

New Ways to Work at Navy Pier





Designed to capture the excitement

of the beautiful Lake Michigan waterfront, Navy Pier has quickly become the Midwest's number one tourist and leisure destination as well as the perfect venue for smaller or mid-size conferences and shows. We've offered our customers the very best in location, marketing, service and amenities. And we've dedicated ourselves to continually making the Chicago experience better.

In 2010, we pushed for historic legislation that would ensure we had a reputation for one more thing – affordability. We listened to our customers, and the collaboration that followed was unprecedented. Broad public support from elected officials throughout the state helped pass into law what can only be described as a game changer.

Chicago recognizes the importance of this industry. We've changed our business model to not only drive down costs, but to provide greater choices for our customers to do business. Our track record as a destination is proven. With these historic changes, we're proud to provide the opportunity to take advantage of all Navy Pier has to offer to more people than ever before.



Labor Changes Exhibitor Rights

One of the biggest changes happening at Navy Pier is the work that customers can do for themselves. Our exhibitor rights have been expanded to now allow for true cost savings without requiring the use of paid labor hours or the billing of contractors.

Among the changes, exhibitors can now set up their own displays, using electric tools, if required. Larger exhibitors may hire labor for booth set-up, but are able to do some of the work within their booths.

For even greater flexibility, exhibitors are also able to load and unload privately owned vehicles (automobiles and small utility vehicles) at the docks using non-motorized hand-trucks and dollies, without hiring labor. Show managers and contractors will provide information to exhibitors, advising them of this cost-saving convenience and explaining the logistics (e.g. locations, times) involved.

Work Rules

Along with new exhibitor rights, Navy Pier is expanding the straight time window that show managers and contractors charge exhibitors for labor services, versus time and a half or double time. The new work rules provide events with increased flexibility in scheduling labor, as well as a consistency across all labor unions on how the rules apply. Ultimately, these rules lower costs for everyone doing business here.

The new rules state that:

- The first 8 consecutive hours from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday, are now charged on a straight time basis.
- Straight time and a half is charged for each hour after the initial 8-hour period and between 10:01 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. Double time is charged for work between 12 a.m. and 5:59 a.m.
- On Saturday, the first 8 hours, between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., are straight time and a half. Double time is charged for any work exceeding 8 hours.
- Sunday and State/Federal Holidays, double time will be charged for any hours worked.

In addition, there is a change in crew sizes for some services. For example, the crew for riggers, and for loading and unloading at the docks, has been reduced from three to two. Customers can request a crew larger than two, but cannot, at this time, hire crews of fewer than two.

As you can see, these new work rules give events much more control over how and when they want to use labor. This will undoubtedly lead to greater savings overall.



Electrical Services

Another big change is that MPEA is no longer the exclusive provider of electrical services at Navy Pier. Show managers are now allowed to choose either MPEA's in-house electrical service or an outside service that has been approved by the Authority.

In accordance with the new legislation, MPEA will provide its electrical services at cost, with no mark-up. So no matter which provider you choose, your satisfaction as a customer is paramount.

To learn in more detail about the exciting new changes happening at Navy Pier, visit navypier.com and readysetchicago.com.



CHICAGO

Convention & Tourism Bureau

Chicago Convention & Tourism Bureau

2301 South Lake Shore Drive

Chicago, Illinois 60616-1490

p: 312-567-8500 f: 312-567-8533

choosechicago.com



Navy Pier

600 East Grand Avenue

Chicago, IL 60611-3428

p: 312-595-5300 f: 312-595-5050

navypier.com



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