



Field Notes

From the Chair—Edward Garrigan, PLS

It has been a busy year for COPS as we continue to tackle the issues that affect your firm. COPS has established itself as the organization within ACEC that gives surveyors a chance to benefit from first class business practice information from ACEC as well as from COPS. We have accomplished much in the past year. Shown below are some highlights.

- Developed and issued COPS products including: a TOPO Log and Quality Process Log; updated several contract documents and sample job description packet.
- Created a members only section on the COPS webpage as a one stop for all document needs.
- Sponsored seminars at both the ACEC Fall Conference in Montreal and the Spring Convention in Washington, DC.
- Sponsored a seminar at the winter ACSM meeting in Salt Lake City looking at making surveying a profitable part of a firm's business.
- Together with Small Firms Council co-sponsored a Principal's Boot Camp in Nashville, TN.

In addition, the COPS Business Practice Subcommittee continues to work on new products, including revised COPS scope of services/contracts documents and other useful documents and tools. Go to the COPS Home Page (www.acec.org/cops) for further updates.

The COPS Steering Committee welcomes your feedback and participation. Please contact Heather Talbert at htalbert@acec.org with your comments and/or suggestions.

Dues Invoices Now Payable

Dues invoices are now being mailed to all current COPS members. We are very optimistic about what COPS can do for its members and we hope you feel the same way and choose to continue your membership.

In addition for an extra \$100 you may be a patron of COPS and have your company's logo prominently displayed on the COPS webpage. For more information about the patron program, please contact COPS Executive Director Heather Talbert at htalbert@acec.org or 202-682-4377.

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Free COPS
Publications
on COPS
Members -
Only
Webpage!

Membership Referral Program Underway!

The effectiveness of COPS representing survey firms is dependent on a strong membership base – so to kick-off our upcoming fiscal year in a proactive way, we are launching the COPS Member Referral Campaign! The COPS member who submits the most referrals between now and September 15, 2009, will win a **\$100 Visa gift card!**

If you know a firm that would benefit from COPS membership, please submit that information to ACEC staff. Each prospect identified will be contacted by ACEC staff with information about COPS and the value of membership. COPS members who submit contact information must allow ACEC staff to mention their names when approaching the prospective member.

The COPS coalition has a goal of **50 referrals for this campaign**. The Steering Committee itself has pledged to provide at least 10 referrals. For more information on the program or to submit your referrals, please email htlabert@acec.org with Subject: COPS Member Referral.



More Valuable Products Coming!

The COPS Business Practices Subcommittee is currently working on a revised COPS scope of services/contracts documents, disclaimer language for survey control and limitation of liability, survey field work record, managers evaluation, and other useful documents and tools. If you are interested participating on this subcommittee please contact either subcommittee chair Mike Yeoman at myeoman@perteet.com, or Heather Talbert at htalbert@acec.org.

The next meeting of the COPS Business Practices Subcommittee is planned for July 31, 2009 in Denver, CO.

ACEC Fall Conference—Engineering America's Recovery

EXPERIENCE the acclaimed ACEC Fall Conference featuring world class educational sessions, an innovative trade show, a full complement of tours, and entertaining networking events, including a must-attend "Local Color Night!" located this year in Palm Springs, CA at the La Quinta Resort.

COPS will be hosting two sessions this year at the ACEC Fall Conference. "Should I Really Sign That Form?" will be a panel discussion lead by Brian Stewart, Collins, Collins, Muir + Stewart.

A second session will be a joint roundtable with the Land Development Coalition on issues facing both surveyors and land developers especially in today's economic climate.

ACEC is offering online registration for this year's Fall Conference. We hope to see you in Palm Springs.

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Tips For Maximizing Your Membership ROI! (First in a Series)

Tip # 1: Encourage Firm-wide Involvement in ACEC

The return on your membership is directly related to the level of participation by you and your employees in the activities of ACEC.

To get the highest ROI, encourage your team to join committees of interest, participate in webinars, seminars, and Conventions, and build relationships with fellow ACEC members throughout the country.

“All our key staff take full advantage of ACEC’s educational programming, whether it’s the online seminars, the Convention sessions, or multi-day seminars,” added Ron Ewing, COO of Dewberry, Inc., in Fairfax, VA. “We see this broad involvement as a vital competitive edge.”

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Knowledge to Share? Submit Proposals for 2010 Spring Convention by July 22

Proposals for session presentations at the ACEC 2010 Annual Convention and Legislative Summit, set for April 25-28, 2010 in Washington, D.C., are now being accepted by the ACEC Institute for Business Management.

Sessions are to be 75 minutes on topics under any of nine tracks: business management and quality, finance, human resources, information technology, leadership, legal and risk management, business development, project management and project delivery.

Featuring a unique combination of educational programming, Capitol Hill visits, the Engineering Excellence Awards Gala, networking opportunities, tours and exhibits, the Annual Convention has historically attracted an impressive roster of design professionals with wide-ranging professional education interests.

Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. EDT, July 22, 2009. For full descriptions of track topics, benefits of presenting, and the presentation entry form and requirements, [click here](#)





COUNCIL OF
PROFESSIONAL
SURVEYORS



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Surveying departments or firms comprise over *thirty percent* of the membership of the American Council of Engineering Companies. ACEC's advocacy and information programs address the unique business needs of surveyors, helping firms succeed today and into the future.

COPS, the Council of Professional Surveyors, strengthen the business environment and image of member firms, focusing on quality professional surveying services in a competitive global marketplace.

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Calendar of Events

- July 31: COPS Business Practices Committee Meeting
Marriott Courtyard, Denver, CO
- Aug. 1: COPS Steering Committee Meeting
Marriott Courtyard, Denver, CO
- Oct. 7-10: ACEC Fall Conference
La Quinta Resort, Palm Springs, CA



COPS Steering Committee

The following COPS Steering Committee members are here to serve your needs. Please feel free to contact any of the members at their email addresses shown below.

Chairman: Edward F. Garrigan, C.T. Male Associates, P.C. e.garrigan@ctmale.com

Vice Chairman: Tim Cawood, McKim & Creed tcawood@mckimcreed.com

Secretary: Michael Yeoman, Perteet, Inc. myeoman@perteet.com

Directors at Large:

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