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LETAG

A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Hello everyone !

Winter is already behind us. "It's about time!", would say some of you who had to deal with the drastic changes in weather: cold, rain and snow. So here we are at the starting line of a new season that looks still very active. In the last few months, I have spent a lot of my time observing and supporting our manufacturing operations to better understand this business reality. Despite several measures put in place to support our production team, it remains difficult to hire and retain quality workforce in a context of shortage of manpower like the one present at this time. The manufacturing sector, particularly in regions, sees an unemployment rate of 1 or 2%. We recognize the efforts of everyone, but this year, the pressure is more specifically on our production team. Our plant workers will be in great demand throughout the year and we appreciate their understanding and valuable cooperation. I invite you to highlight their efforts. In addition, ABF's management team invites you to vote for the recipients of the upcoming June edition of ABF Club Excellence.

Thank you and congratulations to all!

Marco Fortin, General Manager



Good news !

Here are a few of the projects recently obtained by ABF

- ★ Urbano Phase 2, Sherbrooke 1 000 M.T.
- ★ 155 Grande Allée Est, Quebec 1 300 M.T.
- ★ STM Station Viau, Montreal 500 M.T.
- ★ Équinoxe Côte St-Luc, Montreal 900 M.T.



Upcoming statutory holidays

- Friday, April 19, 2019 (Good Friday)
- Monday, April 22, 2019 (Easter Monday)
- Monday, May 20, 2019 (National Patriots' Day)



ABF BABIES



Congratulations to Samuel Leclerc and his spouse for little Zack, born on January 6th.
Grandfather André is very proud !

A lot of happiness for the whole family!

Congratulations to Patrick Chenard and his spouse for little Émilie, born on November 6th. She arrived earlier than expected but mom and baby are well.

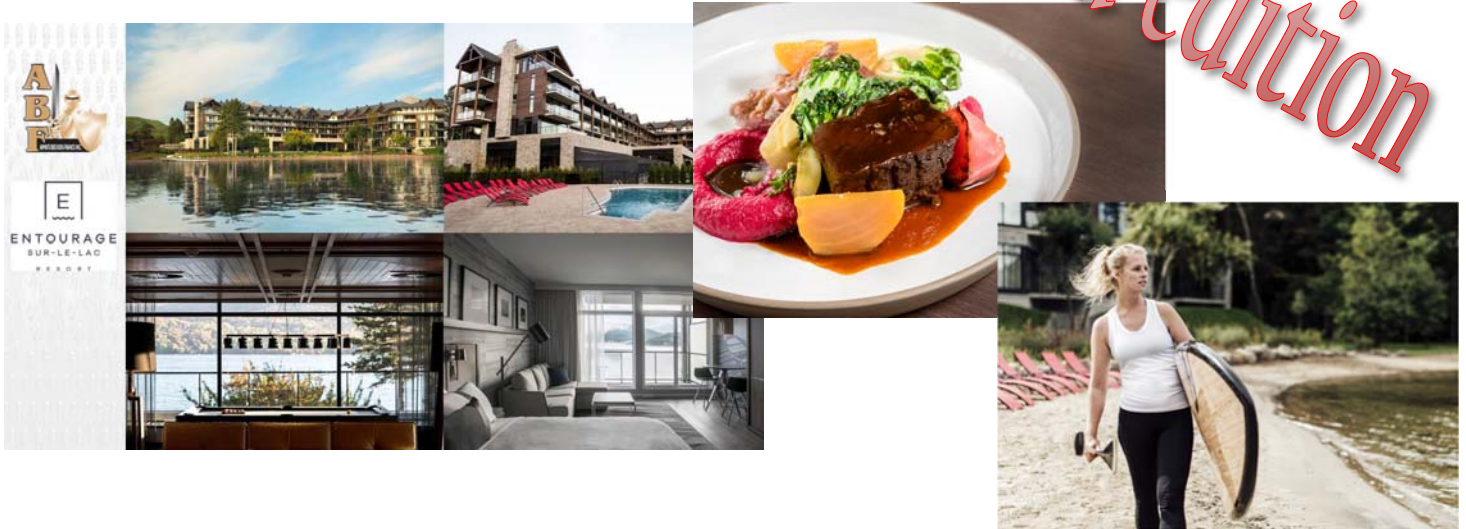
A lot of happiness for the whole family!



ABF CLUB EXCELLENCE

ABF Club Excellence

2nd edition



ABF Club Excellence is back with its 2nd Edition!

Again this year, we want to **promote ABF's culture and values** by recognizing the efforts and performance of our team members.

All ABF employees who demonstrate passion and the desire to excel are eligible for this program. In addition to performance, management seeks to encourage good practices, attitudes, and behaviors that take the organization to new heights.

Soon you will be invited to choose the deserving people among your colleagues. There are categories for each department and one person will be nominated to the ABF CLUB, all categories combined.

**** We'll get back to you shortly with some details on how to proceed but you can start thinking right away about your colleagues ****

I invite you all to participate. Very nice prizes are up for grabs !! The announcement of the winners will be made in June.

Do not hesitate to contact Karolane Ayotte if you have any questions!

Welcome to all the new
ABF team employees.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

DO YOU KNOW WHAT IS CRYSTALLINE SILICA?

Crystalline silica (quartz) is found naturally in sand. On construction sites, it is found as dust (smaller than a grain of sand) during abrasive blasting, as well as in any work involving demolition, sandblasting, when sawing concrete and, in our case, when drilling in concrete for anchors. Sweeping and handling of debris is also a source of exposure to these dusts.

Although silica is a matter of natural source, prolonged exposure to high concentrations can cause progressive lung problems. In view of the risk of exposure to silica and in the objective of eliminating hazards at the source, preventive measures are necessary:

- **Before the work begins, it is important that I be notified to coordinate planning with the people concerned and workers training.** Good planning and ensuring that the necessary control methods are followed, that is:
 - ⇒ the delimitation of the work area,
 - ⇒ wet process work,
 - ⇒ cleaning of premises, equipment and equipment with water,
 - ⇒ the collection of dust at the source.
 - ⇒ the information and training that must be given to exposed workers.

- Another way to protect against exposure to silica is wearing a P100 filter respirator that will filter 99.9% of the particles. But wearing a mask alone does not guarantee your safety. To be well protected by your mask, you need to check the following points:
 - ⇒ **Assembly:** ensure that the respirator is correctly assembled (straps, cartridges, fitting, etc.).
 - ⇒ **Adjustment/fit:** choose a mask of the right size and adjust the straps properly. Wear other mandatory equipment while fitting the mask (helmet, glasses, hearing protectors).
 - Note:** Wearing a mustache, beard or whiskers may affect the mask's tightness. A close shave is mandatory to ensure tightness.
 - ⇒ **Usage limitations:** Refer to the manufacturer's instructions for equipment limitations (maximum exposure, filter replacement frequencies, etc.).
 - ⇒ **Maintenance:** Clean, disinfect and store the mask after use. Inspect mask before each use.

- The use of a HEPA filter vacuum cleaner is also recommended for dust extraction at the source and is mandatory when concrete drilling is done indoors.

- In addition, wearing safety glasses, gloves and protective clothing will prevent contamination outside the workplace.

- Of course, personal hygiene is important. Thus, before drinking, eating or smoking, it is essential to wash. Not to mention that we must remove the soiled clothes and wash separately so as not to bring home the silica dust of the site.