The 2023 NEC revision cycle was unusual to say the least. The pandemic forced the NEC Committee to pivot and conduct the First Draft and Second Draft meetings remotely for the first time in the history of the *Code*. Significant preparation and training were necessary to get the work done on schedule. It is testament to professionalism of the code-making panel chairs, the panel members, the NEC correlating committee, and the NFPA staff who facilitated the remote meetings that the 2023 revision cycle was completed without missing a beat.

The 2023 NEC revision cycle also featured significant work on several fronts. Perhaps the most obvious is the relocation of all definitions to Article 100. To do this, the *NEC Style Manual* had to be updated, and this effort was no small task in and of itself. With an updated *NEC Style Manual* specifying that all definitions are to be in Article 100, public inputs were developed for all the Code Making Panels (CMPs) that had definitions is the articles under their purview to initiate the relocation. Additionally, as the definitions were being consolidated to one location, it became necessary to reach common ground where the same term was defined differently by multiple CMPs. At the end of the day, the Usability Task Group, the CMPs, and the Correlation Committee worked as a team to make this huge usability improvement.

The work of the medium-voltage task group was extraordinary. New Articles 235, 245, 305, 315, and 495 were part of their work, along with revisions to several existing articles. Their work makes the current requirements for installations over 1000 volts ac and over 1500 volts dc more accessible and provides a better location for future expansion of requirements on these specialized installations.

Limited-energy systems of the types covered in Chapters 7 and 8 (the back of the book) were another focus of usability for the 2023 revision. As these systems evolve to provide more than their traditional signaling and communication functions, it is necessary to make sure the NEC is keeping pace with the direction the electrical industry is moving in. Class 4 circuits, where limited energy cables are used as a system to power lighting and other utilization equipment, are covered in new Article 726. New Article 722 consolidates many like requirements for limited energy cables that had been repeated in several Chapter 7 articles into a common landing space. Class 1 power-limited circuits have been separated from Class 2 and Class 3 circuits in new Article 724. All these changes position the NEC up for today and the future as the trend of low-voltage, limited-energy ac and dc systems gain more and more momentum in being tomorrow's power distribution systems.

Countless hours were spent on the above initiatives and others that have increased the overall usability of the 2023 NEC. The task group leaders and members took on this work voluntarily and contributed their time and expertise with the singular focus being to make the *Code* a better and more relevant document for all who use and are impacted by it. Thanks to all of you for a job well done.

# Richard G. Biermann Award

The Richard G. Biermann Award was created in 2016 to honor the memory of Richard G. Biermann, the former chair of the National Electrical Code Correlating Committee. His service on the NEC included serving as chair of Code-Making Panel No. 16 (CMP 16) and as a member of several other CMPs. Mr. Biermann also served NFPA as a member of the Standards Council and as a member of the Board of Directors. In 1995, he received the Paul C. Lamb Award in recognition of his outstanding service to NFPA.

The Biermann award honors outstanding volunteerism on task groups, code-making panels, the Correlating Committee or on the promotion of adoption and application of the NEC. We are pleased to announce that Michael J. Johnston has been selected as the 2022 recipient.

Michael "Mike" Johnston epitomizes the attributes on which the Richard J. Biermann award was created. A member of the electrical industry for his entire working career, Michael has worked with the tools as a journeyman electrician and project manager, worked as an