



Chapter Focus

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Planning for Chapter Meetings in 2013

As the year races rapidly to a close, soon it will be time for New Year's Resolutions. Has your chapter started making plans yet for 2013? Are you thinking about ways to revitalize and reenergize? Consider these as you prepare for a brighter new year.

1. Taking Your Chapter Meetings Online

Since we launched *SBC Connection* in 2010, we've had more online meetings than we can count! If you're concerned about the cost of travel in both time and money, or if your members say they are too busy at work for a meeting, then it's time to take the plunge and provide an online option for your meetings. Whether you have a simple speaker phone, use a laptop with Skype, or go to a 100%-online meeting with a phone/web interface, utilizing technology may be the next step in your chapter's mission of bringing together peers to discuss industry issues and develop united solutions.



2. Inviting New Meeting Speakers

SBCA Professional Leadership Academy As companies gear up for the recovery, they're looking inward and considering steps that may help make their businesses stronger in the future. Why not consider a presentation that will speak to the new realities and help everyone regain their focus? The SBCA Professional Leadership Academy in cooperation with Leaders Edge 360 has several possible topics that are suitable for chapter meetings, such as How to Plan Like a Leader, Embracing Accountability, Become a Personal Productivity Champion, and Communication Strategies That Will Fully Engage Your Team. Programs may be customized too based on your members' feedback and requests.

3. Reaching Out to New Groups

Chapter meetings are not just for component manufacturers – have you invited any building officials, builders, or building designers to join you lately? Whether you set up a meeting with an open forum discussion format or advertise a featured speaker and topic, inviting *other* industry professionals to join your meeting will go a long way toward making connections and breaking down barriers. Good communication is valued by (nearly) everyone, and a chapter meeting is an important link in the chain that unites everyone in this industry.

And of course, as we say every year – if you'd like assistance with any of these ideas for your chapter, or you've got something brand new in mind and you'd like some help, please let us know! SBCA staff is always here to lend a hand – [just let us know](#) how we can help your chapter thrive in the new year.