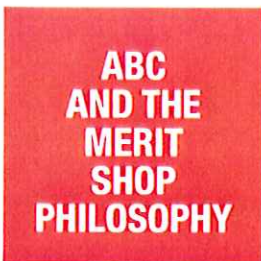


# About ABC

**ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS** is a national trade association representing more than 24,000 contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers and construction-related firms nationwide.

ABC is the only national association devoted exclusively to the merit shop philosophy—the principle of providing the best management techniques, the finest craftsmanship, and the most competitive bidding and pricing strategies in the industry, regardless of labor affiliation. Approximately 80 percent of all construction workers are employed by merit shop companies.

ABC is committed to developing a safe workplace and high-performance workforce through quality education and training with comprehensive safety and health programs.



Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. is the voice of the merit shop in the construction industry. We accept the responsibility for making that voice heard.

We believe the merit shop movement is a movement for the betterment of the individual... the construction industry...and the nation.

We believe in the system of free enterprise.

We believe employees and employers should have the right to determine wages and working conditions through either individual or collective bargaining, as they choose, within the boundaries of the law.

We believe the employer must have concern for the general welfare of the employee and that there must be a fair compensation for work performed. At the same time, we believe that the employee has an obligation for satisfactory performance of assigned work.

We support sound legislation in the areas of workers' compensation, safety and unemployment compensation.

We believe legislation that embraces fair play for employer and employee is essential to the preservation of our free-enterprise system.

We believe the law should protect the right of employees to work regardless of race, color, creed, age, sex, national origin or membership or non-membership in a labor organization. We believe work opportunities should be made available to all legal residents and we support programs toward this end.

We oppose violence, coercion, intimidation and the denial of the rights of employees and employers.

We believe it is incumbent upon all branches of government to be responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars and we believe that government should award contracts only to the lowest responsible bidder. We oppose unjust pressure to violate these principles.

We believe monopolies or any kind of price or wage fixing, in either the public or private sector, are detrimental to our system of free enterprise.

We believe the destiny of all Americans can be best served by cooperation and reconciliation, and by following the tenants of free enterprise and a democratic government. We believe business leaders can best preserve these tenants by becoming active in politics and civic affairs.