

The **CARPENTER** Summer 2008 Second Quarter
 NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS



**New Ideas
And Technology**

NYC Leads The UBC
Into The 21st Century

**Mortgage: How To Get One ■ LTC Competition Winners
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**Rolling
Brilliant Ideas
Into The
21st
Century**



A prototype of the Portable Carpentry Workshop is displayed. PCW— the new generation of jobsite workshops.

NCESSITY BEING THE MOTHER of all invention, somewhere each day, someone comes up with a brilliant idea. It's finding the faith, the outside support and the financial and other resources that largely determine the success of the finished product.

One of our very own members, Fred Cona of Local 20, partnered with another Union brother, Pete Reuss, of Local 7 in Long Island, and, together, they have come up with an idea that they, and we all, hope goes all the way.

The two first met one year ago on the job at a residential condo, One Brooklyn Bridge, where they are employed by Gateway Acoustics. It all began one day when Pete took a day off and Fred realized that he needed an extra set of hands while he cut wood.

What Fred and Pete designed and masterminded is an expansion on the idea of the

“We got tired of lugging all these tools around, so it saved us a load of time and production sped up.”

classic gang box called the “Portable Carpentry Workshop,” or, simply, the PCW. This all-in-one workshop will accommodate your table saw, miter saw *and* router all at the same time and each tool can be used without removing the other tools, a huge plus since our Carpenters interchange tools constantly, all day long. Additionally, there's room to store power tools, hand tools, hardware and much more. Fred and Pete spared no details. They even equipped this workshop on wheels with a power strip for tools, battery charging and beyond. As Fred and Pete put it, “Just roll it up. Plug it in. Bang it out.” It's that simple.

This translates to extreme efficiency at the work



(l. to r.) Union brothers Pete Reuss and Fred Cona on the job in Brooklyn.

place which is not only music to our ears but it should be music to the ears of our signatory contractors as well. According to Fred, “We got tired of lugging all these tools around, so it saved us a load of time and production sped up.” And, after all, time is money.

Just to prove how serious these two inventors are about their product, Fred and Pete plan on participating in two very important upcoming trade shows where they will introduce their Portable Carpentry Workshop. The first, the 24th annual Invention and New Product Exposition (INPEX), will take place on June 11th-14th in Pittsburgh, PA. It is at this convention that they won the Grand Prize for the PCW. The second showcase for Fred and Pete will be the annual Construction Expo on September 24th & 25th in New York City at the Jacob Javits Convention Center. The Construction Expo is the nation's largest and most respected commercial trade show catering to the construction and building industry. All in all, this undertaking is quite time consuming and expensive, but Pete and Fred believe it will all pay off in the long run.

Before entering the trade show circuit and after tweaking and enhancing the PCW to meet our two carpenter/inventors' needs, the device caught the attention of many of their colleagues. As Pete explained, “When we'd go around the jobsite, people couldn't believe what we built. They'd never seen something like it before. The feedback was really great.” That's when it occurred to them both that they might really be on to something. They did an extensive Internet search to see if there was a product on the market that resembled theirs. They were thrilled to learn that there wasn't a storage box

anywhere that was designed to do all that their PCW delivers. The next step was to hire a patent agent who also did a search, which also came up with nothing. This was the news they wanted to hear.

Currently the Portable Carpentry Workshop is patent pending. The two men have formed a corporation called, “Rolling Trades, Inc.” and you can visit their website at www.rollingtrades.com. According to Fred, “Now we're trying to take it to the next level by making it a successful product, getting it manufactured and then selling it to the public.” Currently, the creators of “Rolling Trades, Inc.” are seeking investors and manufacturers to produce the PCW and get it on the market.

The same way the great men of invention before them were insightful enough to turn a seemingly simple idea into an actual product our Union carpenters have proven that they, too, can boast an impressive level of creativity and genius. All you have to do is believe, work hard, work smart and get the word around and you, too, could make a goal or a dream of yours a reality.

Rolling Trades Inc.

Roll it up, Plug it in, BANG IT OUT!

Roll in our workshop & save your company time & money!

www.rollingtrades.com