

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PIPE TRADES TRUST FUNDS

Health & Welfare • Pension • Supplemental Pension

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NOTICE OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PIPE TRADES PENSION PLAN

The Board of Trustees has clarified or amended the following provisions:

A. Contiguous Service Vesting Credit

Contiguous Service consists of all employment for a Contributing Employer maintaining the Plan for which the Employer is not required to make a contribution to the Plan (such as in a supervisory capacity or most 1st and 2nd period apprentices) and such work is continuous with (immediately prior to or immediately after) work in a job category covered by the Plan. Hours of work in the non-covered job which were performed on or after July 1, 1976, will count toward Vesting Service under the Plan, calculated on the same basis as Vesting Credit, but only to the extent required by ERISA and the Department of Labor regulations. Such work will not, however, count towards Benefit Credits.

The Board of Trustees of the Northern California Pipe Trades Pension Plan recently provided the following administrative clarifications on Contiguous Service:

Contiguous Service Vesting Credits as applicable to Pension

- The Plan should **not** count Contiguous Service Vesting Credits toward Service Pension (*currently 25 Vesting Credits required*).
- The Plan should calculate Contiguous Service Vesting Credits based on hours worked in a Plan Year.
- The Plan should grant one year of Contiguous Service Vesting Credits for working 1,000 or more hours in a Plan Year.
- The Plan should allow Contiguous Service Vesting Credits if the Employer is signatory to a Contract that has to pay Pension Contributions but has no covered employees.
- For Disability and Early Retirement Pension, the Plan should consider Contiguous Service Vesting Credits in an amount equal to or less than Vesting Credits accrued in Covered Employment up to a maximum of 5 Contiguous Service Vesting Credits.

Contiguous Service Vesting Credits as applicable to Retiree Health and Welfare Eligibility

- The Plan should **not** count Contiguous Service Vesting Credits toward the Vesting Credits needed for Retiree Health and Welfare coverage (*currently 15 Vesting Credits required, all other Retiree Health and Welfare eligibility requirements also apply*).

B. Clarify Participant's Age as of His/Her Date of Retirement

Effective September 1, 2008, the Plan has been amended that retirement benefits shall commence as of the first day of the month following the date a Participant has reached his/her designated retirement age and has satisfied the eligibility requirements for retirement. For example, if a Participant has satisfied all eligibility requirements for retirement and attains age 65 (or any other age) such as age 55 on May 1, or May 2, or any other day of the month of May, his/her date of retirement will commence June 1.

If you have any questions, please call the Trust Fund Office at (925)356-8921, extension 709.

Respectfully submitted,

Fund Manager
For the Board of Trustees