



## Practice Area Summit

InterContinental Houston– Houston, TX  
February 26-27, 2026

### - Daily Schedule of Events -

#### Thursday, February 26

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7:30 am – 9:00 am	<b>Kickstart Breakfast: Meet Your Coalition Community</b> Networking and morning kick-off
9:00 am – 11:45 am	<b>Coalition Leadership Strategy Session (Closed)</b> Executive business meetings for volunteer leaders.
9:00 am – 11:45 am	<b>Morning Connection Lounge: Coffee with Sponsors &amp; Speakers</b> For general attendees: coffee, conversation, early networking
11:45 am – 1:15 pm	<b>Luncheon Keynote: Inside the Digital Engine of the Houston Airport System</b>  Speakers: <b>Darryl Daniel</b> , Deputy Director & Chief Technology Officer – Houston Airport System & <b>Matthew Meiers</b> , Aviator Project Manager – Burns Engineering.  A behind-the-scenes look at the technology and integrated digital systems powering Houston's airports.
1:15 pm – 1:30 pm	<b>Break</b>
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	<b>Professional Practice Sessions</b>
Geoprophessionals	<b>Recruiting and Retention for Firms of All Sizes</b> Speaker: <b>Mark Dornak</b> , Senior Materials Training and Development Specialist at Terracon
Land Development	<b>Land Development 2.0: Innovation and Market Trends</b> Speaker: Pending, Academic or Market Intelligence Expert
MEP Engineering	<b>Leading the MEP Firm of the Future: Strategy, Structure &amp; Success</b> Speaker: <b>A/E Industry Advisor</b>
Surveyors	<b>Tech Horizons: What's Next for Surveying Professionals</b> Speaker: Panel discussion facilitated by <b>surveying technology leaders</b>
Structural Engineers	<b>AI &amp; Digital Delivery: What's Next for Structural Practice</b> Speaker: <b>Jim Jacobi</b> , Managing Principal & CIO Emeritus, Walter P. Moore
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	<b>Coalition Roundtables: Your Practice, Your Priorities</b> Facilitated peer discussions for each discipline <u>except Geoprophessionals</u>



## Geoprofessionals

### Crystal Ball Workshop: Addressing the Impacts of the Shrinking Geoprofessional Workforce with Automation and Artificial Intelligence

Speaker: **Andrew Pennoni**, Regional VP - Pennoni, **Paxton Anderson**, CEO - Strata, **Victor Donald**, Senior Principal - Terracon

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm

### Coffee Break

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

### Professional Practice Sessions

#### Geoprofessionals

#### Lessons From the Field: Real Cases, Real Consequences

Speaker: Presented by the **Geoprofessional Business Association**

#### Land Development

#### Houston Land Development: Projects Shaping the Region

Speaker: **Houston-Based Land Developer**

#### MEP Engineering

#### The Future of MEP Practice: Tools, Trends, and Opportunities

Speaker: **Leading MEP Practitioner**

#### Surveyors

#### LiDAR & Reality Capture: Turning Data Into Decisions

Speaker: **Bill Swope**, Geospatial Technical Expert, Olsson

#### Structural Engineers

#### The Contract Language Every Structural Firm Should Master

Speaker: **Karen Erger**, SVP, Director of Practice Management, Lockton Companies

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

### Evening Reception

Networking with attendees, sponsors, and speakers

## Friday, February 27

7:30 am – 8:15 am

### Breakfast & Networking

8:15am – 8:45 am

### Breakfast Speaker (TBD)

8:45 am – 9:00 am

### Transition Break

9:00 am – 10:30 am

### Interactive AI Experience: Real Tools You Can Use Today

A 90-minute, hands-on session showing practical AI applications for operations, communication, staffing, and delivery. Facilitated by ACEC Technology Committee.

10:30 am – 10:45 am

### Break

10:45 am – 11:30 am

### Market Intelligence Briefing: Market, Workforce & Practice Trends

Insights on national market conditions, workforce dynamics, and business outlooks. Speakers pending.

11:30 am – 12:00 pm

### Closing Program Session & Remarks

12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**CASE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS - CLOSED \*CASE Subcommittee members only\***