

Winter Greetings to You and Your Family!

Mike Karia, Executive Director

President's Corner



Scott F. Rathfon, P.E.
President, ACEC Delaware

In case you haven't noticed, this is an election year! That is why this edition of the "President's Corner" will be focused around what ACEC Delaware is doing to get our message out to local and national political leaders.

First and foremost, I would like to thank those that contributed to the ACEC 2011 National PAC. Delaware was able to meet our PAC goal for the fourth consecutive year. The ACEC PAC allows our voices to be heard at a national level and support legislatures that understand the issues that are important to our profession. So far we were able to make a contribution to Congressman Carney and members of ACEC Delaware were able to sit down with him to discuss our concerns. We will also be contributing to Senator Carper in the near future and a meeting is being set up to talk to him about critical issues. So, again, thank you for your support in 2011, and keep in mind that we are beginning our PAC drive for 2012 so please be prepared to help us again meet the goal.

As many of you are aware, we have also started a Delaware PAC that will provide contributions to local Delaware legislators that support our profession. Unlike the national PAC which only allows personal donations, the ACEC Delaware PAC can accept company contributions. So please contribute and also encourage your companies to contribute to this PAC. A committee has been formed and will be meeting soon to determine the most deserving local candidates for contributions from this PAC. Once the candidates are determined members from the committee will meet with the legislators to discuss issues of importance and deliver the contribution.

We also have a committee starting to pull information together to advance the business of engineering in the State of Delaware by continuing our local Legislative Lobby Day. A group from ACEC Delaware will meet with our local legislatures on May 8th to discuss issues that are relevant to our profession. Last year, the three (3) primary focuses of discussion were

the funding of the Transportation Trust Fund, the FY2012 State Budget Surplus, and the Stormwater Infrastructure Funding. All discussions were with the primary focus of job creation, both short and long term, and investing needed funds towards infrastructure improvements. I imagine the focus will be very similar this time around.

Fortunately not all of our focus is political and we are still able to accomplish some exciting things in other arenas. For those of you that were able to attend the Engineer's Week Banquet you saw some samples of the excellent work that is being accomplished by some of our member firms. We were also able to award a scholarship to a well deserving Delaware student and present a National QBS (Qualification Based Selection) award to the Delaware River and Bay Authority. Our committees continue to be active with various agencies and we are always looking for volunteers to help with committee activities, so please keep us in mind.

Hope everyone has a prosperous 2012 and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meetings.

Scott

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Laura A. Anderson, P.E.
Chair, Program Committee



We had following three programs from September 2011 to February 2012:

September 2011

“New Castle County Sewer Model Demonstration”

Presented by

New Castle County Officials:

Jason Zern

Elinor Blackwell

Robert Madanat

November 2011

“American Disability Act (ADA)

How it affects the Design of Buildings, Sites and Roads”

Presented by



Mr. Dan A. Muterspaw

Chief Administrator

Architectural Accessibility Board

Mr. Ralph Reeb



Interim ADACoordinator

State of Delaware, Department of Transportation (DeIDOT)

February 2012

“Path Forward at DeIDOT”

Presented by



The Honorable Shailen Bhatt

Secretary, State of Delaware

Department of Transportation (DeIDOT)

September 2011

Jason Zern, Elinor Blackwell, and Robert Madanat, New Castle County Government Officials



February 2012

Secretary Shailen Bhatt, DeIDOT



SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting
and Program

Wednesday
May 23, 2012

American Council of Engineering Companies of Delaware

2012 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

These Delaware Engineering Excellence Awards recognize significant achievements benefitting the public and the engineering profession. Honoring the highest levels of engineering ingenuity and skill, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Delaware salutes Delaware's engineers and their accomplishments.

The 2012 Awards recognize projects developed and completed between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2011.

While the projects may be located anywhere in the world, they must involve engineers working in Delaware for a substantial portion of the project. For the competition, firms may submit plans or designs that cover Engineering Studies and/or projects.

The entries are evaluated on their merits. The judges do not know the identity of the firms submitting the entries until the assessments are completed.

The Judging Criteria

- Original or innovative application of new or existing techniques.
- Future value to the engineering profession and public perception.
- Social, economic and sustainable design considerations.
- Complexity.
- Exceeding client/owner needs.

The Judges for EEA 2012

Allan A. Jayne, PH.D., P.E.

Assistant Professor

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

University of Delaware

Michael J. Petit de Mange, AICP

County Administrator

Kent County Levy Court

Kash Srinivasan

Commissioner, Department of Public Works

City of Wilmington

2012 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Grand Conceptor Award

Innovation, Safety, and Sustainability at the Kent County Regional WWTF
Green Stone Engineering, LLC

Conceptor Awards

Centre Road (SR 141), Kirkwood Highway to Faulkland Road
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. (JMT)

Soft Engineering Can be Pretty Darn Tough
Duffield Associates, Inc.

Honor Award

Newport Road Bridge Replacement over CSX railroad
Pennoni Associates Inc.

Runners Up

Down and Out...But Not for Long
Duffield Associates, Inc.

Garrison Oak Technical Park
Becker Morgan Group, Inc.

2012 QUALIFICATIONS BASED SELECTION (QBS) AWARD

There is no nomination for this year's award

NATIONAL QBS AWARD

American Council of Engineering Companies
and
National Society of Professional Engineers
has awarded the 2011 National QBS Award to

Your Committees Working for You



M. Shane Minner, P.E.
Chair, Education and Public Relations
Committee



Education | Public Relations Committee

2012 Engineering Scholarship

We received 11 applications for our 2012 scholarship for \$500. The applications were of a very high quality and were highly competitive.

The Committee has awarded the scholarship to Avery White of Padua Academy of Wilmington.

The scholarship certificate will be presented at the Engineers' Week Banquet on Thursday, February 23, 2012.

Members Needed to Serve on Committee

The Education and Public Relations Committee has openings for two (2) new members and I ask you to get involved and contribute to our engineering profession. You will get lots of personal satisfaction and fulfillment from your involvement.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about the role this committee performs, please email me at ShaneM@LandmarkJCM.com.



Ted F. Januska, P.E.
ACEC National and ACEC Delaware PAC



ACEC National PAC

Thanks to all of you who have contributed. We have achieved our 2011 goal of \$4,831 contribution to the National PAC.

ACEC Delaware is a National PAC Champion for the fourth year in a row. I appreciate your help and your contributions.

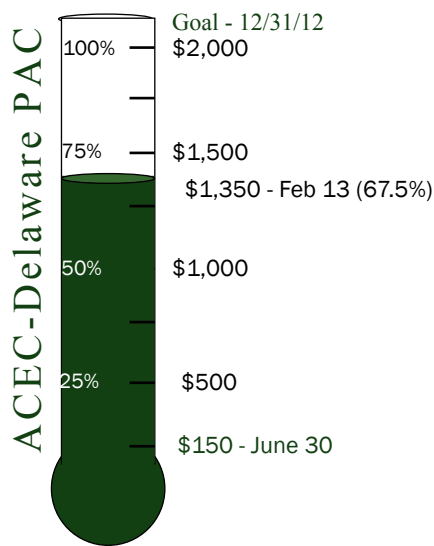
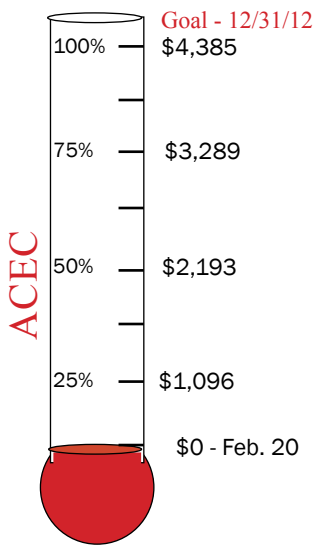
Your PAC contributions go towards campaign contributions of those U.S. Senators and Representatives who understand the issues of our engineering industry and help us with actions that are positive for our industry and for all people.

The National PAC has given us more than \$5,000 to give to U.S. Senator Thomas Carper and U.S. House Representative John Carney's campaigns.

Our 2012 goal is \$ 4,385 and, with your help and with your contributions, we will achieve this goal.

Again, A BIG 'THANK YOU' to all who have contributed.

Ted



ACEC Delaware PAC

For our Delaware PAC, we had a fundraising event in November 2011 at the Iron Hill Brewery in Newark. Everyone enjoyed the Monday Night Football and the camaraderie. We collected \$1,200 for the Delaware PAC.

Now a balance of \$1,350 has been collected, and our goal is \$2,000 by December 2012.

Lots of appreciation to all who came and contributed.

At the Engineers Week Banquet on Thursday, February 23, 2012, starting at 5:30 pm, we will have a silent auction to benefit ACEC Delaware PAC. We have exciting items for you and we invite you all to join us, have fun and help Delaware PAC and help our engineering industry.

The money in this PAC is used for contributions to the election campaigns of candidates for the State of Delaware's Senate and House.

Ted

Contribution forms for ACEC National PAC and ACEC Delaware PAC are on following pages.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Yes! I would like to help ACEC/PAC support Members of Congress who will fight for the business interests of the engineering community.

Name: _____

Firm: _____

Job/Position Title: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Yes, I would like to be a member of the Capitol Club (\$5,000), Chairman's Club* (\$2,500), Millennium Club (\$1,000), or Congressional Club (\$500)

Enclosed is my personal check or personal credit card contribution in the amount of:

\$5,000 \$2,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 Other \$ _____

MasterCard Visa American Express

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. _____

Name of Credit Card Holder _____ CVV _____

Authorized Signature _____

Partnership and sole proprietorship checks are permitted; however, federal law prohibits corporate checks and corporate credit cards. Contributions or gifts to ACEC/PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Contributions will be screened and those from outside the restricted class (non-members) and those from individuals who have not given prior approval may be returned. Contributions are voluntary and amounts included herein are merely suggestions. An individual is free to contribute more or less than the guidelines suggest, but may not contribute more than \$5,000 per calendar year. Federal law requires that our committee report the full name, address, occupation and company name of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

Mail: ACEC/PAC
Attn: Elizabeth Coit
Government Affairs Department
1015 15th Street, N.W., 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005-2605

Email: ecoit@acec.org Fax: 202-682-4376

* Chairman's Club members either contribute \$2,500 to ACEC/PAC, or contribute \$1,000 to ACEC/PAC and pledge an additional \$1,500 to be contributed throughout the year to directly support candidates for re-election.

ACEC Delaware PAC

PAC Contribution Form

Contributor's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Firm: _____

Important Information:

1. Delaware law permits personal and corporate contributions to ACEC Delaware PAC.
2. Contributions are not tax deductible for federal and State income tax purposes.

Contribution:

Enclosed is my (our) check for \$_____.00 payable to: **ACEC Delaware PAC**

Please mail check to: **ACEC Delaware PAC**, P. O. Box 1858, Dover, DE 19903-1858

ACEC Delaware PAC Guidelines

Introduction

ACEC Delaware PAC is established by ACEC Delaware in December 2010.

ACEC Delaware is a not-for-profit business association of the engineering Companies in Delaware. ACEC Delaware PAC is registered with Delaware's Election Department.

The Purpose

The purpose of this PAC is to contribute financial support to the campaigns of Delaware's elected officials who understand and support Delaware's engineering industry.

The Process

1. **PAC Committee:** ACEC Delaware will establish a PAC Committee which will include:

1. Chair of the Legislative Committee
2. One member of the Board
3. Executive Director
4. Others as appointed by the ACEC's President.

2. **Decision Process:** The majority decision of the PAC committee will determine the contributions to the campaigns and other related matters.

3. **Reporting:** The Committee will make a report of contributions and other activities to the Board on as-needed basis.

Accounting and Reporting

1. **Detailed Record:** ACEC'S Executive Director will keep all records related to PAC contributions received from members and contributions made to the candidates' campaigns. The records will be kept for three years.

2. **Bank Account:** The receipts and payments of PAC will pass through regular ACEC Delaware bank account.

Separate bank account for PAC is not required as per the Election Department.

3. The balance of PAC will be shown in the ACEC Delaware balance sheet every month as PAC Reserved and will not be comingled with regular fund balance.

4. The Executive Director will file the required reports with the Election Department.

Contribution Form

ACEC Delaware PAC contribution form is attached with this document. This form may be revised as needed.

Approval

The ACEC Delaware PAC guidelines and form are approved by the Board on June 30, 2011.



Floor Fight Looms Over Contracting Out in House Transportation Bill

ACEC is preparing for a major fight next week in the House of Representatives as debate over the \$260 billion highway and transit reauthorization bill moves to the floor.

The bill, approved last week by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (H.R. 7), includes a provision requiring states to contract out for engineering services “to the maximum extent practicable,” as well as a reporting requirement to track compliance.

During committee consideration of the bill, ACEC led a successful effort to defeat a union amendment to strike the provision. To view the union letter to committee members go to: www.acec.org/advocacy/committees/pdf/nashtu_ltr_020112.pdf.

“We have to assume that the unions will again seek to kill this language on the House floor, and we will be reaching out to ACEC Members shortly to contact their Congressional representatives to defend the provision,” said ACEC President Dave Raymond.

Key Senate Committee Approves Infrastructure Financing Package

The Senate Finance Committee has approved a bi-partisan financing package to support a two-year, \$109 billion transportation reauthorization bill. The bill adds \$5.5 billion to the Highway Trust Fund from various sources, enough to keep the Trust Fund solvent through September 2013.

The Senate is expected to begin consideration of the transportation bill on Thursday. The debate and amendment process could take two weeks or more.

The Committee also approved by voice vote an ACEC-backed amendment, offered by Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ), to lift the state volume cap on Private Activity Bonds for water and wastewater projects for six years.

Congress Finalizes 4-Year Aviation Bill with QBS Endorsement

The Senate voted 75-20 this week to approve a reauthorization of Federal Aviation Administration activities and programs totaling \$64 billion through 2015. The House vote on the bill (H.R. 658) was 248-169. President Obama is expected to sign it into law.

The bill provides \$3.35 billion annually for the Airport Improvement Program, consistent with 2012 funding levels, and includes an ACEC-initiated provision supporting the use of QBS on airport projects funded solely with passenger facility charges, which are not currently subject to federal QBS mandates.



David A. Raymond
President, and CEO, ACEC



Dear Colleagues:

We're off to a fast start this year with the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee releasing its five-year surface transportation bill today; I just returned from Committee Chairman Mica's press conference on Capitol Hill, and he recognized ACEC for our leadership on moving this bill forward. Among many provisions, the bill includes, at ACEC's initiative, strong language to make sure that state DOTs contract out to the private sector. Full coverage of the bill will appear in Last Word on Thursday. Considering that infrastructure was highlighted in the President's State of the Union, and that the Senate has companion legislation moving this week as well, I think that infrastructure offers one of few important legislative areas where we see realistic prospects for passage this year.

Dave

General

- Participated in press conference with House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman John Mica (R-FL) on the release of the American Energy & Infrastructure Jobs Act, a five-year \$260 billion reauthorization of federal surface transportation programs.
- Secured language in the House transportation bill to require State DOTs to contract out for engineering services to the maximum extent practicable, including a reporting requirement on compliance.
- Executive Committee approved ACEC's 2012 legislative agenda - focused on passing transportation, water and energy legislation, as well as curbing government insourcing and achieving pro-business regulatory reforms.
- Executive Committee also underscored the importance of involving all states and all member firms in meeting the ACEC/PAC 2012 goal as integral to achieving the 2012 legislative agenda.

Government Affairs

- Minuteman Fund grants were approved for ACEC/Alabama (to pass Certificate of Merit Legislation), ACEC/California (to appeal a court decision inflicting unfair liability on engineering firms) and ACEC/Ohio (to support a legal case seeking to dedicate more highway infrastructure funding from the state's taxes).
- Helped gain over 1,000 associations and businesses to sign a letter to every House Member and Senator urging swift passage of the multi-year surface transportation bill.
- Secured language in multiple House bills that will require agencies to justify insourcing decisions, make it easier to account for small business participation on federal contracts, and initiate other pro-business reforms.
- ACEC's Federal Agencies and Procurement Advocacy Committee (FAPA) promoted federal agency outsourcing with House and Senate committees.

Launched new survey to assess how many member firms are using the General Services Administration (GSA) supply schedules and if they are getting any work through them.

Institute for Business Management

- The ACEC/ASCE/APWA-founded Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure released its sustainability rating tool to evaluate and grade the sustainability of infrastructure projects. For more information, go to **www.sustainableinfrastructure.org**.
- Popular business webinars held in January: Ethical Decision-Making for PEs; BIM and the Engineer; 2011 Year in Review - Legal Issues for Engineers.
- Don't miss industry business webinars coming in February: Driving Financial Performance to New Levels; Know What Drives Your Clients - Make Your Firm Invaluable; Wage and Hour Issues in the A&E World; Keeping Clients for Life; Corps Programmatic Outlook; What You Need To Know as a Successful Hazardous Materials and Forensics Expert Witness.
- Entered into a reciprocal promotion agreement with ASCE to publicize ACEC Designation programs and ASCE Certification programs.
- Senior Executives Institute Class 17 met for their second session, focused on communication techniques and business missions.
- January Bookstore Top Sellers: Choose Engineering as Your College Major; and Ownership Transition.
- ACEC members can save 20% on all floral orders through www.acec.org/ftd for Valentine's Day.
- RCEP now holds PDH records for 20,448 professionals and has 91 approved providers in the system including five ACEC state organizations. For more information on how your state can join, contact Maria Buscemi at (202) 682-4323 or muscemi@acec.org.

Your Officers

Your Committee Chairs

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srathfon@centuryeng.com



Vice President
Mario J. Gangemi
mgangemi@duffnet.com



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