



# **VOL1, ISSUE 3**

**Northern News** 

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### By the numbers... by Shelley BACON

2020 will be a year that many will be glad to see it over and done with, while others will be quite sad to see it come to an end. This year we have experienced rioting in Hong Kong, the corona virus, the ratcheting up of the U.S./Chinese trade war, BREXIT, USMCA, the new Hong Kong security law, and a U.S. federal election. Do you need any more reason to question what is going on? As many investors trimmed their exposure to key metal stocks in March to May, the opposite has been occurring since June. Many are bullish on metals, especially when the Chinese economy is surging ahead in June with possible supply shortages from South American mines. Corona is ravaging the workforce and summer strikes make for good speculation that we are all witnessing. Just like the musical chairs game we played when we were young, when the music stops, corrections will occur when we least want or can afford it. Manufacturers change prices due to input costs and this current time period is difficult on all of us, so be careful how you buy.

#### Busy Summer at NORTHERN! by Todd STAFFORD

We have had an incredible amount of activity to start off summer 2020. Demand across all our product lines has picked up significantly and we have restarted our recruiting activities while still addressing safety issues related to the pandemic. We still have a few production workers off on Covid leave, that we will have returning to work as the pandemic related programs abate. Work continues on the two smaller expansions that started in June, but we are awaiting approval from our local Planning Department on our major project – stay tuned to our social media for another announcement! On the equipment side we have begun receiving some of the new machines that we ordered earlier in the year (3 containers worth!). It will take some time and effort get everything installed, commissioned, and adding to our production capabilities.

#### "How-to" northerncables.com by Chris SCOTT

How well do you know the Northern Cables website? Can you give us five minutes to take you on a quick tour? Let's start... upon entering our website you will notice **\$ TODAYS METAL PRICES** in the top right corner to get real time prices on copper and aluminum. You will also find the links to our social media platforms, and the ability to visit our website in English, French, and Spanish! Now let's look at out main navigation bar starting with **ABOUT US**, aside from the Northern Cables backstory, you will find our Newsletter archives in **Northern Cables News**, a **Careers** tab, and a page on **Our Production Facilities**. The next button over is **PRODUCTS & SERVICES** where you will find all our Spec Sheets for **CSA products**, **UL products**, **Bare Copper**, and details on our various **Services and Capabilities** and **Reel Return Locations**. Next over is **INVENTORY**, these PDF's are updated every morning at 6:00 am EST for your quick referencing of our stock. Under **RESOURCES** you will find many of our Policy statements, tools, guides, calculators, and the latest Cable Guide all in PDF. Finally under **CONTACT US** you can send a message to the sales team, find our contact information, or get directions to our main location. Please let us know if you are ever in the area, we would love to show you some real CSA type products that are made In Canada!

#### 2021 CE Code Changes. by Craig McMARTIN

The 129th meeting of the Canadian Electrical Code Part 1 meeting was held virtually the week of June 16th. This was the last opportunity for changes to be incorporated in to the 2021 Canadian Electrical Code. The Canadian Wire and Cable landscape has changed since Canadian Standards went metric in the 1980's. Wire and Cables Standards writers did an excellent job toward converting wire and cable standards to the SI unit. A good start towards metrification was done many years ago on CSA Part II Wire and Cable standards. Imperial units were converted to metric and most standards had both metric and imperial units except for the wire size (AWG/kcmil). With further harmonization through North American Free trade, CANENA (Council for Harmonization of Electrotechnical Standards of the Nations in the Americas) Regional wire and cables standards adopted the metric conductor sizes base on the AWG size. This is a significant step forward, however the Electrical Safety Code for Canada did not implement square millimeter sizes into the CE Code Part I. In October of 2017, Don Harris of Northern Cables and Steve Douglas, CE Code Part I member submitted Subject Number 4267 to the Canadian Electrical Code Part I. The proposal adds metric conductor sizes to the equivalent AWG/kcmil conductor size. As simple as this sounded it still took two years to get the proposal accepted by the CE Code Part I members. It was been 45 years since Canada went metric, the 2021 edition of our Canadian Electrical Code will finally recognize metric conductors.

PROUDLY

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