



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

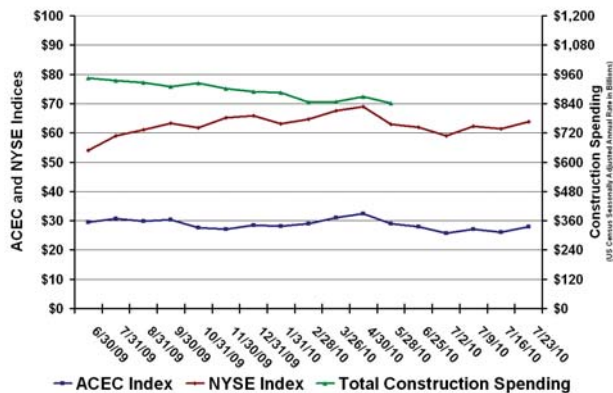
100 Years of Excellence

Last Word

Vol. XXXI, Number 28 • July 28, 2010

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

ACEC ENGINEERING INDEX



The ACEC Index tracks the stock performance of ACEC's publicly held Member Firms, as compared to the New York Stock Exchange Composite and Total U.S. Construction Spending.

[Click here](#) for a printer-friendly Last Word.

ACEC NEWSLINE

Energy

Study Lays Out Most Effective Practices to Harden the Electric Grid

A storm-hardening study funded by the Texas Public Utility Commission analyzed the costs and advantages of practices electric utilities could follow to bolster the distribution grid...[click here](#) for more.

Buildings/Land

BIM and Other Technologies Support Sustainable Campus Building Renovations

Three-dimensional (3D) modeling, laser scanning, and BIM are facilitating efficient renovations of existing campus buildings...[click here](#) for more.

ACEC Leadership Gets First-Hand Look at Oil Spill Clean-up



Leaders of ACEC/National and ACEC/Louisiana toured a variety of oil barrier protection and skimming operations along the Louisiana coast last week. Pictured left to right are: ACEC/LA National Director Mike McGaugh; ACEC/LA Executive Director Dan Mobley; ACEC/LA President Dean Nicoladis; Kenneth Smith, president of T. Baker Smith; Ben Malbrough of The Shaw Group; ACEC President Dave Raymond; and ACEC Vice Chairman Robin Greenleaf.

ACEC President Dave Raymond and Vice Chairman Robin Greenleaf last week toured Member Firm efforts to mitigate the impact of the oil spill on the Louisiana coastline.

Kenneth Smith, president of T. Baker Smith in Houma, La., led the ACEC delegation, which included ACEC/Louisiana President Constantine Nicoladis, National Director Michael McGaugh, and Executive Director Dan Mobley.

"These engineers are on the front line of the clean-up effort," said Greenleaf. "They are using unbelievably creative solutions to impossible engineering problems—and getting results."

T. Baker Smith, for example, has developed a new boom system involving a heavier grade steel pipe, which is welded at the ends and lain across the water between wooden pilings driven into the seabed.

ACEC Partners with Green Building Council on LEED Preparation Course

In partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council, ACEC will offer an online course to prepare participants to take the LEED Green Associate Exam.

Green Buildings and Preparing for the LEED Green Associate Exam is a 32-hour course that will be "live" online from Sept. 7-Oct. 29. Registrants can access the course 24/7 at their convenience.

Water

EPA to Scrutinize Power Plant Water Permits Ahead of New Effluent Limits

The EPA is promising to closely examine state-issued Clean Water Act (CWA) discharge permits for power plants in preparation for its planned technology-based discharge standard for the sector as an interim measure to address environmentalists' concerns that the permits need to be strengthened... [click here](#) for more.

Transportation

FHWA Proposes Rule for National Tunnel Inspection Safety Standards

The Federal Highway Administration is asking for comments on a proposed new rule to establish national uniform standards for federal tunnel inspections, which is intended to help improve driver safety... [click here](#) for more.

Lack of Accurate Data Hinders Federal Highway Bridge Program

The U.S. Government Accountability Office reports that one in four of the country's 600,000 bridges in the United States is either structurally deficient and in need of repair, or is functionally obsolete and is not adequate for today's traffic... [click here](#) for more.

[Click here](#) for more NewsLine.

ACEC JOB BOARD

Plan Ahead for Your Recruiting Needs with ACEC's Job Board

Summer is the perfect time to plan for your recruiting needs for the fall and beyond. Post your job openings on [ACEC's Job Board](#) and get sizzling summer savings of 15 percent on any package of three or 10 postings. Just use the promo code SUM15 at checkout.

No other recruitment tool can penetrate the association niche like ACEC's Job Board. With more than 23,500 candidate resumes, the ACEC Job Board's advanced search features produce effective, specific results for both job seekers and employers.

Visit the [ACEC Job Board](#) to create an account and post your job today.

For more information, contact Nina Goldman at 202-682-4325 or write ngoldman@acec.org.

The curriculum covers LEED across building types and rating systems, using real project case studies to highlight key concepts and strategies. After completing the course, participants can apply to take the LEED Green Associate Exam.

For more information and to register, [click here](#).

House Will Consider ACEC-Backed Bill Limiting 9/11 Liability This Week

The House of Representatives is scheduled to take up ACEC-endorsed legislation that provides meaningful liability relief for engineering firms involved in the clean up of the Ground Zero site following the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center in New York City.

Under the legislation, individuals who lived or worked near Ground Zero and accept compensation for related health problems must relinquish their right to sue.

Engineering firms' liability will be capped by the limit of their professional liability insurance policy as of September 11, 2001, in paying any remaining claims.

The Senate is expected to consider the legislation in the fall.

[Click here](#) to see the ACEC letter endorsing the bill.

Senate Committee Increases Transportation Funding for FY 2011

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved increased funding for several transportation programs in its draft bill for FY 2011.

The legislation provides \$76.5 billion for the Department of Transportation, including \$41.8 billion for highways, which is \$700 million more than the current funding level but \$3.4 billion less than the House version. The bill includes \$10.8 billion for transit programs, an increase of approximately \$60 million, but \$500 million less than the House.

The subcommittee also allocated \$3.5 billion for airport improvements; nearly \$2 billion for Amtrak and \$1 billion for high-speed rail development; and \$800 million for another round of TIGER multimodal discretionary grants.

The full Senate is not expected to take up the bill until after the August summer recess. Final action may not occur until after the November elections.

ACEC Conference Highlights Technology in Business Solutions



The ACEC 2010 Fall Conference will be at the El Conquistador Resort in Puerto Rico, October 17-20.

Maximizing new technology will be the focus of several business management sessions at the upcoming ACEC 2010 Fall Conference

ACEC JOB BOARD

Over 550 Searchable
Jobs Posted

Over 24,000 Searchable
Resumes Posted

Over 2,150 Registered
Employers

Last Five "Help Wanted" Open Positions:

**Construction Materials Testing Group
Manager**—McKinney, TX

CEI Senior Inspector I-Transportation—
Knoxville, TN

Water/Wastewater Engineer—Rock Island, IL

**Department Manager, Transportation
Construction**—Indianapolis, IN

Civil Engineer—Morrisville, NC

A Sampling of Posted Resumes:

Geotechnical Engineers—**1,678**

Water Resources/Wastewater Engineers—**1,965**

Transportation—**1,670**

Civil Engineers—**2,546**

Structural Engineers—**1,781**

Environmental Engineers—**1,724**

View These Resumes and Jobs on ACEC's Job Board

<http://www.acec.org/jobbank>

ACEC PUBLICATIONS

EJCDC 10 Percent Off Sale Ends on Sunday

Save 10 percent off the regular price of all EJCDC documents through July 31, 2010. The discount has already been applied throughout our website—no coupon or code needed.

EJCDC Contract Documents are prepared by experienced engineering



in Puerto Rico, October 17-20.

Sessions emphasizing effective technology management include *IT Tools to Better Orchestrate Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing; Social Media and Beyond; Using Commercial Software in Structural Designs for Buildings; Information Modeling for Transportation; Managing Employee Mobile Computing Devices in the Office and in the Field; and Sustainability with BIM — Opportunities in New Markets.*

Members who register for the Fall Conference by July 31 will receive a discounted registration—and be automatically entered for a chance to win dinner-for-two at the [Strip House Restaurant](#) at the El Conquistador Resort.

For more information on the 2010 Fall Conference, [click here](#). To register, [click here](#).

Call for Renewable Energy Projects for *Engineering Inc.*

ACEC will highlight four Member Firms and their renewable energy projects in the November/December 2010 issue of *Engineering Inc.*

If your firm is involved with any form of renewable energy, and you think your project would be of interest to *Engineering Inc.* readers, ACEC would like to hear from you. The project can be in an on-going phase or recently completed.

To submit a project for consideration, please e-mail the following information to *Engineering Inc.* Staff Editor, Andrea Keeney, at akeeney@acec.org, by COB on Wednesday, August 11, 2010.

- Project name and location (firm may submit no more than two projects);
- Brief project overview, including any unique aspects (limited to one page); and
- Name, title and phone number of the Member Firm executive who will be interviewed for the profile.

If your project is selected, a reporter will interview the Member Firm executive to discuss project goals and results.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Keeney at akeeney@acec.org.

Take Advantage of Advertising Opportunities in *Engineering Inc.*

Increase your firm's brand recognition by advertising in the September/October issue of *Engineering Inc.* With articles on small business outsourcing, sustainability, and risk management, the issue promises to be one of the best read of the year.

As ACEC's flagship publication, *Engineering Inc.* reaches more than 40,000 industry leaders, federal lawmakers, and state agency administrators.

For more information on enhancing your firm's exposure, contact Nina Goldman at 202-682-4325 or write ngoldman@acec.org.

design and construction professionals, owners, contractors, professional liability and risk management experts, and legal counsel.

EJCDC Contract Documents offer many benefits:

- Created and peer-reviewed by experienced industry experts
- Reduced conflicts and litigation
- Balanced and fair provisions
- User-friendly and easily customizable (provided in MS Word)

The Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee (EJCDC) is a joint venture of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), the National Society of Professional Engineers/Professional Engineers in Private Practice (NSPE/PEPP), the American Society of Civil Engineers - Construction Institute (ASCE-CI), and the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC).

EJCDC has existed since 1975 to develop and update fair and objective standard documents that represent the latest and best thinking in contractual relations between all parties involved in engineering design and construction projects. EJCDC represents a major portion of the professional groups engaged in the practice of providing engineering and construction services for the constructed project.

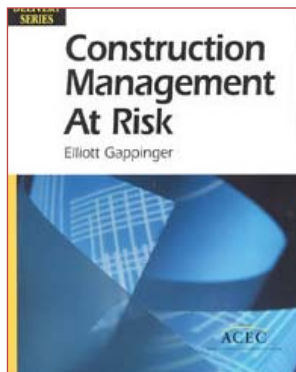
[Click here](#) to browse all EJCDC Documents available through the ACEC Bookstore.

Project Delivery Series on Sale

Save 20 percent Through July 31, 2010 on ACEC's Project Delivery Series. No coupon needed—sale price is reflected on our website.

Construction Management at Risk

To order, [click here](#).



INSTITUTE FOR BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

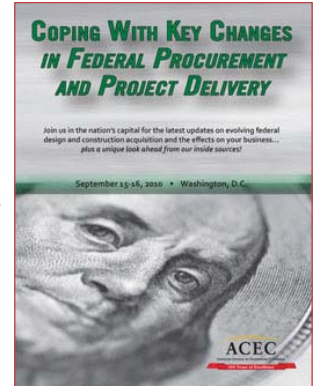
D.C. Course Offers Insights to Looming Changes in Federal Procurement

September 15-16, Washington, D.C.

With the federal government in the midst of implementing the most far-reaching procurement reforms in a decade, ACEC presents a unique exploration into the probable and potential changes.

Coping With Key Changes in Federal Procurement and Project Delivery will analyze new public safety and security requirements, contractor disclosure rules, performance-based contracting, measurable contract performance standards and the outsourcing versus in-sourcing debate—from the perspectives of both government sources and ACEC's own procurement experts.

This one-of-a-kind course includes speakers from federal agencies, as well as contracting and legal experts who focus daily on public acquisition and federal markets. This 1½-day course is of vital importance for firms pursuing federal work, as well as those contemplating entry into this market. [Click here](#) for agenda and to register.



Sharpen Business Skills: 'What They Don't Teach in Engineering School'

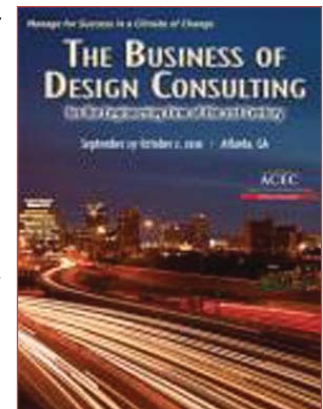
September 29-October 2, Atlanta, GA

The Business of Design Consulting is ACEC's bottom-line focused A/E business management course—a comprehensive, practical update of the elements that drive the successful firm in today's challenging business reality.

The final 2010 presentation of the course is set for Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Atlanta, Ga., to examine best-practices in key operational areas of finance, marketing, risk management, contracts, leadership, business management, human resources, and information technology.

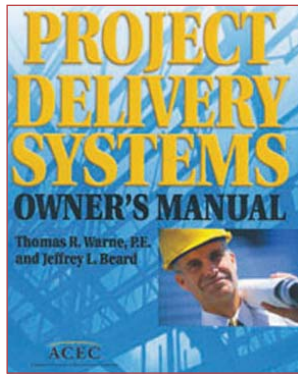
Created for firm owners, principals, executives and managers, this on-target update of management priorities is a solid investment for success.

According to David Stone of Stone & Company, who will present the marketing and business development segment of the agenda, "There's more than enough business out there for your firm." Stone will identify the key elements of the "win business" equation in today's fast-moving electronic communications age, integrating the fundamentals of marketing outreach with the realistic brand-building potential of e-mail and the Internet.



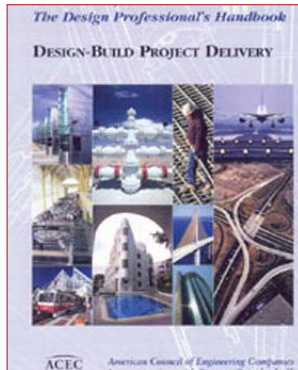
Project Delivery Systems Owner's Manual

To order, [click here](#).



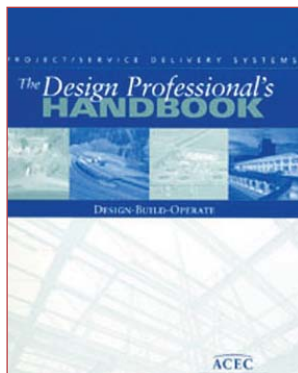
Design-Build Project Delivery

To order, [click here](#).



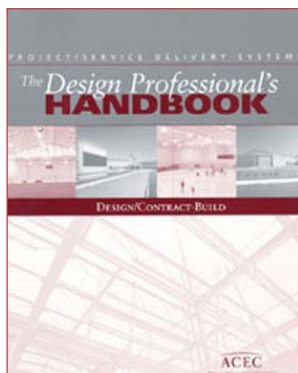
Design-Build-Operate

To order, [click here](#).



Design/Contract-Build

To order, [click here](#).



[Click here](#) to see all of the publications and merchandise available at the ACEC Bookstore.

[Click here](#) for details, access to the course brochure, and to register at the best-price early bird rate.

IT, Finance, HR Forums to Address Industry Challenges in Fall Meetings

IT Forum, September 13-14

Finance Forum, September 13-14

HR Forum, October 7-8

The fall calendar of meetings for ACEC's popular specialty forums has added the HR Forum, which will convene October 7-8, Cambridge, MA. The IT and Finance Forums will meet Sept. 13-14 in Chicago in separate 1½-day workshops to share information and network with professional peers.

The **Information Technology Forum** will review critical technology and bottom-line issues including: Rapidly changing consumer technology; UC/PBX hosted vs. on-site; selective outsourcing relative to cost; PM technologies; data lifecycle management; data aging and retention; e-discovery; pros and cons of network structure; how to align IT business goals; and communicating IT projects and priorities in the context and language of business. [Click here](#) to register.

The **Finance Forum** agenda includes: Changes in the *AASHTO Uniform Audit and Accounting Guide* as they affect how engineering firms are compensated and audited; lifeline/key performance indicators; ACEC's *Industry Trends Survey*; roundtable discussions on banking criteria, investment choices, the paperless office; and sharing lessons learned/horror stories since the group's 2009 meeting. [Click here](#) to register.

The **HR Forum** agenda is being finalized, with the focus on updating issues of current interest, including employee communication and retention; legal, medical and benefits discussions; and recognition and rewards practices. The Forum's special interest education subsection will share best-practices in professional development in a challenging economic environment. [Click here](#) to register.

Open to both ACEC members and non-members, Forum advance registration for all three groups is currently available at advance discount prices.

Get Ahead of 'New Normal'—SEI Class 16 Starts Soon

In the course of five separate five-day sessions over an 18-month timeframe, ACEC's Senior Executives Institute (SEI) participants acquire new tools and high-level skills and insights to prosper in our changed—and challenging—A/E/C business environment.

Since its inception, SEI has attracted public and private sector engineers and architects from firms of all sizes, locations, and practice specialties who are drawn to a highly interactive, energetic, exploratory and challenging learning opportunity. Class 16 begins in September 2010.

Course size is limited, and registrations for Class 16 are being accepted. Executives with at least five years' experience managing professional design programs or businesses are invited to register for this highly regarded leadership building opportunity.

Download AASHTO Audit Guide Online Seminars

ACEC's popular series of online seminars detailing the new AASHTO *Uniform Audit and Accounting Guide* are now available for purchase and download on-demand through the ACEC Bookstore.

To order, click on the seminar title of interest:

- [*New State DOT Compensation and Audit Rules That Will Affect Your Bottom Line*](#)
- [*New Rules on Allowable and Reasonable Compensation*](#)
- [*FAR Compliance in a Time of Increased Government Oversight*](#)
- [*New Guidance for Successful Overhead Audits*](#)

For an overview of the full SEI program and to register, visit the [ACEC SEI website](#). To inquire, contact Deirdre McKenna at dmckenna@acec.org.

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