



Electric & Gas Industries Association

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Contractor University Powered by EGIA Brings In-Depth Technical Training to Members Using Interplay Learning's Highly Effective Digital Learning Simulations

The industry-leading education and training platform for home services businesses is partnering with the leading provider of online and VR training for the essential skilled trades to deliver comprehensive technical training that is easily accessible for all contractors.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SACRAMENTO, CA, April 20, 2022 – Contractor University, a division of Electric & Gas Industries Association (EGIA) and an industry-leader in helping home services contractors build better businesses, is proud to announce the addition of a best-in-class online technical training program to its collection of member benefits. Through a partnership with Interplay Learning, the leading digital and virtual reality technical training leader for the essential skilled trades, Contractor University now adds the industry's preeminent technical training option to its membership offerings.

For years, Contractor University powered by EGIA has been renowned for its business development educational offerings, covering a broad range of topics crucial to contracting business success – sales, pricing, marketing & lead generation, tech communications, service agreements and many others – accessible through online classes, virtual and in-person workshops, conferences and more. For the first time ever, technical training now joins that list of offerings.

For one low price per user, Contractor University member companies can add-on access to powerful technical training for their employees on dozens of subjects in their member dashboard on MyContractorUniversity.com. Courses are delivered in both 2D and 3D simulations on computers and mobile devices, as well as in immersive 3D on virtual reality headsets. This eliminates substantial travel, time, cost as well as other logistical and safety hurdles encountered with traditional in-person training programs, while still allowing a “hands-on” experience. With curriculum available for residential and commercial HVAC, solar, plumbing, electrical, multi-family maintenance and many more, Contractor University technical training offers users comprehensive online and streaming training systems on every topic needed to brush up on existing skills or build a new technician from the ground up. And as an added bonus, much of the content qualifies for CEU credits toward many of the most prominent certification programs.

“Given the requests from our members over the years, adding a technical training option to our online education and training platform is the logical next step to serve more contractors,” said Bruce Matulich, CEO and Executive Director of EGIA. “Partnering with Interplay gives our members access to some of the best technical training in the industry with an easy integration that maintains the simplicity of our ‘one-stop-shop’ Contractor University member dashboard. Due to the industry’s ongoing workforce shortage, contractors are increasingly forced to hire inexperienced workers based on attitude, and then teach them aptitude; so a reliable, affordable technical training experience has never been more important to growing a successful contracting business.”

“We’re excited to partner with EGIA and we believe Contractor University will be a great opportunity for more home services contractors to benefit from both our immersive experience and proven learning methodology,” said Doug Donovan, CEO of Interplay Learning. “With our advanced technology and EGIA’s industry-leading education and training platform, we have the opportunity to significantly close the skills gap.”

Contractor University’s technical training program is now live, and three HVAC courses are available absolutely free for all Contractor University members, as well as a Welcome Assessment that will establish users’ baseline knowledge and identify areas on which to focus. Visit MyContractorUniversity.com/Technical to explore the entire catalog of technical training courses, and to learn more about membership.

About the Electric & Gas Industries Association (EGIA)

EGIA is a nonprofit organization that empowers home services contractors to get the most out of their businesses through industry-leading training, financing and marketplace solutions. Its [Contractor University](#) offers access to the industry’s most recognized educators, who deliver innovative keys to success through online training systems, in-person workshops, conferences and webinars. [OPTIMUS Financing](#), which has facilitated financing for 250,000+ residential and business projects valued at over \$4.5 billion, provides contractors with a best-in-class suite of financing options. [Contractor Marketplace](#) brings together some of the most in-demand vendors and products in the industry at exclusive pricing. Learn more about EGIA at www.egia.org.

About Interplay Learning

Since 2016, Austin-based Interplay Learning has been building better training, better careers and better lives for its customers and their employees. Its award-winning online and VR training for the essential skilled trades, including HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical, Solar, Multi-Family Maintenance and Facilities Maintenance workforces, is scalable and more effective than traditional training methods. By leveraging immersive learning technology, Interplay’s customers are able to train and practice hands-on learning from a desktop, phone, tablet or in virtual reality. The result is a highly trained employee who is job-ready in weeks, not years. Its digital experiential learning platform, SkillMill, conveniently turns any space into a training lab with its short video courses, 3D simulations, knowledge checks, coaching, community, and

connectivity. Recent accolades include recognition by Fast Company's World Changing Ideas Awards in the Education, General Excellence and On the Rise categories. Welcome to the next generation of the skilled labor workforce. Visit <https://www.interplaylearning.com/> to learn more.

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