be deadly," said LaHood.

Drivers who violate the restriction will face federal civil penalties of up to \$2,750 for each offense and disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle for multiple offenses. Additionally, states will suspend a CDL after two or more serious traffic violations. Approximately four million commercial drivers will be affected by this final rule.



Nearly 5,474 people died and half a million were injured in crashes involving a distracted driver in 2009. Distraction-related fatalities represented 16 percent of overall traffic fatalities in 2009, according to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) research. A summary and full text of the final rule are available [here](#).

PhaseTrakker now available for IAMU electric members

◆ IAMU member electric utilities can now easily identify phasing issues in their systems with the aid of a new item purchased by IAMU.

The AP30 PhaseTrakker® allows a trained user to get absolute phase identification and angle on entire systems in order to balance load and minimize line loss. With PhaseTrakker users can achieve correct phasing for system mapping and ensure that new substation connections are phase correct. PhaseTrakker works on overhead and underground conductors and can be used without de-energizing power lines (120V to 500kV). Where cellular coverage is not available, the field unit can store readings until cellular coverage is reached, then compare its readings with the reference unit for phase identification.



The PhaseTrakker components are compact and easy to use.

PhaseTrakker uses GPS technology to continuously measure voltage phase angles at both field and reference units, compares the angles over a cellular phone connection and displays results on the field unit.



IAMU's Tom Erickson demonstrated the unit at IAMU this fall.

The PhaseTrakker is available for rental to IAMU members at the following rates: First two week rental = \$1,000/wk for two weeks; each additional week = \$500/week

IAMU's Electric Services Coordinator Tom Erickson will accompany the PhaseTrakker to instruct the renter on the operation of the unit for the first half day. There will be an additional half day charge (\$660) for instruction at your utility. If the unit is picked up at IAMU's Office & Training Complex in Ankeny, the instruction will be performed at no additional charge.

For more information or to arrange rental of the PhaseTrakker contact IAMU's Tom Erickson at terickson@iamu.org or 800-810-4268.