

## UNIONS

International Union of Bricklayers  
and Allied Craftworkers

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship  
Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers

United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers  
and Allied Workers

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators  
and Asbestos Workers

International Association of Bridge, Structural,  
Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers

International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Sheet Metal Workers' International Association

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International  
Association of the United States and Canada

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices  
of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United  
States and Canada

International Union of Elevator Constructors

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades

United Brotherhood of Carpenters  
and Joiners of America

Laborers International Union of North America

International Union of Operating Engineers

## CONTRACTORS

Finishing Contractors Association

International Council of Employers of Bricklayers

Mechanical Contractors Association of America

National Association of Construction  
Boilermakers Employers

National Electrical Contractors Association

The Association of Union Contractors

North American Contractors Association

Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning  
Contractors National Association

Tennessee Valley Authority

Walt Disney World Company



CONTRACTORS

www.helmetstohardhats.org



**Keeping the  
Promise...**  
**From One Mission  
to Another!**

CONTRACTORS  
www.helmetstohardhats.org

Featuring the true life stories of  
Elizabeth Leadenham and Ken Wong




**"To care for him  
who shall have  
borne the battle."**

*Lincoln*  
- Abraham Lincoln

Register Online at [www.helmetstohardhats.org](http://www.helmetstohardhats.org), or call toll-free 866-741-6210

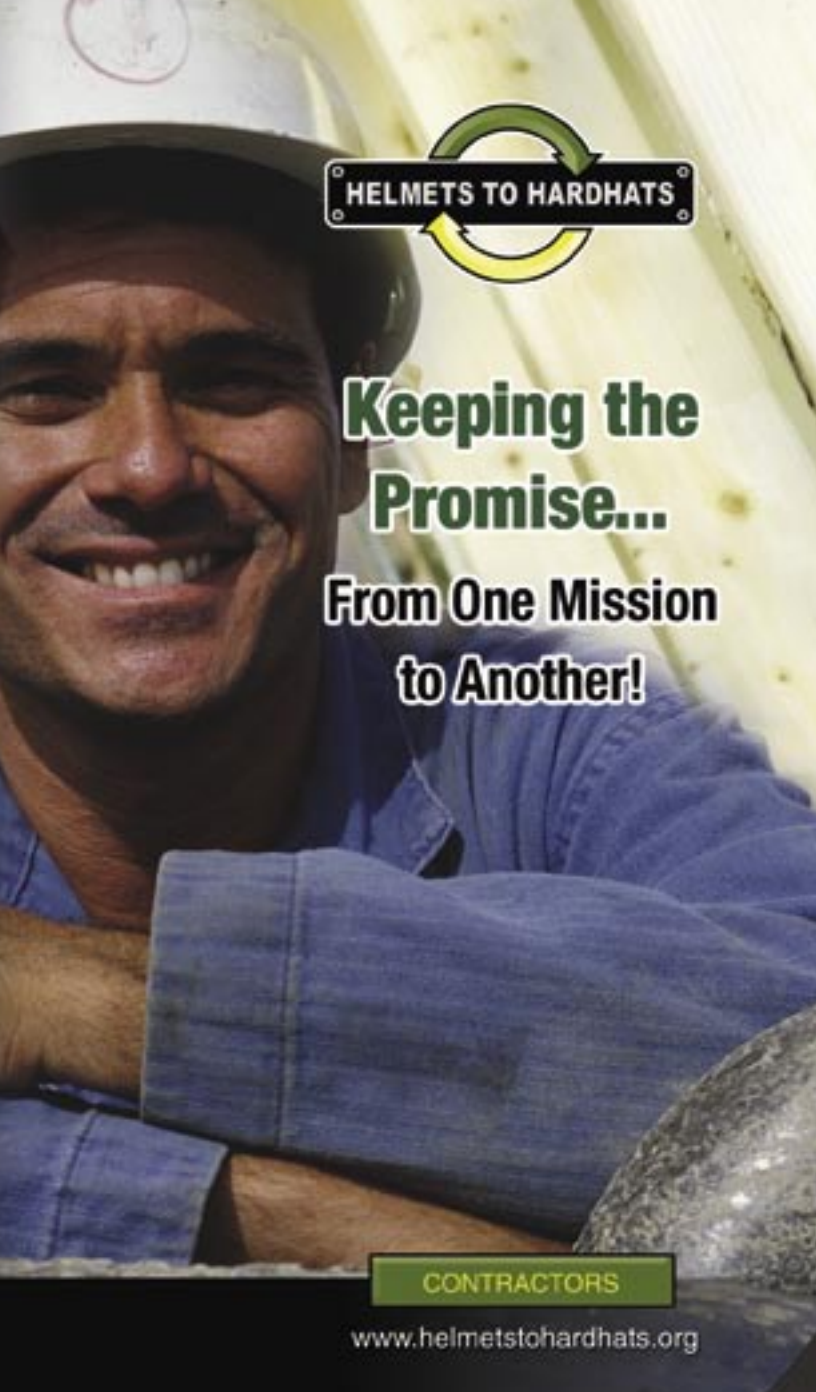


**Keeping the Promise...**  
**From One Mission to Another!**



**HELMETS TO HARDHATS**

[www.helmets-to-hardhats.org](http://www.helmets-to-hardhats.org)



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**“What our servicemen and women want, more than anything else, is the assurance of satisfactory employment upon their return to civil life. The first task after the war should be the maximum utilization of our human and material resources.”**

—President Franklin D. Roosevelt; upon signing the Servicemen’s Re-Adjustment Act of 1944 (known as the “GI Bill”)

Throughout history, from as far back as the Civil War, America has always maintained a solemn promise to its military veterans – those brave men and women who continually sacrifice so much to protect our rights and freedoms. It is the promise of assistance to ensure a successful return to civilian life.

And it is a promise that the building and construction industry takes very seriously.

**“We have a huge skilled labor shortage in the construction industry. One of the biggest challenges we face is the shortage of qualified skilled craftsmen to do maintenance work and outage work so that our power plants will run efficiently all of the time in order to meet the growing needs for reliable, low-cost energy.”**

—Peyton T. Hairston;  
Senior Vice President for Communications,  
Tennessee Valley Authority



## THE NEW MISSION – RE-BUILDING AM

America is facing immense challenges. Crowded schools, traffic-choked roads and transit systems, and an electric power distribution system that is not keeping up with demand, are eroding the quality and prosperity of American life.

Maintaining our national economic strength will require tremendous investments in our nation's transportation, communications and energy and power infrastructure. According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, \$1.6 TRILLION should be spent over the next five years to alleviate the current deterioration of our infrastructure.

But achieving success with such a massive re-building effort will require the skills of tens of thousands of skilled craftsmen – such as insulators, welders, pipe and sprinkler fitters, electricians, boilermakers, ironworkers, painters, sheet metal workers and carpenters, to name just a few.

Unfortunately, America is currently experiencing a shortage of skilled craftsmen in the building and construction industry. Left unchecked, this problem will have dire implications on America's ability to maintain its economic superiority in the global economy.

Having served with bravery, honor, and distinction in defending our nation, America's military veterans are now being recruited to help in the battle to maintain America's economic prosperity.

Helmets to Hardhats, through the participation and support of construction contractors and the fifteen building and construction trades unions all across the nation, is working to alleviate this problem and insure a steady supply of highly trained and highly skilled labor.

## AMERICAN ECONOMIC STRENGTH

The Helmets to Hardhats program serves the contractor community by tapping into a valuable national resource of highly skilled and highly trained military personnel who understand commitment, accountability and teamwork and who are being utilized to fill a critical skilled labor need that will help America maintain its economic prosperity.

**“We see the profile of a military veteran to be a perfect match for our industry, and for our specific needs. Military veterans understand organizational structure, teamwork and commitment to the mission. It’s just a perfect fit. They have a great work ethic.”**

**—Iz Cakrane; Vice President of Labor Relations,  
Washington Group International**

For contractors, Helmets to Hardhats is a win/win proposition if there ever was one!



**HELMETS TO HARDHATS**  
MATCHING TODAY'S MILITARY  
WITH TOMORROW'S  
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



**“When people leave the military,** I believe we have an obligation to give them a good opportunity for a secure life through a good civilian career.”

– Vice Admiral James Card (Ret.)  
National Spokesman, Helmets to Hardhats



**“These folks served our country... they fought for our country and no one deserves a better opportunity for a career in the construction industry than they do.”**

–Iz Cakrane; Vice President for Labor Relations,  
Washington Group International



**“Our obligation is to those brave** men and women who are defending this country—the home of the free and the brave.”

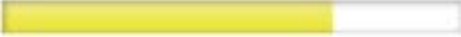
–Dana Brigham; General President,  
International Union of Elevator Constructors



Helmets to Hardhats is a national, federally-funded program that exists to connect National Guard, Reserve and transitioning active-duty military members with quality career training and employment opportunities within the building and construction industry.

The program is sponsored by the fifteen unions of the building and construction trades, along with construction industry employer associations.





The program is designed to ease the difficult passage back into civilian life for military families, providing lucrative career opportunities and economic security to those who have earned the promise of a nation for their years of dedicated service.

Helmets to Hardhats collects nationwide career opportunities within the building and construction industry and matches that data to former military personnel interested in such a career. Interested candidates can access information about careers and apprenticeships, and fill out a formal application and profile, via the Internet ([www.helmetstohardhats.org](http://www.helmetstohardhats.org)) from anywhere in the world.



**“By supporting the Helmets to Hardhats program, we are helping our returning veterans find high-quality careers. This program puts our veterans at the top of the list to enter qualified apprenticeship programs in fifteen trades and eight contractor associations. This is a great partnership between the building trades and our armed forces and veterans.”**

—California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger





## **FROM ONE MISSION TO ANOTHER**

The American military is widely considered to be the best trained and highly skilled military in the world. The values and skills that are instilled in American military personnel are highly sought for a civilian industry that is heavily reliant upon teamwork, discipline and a firm commitment to mission.

These attributes are incredibly important as the United States embarks upon an unprecedented projected construction boom over the next 20-30 years. And given the fact that severe manpower shortages are being predicted for many of the skilled trades in that same time frame, lucrative career opportunities will be in abundance.

**“We’re offering a chance to be a part of another critical mission – to re-construct America into a 21st century economic power. And at the same time we will be providing a good career with excellent wages, good benefits – like health care and a pension – and a real chance to succeed into the future...and hey, isn’t that the ‘American Dream?’”**

**–Bill Hite; General President,  
United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices  
of the Plumbing & Pipe Fitting Industry of the United  
States and Canada**





## **RECOGNIZING MILITARY VALUES, SKILLS AND SERVICE**


With the implementation of dozens of Statewide Direct Entry programs, Helmets to Hardhats candidates are able to settle into quality construction careers soon after applying for them. Once a state proclamation has been signed – and over 20 states have already done so – all Joint Apprenticeship Training Councils and Local Unions in the state can accept current and former military personnel into their training programs on a prioritized basis, as well as providing credit for military training and experience.

Interested military candidates need only to log on to the Helmets to Hardhats web site at [www.helmetstohardhats.org](http://www.helmetstohardhats.org) and follow the instructions for filing an online application and profile. All candidates will then be contacted by a representative from the Helmets to Hardhats program who will begin the process of matching them with an appropriate apprenticeship training program in a location and the field of interest expressed through the applicant's profile. Prior experience with a particular craft or trade is not necessary.

**“Helmets to Hardhats  
definitely helped me find  
a career. Plus it comes with great  
pay, great benefits and great people!”**

**–Ken Wong,  
United States Marines  
Metallic Lathers Local 46 - New York City**





Providing stable, secure, and prosperous civilian careers for the men and women who serve in the military is the foundation of the American promise to its veterans.

Helmets to Hardhats is all about standing up for what's right...and it's the story of how an entire industry has come together not just to reward those who have bravely served this nation with dedication, honor and courage, but to enlist those same veterans to put their military training, values and discipline to work in carrying out a new mission for America.



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