

THE FIRST WORD

September, 2014

Leadership For Engineers

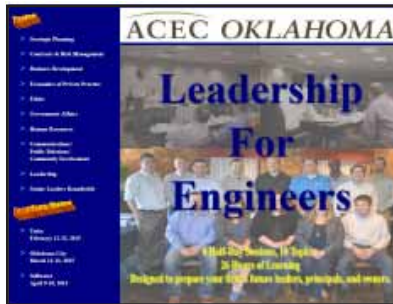
6 Half-Day Sessions, 26 Hours of Learning
Covering 10 Topics

ACEC OKLAHOMA is excited to announce that registration is now open for **Class #6** of the critically acclaimed *Leadership for Engineers* program beginning in February, 2015. The program is designed to prepare your firm's future leaders, principals, and owners for the challenges and opportunities of leading your design consulting firm.

ACEC OKLAHOMA's *Leadership for Engineers* is targeted to all rising industry professionals who are committed to developing their leadership and management skills and abilities, and identified by your firm as a "future leader" of your business. **This may include design firm business and administrative coordinators, marketing managers, HR managers, project managers, new principals and middle managers.....anyone interested in developing solid management skills.**

A distinguished faculty from both inside and outside the engineering profession has been put together to address a variety of management topics including: **Leadership; Human Resources/Managing People; Ethics; Strategic Planning; Government Affairs; Economics of Private Practice; Business Development; Risk Management/Contract Language; and, Communications/Public Relations/Community Involvement, and Senior Leaders Roundtable.**

Registration info is being sent to all members, and is also on the ACEC OKLAHOMA website: www.acecok.org



ACEC OKLAHOMA

2014 Engineering Excellence Awards

Entries are now open for the **2014 ACEC OKLAHOMA Engineering Excellence Awards** competition, which show-

cases the top engineering projects in Oklahoma. Entry deadline for the competition is Friday, November 8th.

Entry information for the ACEC OKLAHOMA **2014 Engineering Excellence Awards, sponsored by the ACEC Business Insurance Trust**, has been sent to all member firms and is also available for download on the ACEC OKLAHOMA website at www.acecok.org.

All member firms are encouraged to enter the competition which is a prelude to the ACEC's 2015 national Engineering Excellence competition.

This is a great way for ACEC OKLAHOMA member firms to showcase their top projects, and we hope that everyone will seriously consider submitting an entry.

The recipients of the Grand Conceptor Award and one of the four Grand Awards in the ACEC OKLAHOMA competition are eligible to enter ACEC's national competition. Deadline for submission to the national competition is January 9, 2015.

We look forward to receiving your entries, and to another exciting competition.



Follow us on Twitter: @ACECOKLAHOMA





The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality hosts the Oklahoma Brownfields Conference every two years.

This year's conference will be held November 5th through the 6th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Currently, we plan to have speakers for a full day on the 5th and for a half day on the 6th.

Rethink • Reinvest • Reinvent: The Oklahoma Brownfields Conference 2014 brings realtors, developers, attorneys, architects, remediation specialists, engineers and government agencies together to hear from industry leaders about the economic, social, and environmental impact of Brownfields redevelopment.

This event has become a very exciting time for public and private partners to share ideas and accomplishments from across the region and is known for setting standards nationwide.

Some of the exciting topics that will be highlighted at this year's conference are:

- Brownfields & LEED certification
- Infill and Brownfield Redevelopments
- Landfill Redevelopment
- Bringing Commercial Banks on board for Brownfield Financing
- Environmental Insurance & Who Needs It
- Community Advocacy and Brownfield Redevelopment

Please join us to hear from Visionaries to keynote Oklahoma Brownfields Conference hear from social architect Bill Strickland, sustainable development leader John Knott, and former EPA Acting Administrator Marianne Horinko.

Additional information can be found at www.oklahomabrownfields.com

SAVE THE DATE

2014 OKLAHOMA TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH DAY

OSU-OKC Conference Center, Oklahoma City

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Southern Plains Transportation Center (SPTC) are pleased to announce their sponsorship of the 2014 Oklahoma Transportation Research Day.

Attendees from academia, government service, and the private sector are strongly encouraged to attend. This event will consist of keynote speakers, ODOT research services and research project presentations as well as student transportation project posters. Registrants have the opportunity to receive up to eight Professional Development Hours (PDH) while attending this event.

Register for this event now at:

www.eventbrite.com/e/oklahoma-transportation-research-day-tickets-12409397843?aff=rss

ACEC OKLAHOMA members are encouraged to participate.

The Benefits Make Us Better!!

Creating a Brighter Future for Engineers


ACEC
BUSINESS INSURANCE TRUST
Business & Professional Liability Insurance

- Since 1983 the ACEC BIT, whose trustees are all engineers like you, has been providing access to insurance coverage through our program broker and administrator, Marsh U.S. Consumer. Our products are tailored specifically to and enhanced for ACEC Member Firms.
- The ACEC BIT that sponsors these programs exists solely to represent the best interests of our member firms.
- The goal of the ACEC BIT is to provide the platform for ever improving coverage and products, and to provide valuable member benefits.
- Nowhere else will you find more engineer-focused business and professional liability coverage all in one place.

Please note: Marsh U.S. Consumer, a service of Seabury & Smith, Inc., is the insurance agent and administrator of the ACEC BIT Insurance Program. The ACEC BIT and its trustees direct the program on behalf of the ACEC trustees, and are not employed by Marsh U.S. Consumer.

MARSH

The ACEC BIT selected Marsh U.S. Consumer to offer you this coverage after evaluating the best products for the unique needs of our engineering firms. If you wish to file a claim or have any questions, please contact Jeff Conroy at 1-800-338-1391 ext 2421, 41-014-042-0421, or jeff.conroy@marsh.com.



The Business Insurance Trust (BIT) truly adds value to your membership in the American Council of Engineering Companies. You get the best possible insurance product with a unique set of trustee-administered benefits that are not available anywhere else. Our Trustee Benefits include:


The ACEC BIT Member Firm Royalty Distribution Program:
A new benefit for 2014 is that the BIT will share a portion of the Hartford Royalty with our loyal member firms. This will range from \$50 to thousands of dollars depending on the amount of business, time with the program, and other criteria.

The ACEC BIT Deductible Assistance Program:
Any firm that participates in the ACEC Business Insurance Trust may request reimbursement of their deductible from the BIT for property and automobile losses, up to \$1,000, each time the firm has a claim.

The ACEC BIT Qualifier Program:
For firms that renew a policy with the ACEC Business Insurance Trust, the BIT will pay \$150 per year towards that firm's ACEC Qualifier dues (Small Firm Council, CAGE, COPS, CAMEE, or Land Development Council).

ACEC and State Member Organization Support:
The Business Insurance Trust shares its surplus funds with member firms through the programs described above and also apportions funds to the ACEC National and State organizations. The success of the program and the low claims rate come back to help our organizations.

www.ACECBIT.com
1-800-338-1391





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Welcome New Member

ACEC OKLAHOMA is excited to welcome our newest Associate Member, **Haskell Lemon Construction Co.**

Located in Oklahoma City, Haskell Lemon offers Asphalt Paving, Asphalt Sales, Cold Milling, Grading, Highway Construction, Bridge Construction, and Quality Control services.

Key contacts for the company include Jay Lemon, Joe Ridley, Ken Wert, and Tammy Robinson.

Welcome to Haskell Lemon Construction Company as an Associate Member, and for their support of the activities of ACEC OKLAHOMA. We look forward to having them as active members.

Last Call For ACEC Fall Conference in Hawaii!

ACEC has a great conference planned for October 22-25 on the "Big Island" of Hawaii, and we don't want you to miss out!

The Early Bird registration discount deadline, where you can save \$100 on your registration fee, is Monday, September 22nd.

Hotel rates are available for as little as \$214/night, and can be made by calling **ACEC Room Reservations (ACEC Official Housing Service — ConferenceDirect): 888-408-8190 Reservations, Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:30 pm EDT**

As for the program, here's a sampling of what's in store:

- * **Opening General Session: America's Mid-Term Elections - Who Will Win and What It Means** with Charlie Cook, Renowned Political Analyst and Editor/Publisher of The Cook Political Report
- * **CEO Panel: Engineering Business Outlook - 2015** with Jon Carlson, CEO, Braun Intertec; William Siegel, President & CEO, Kleinfelder; and Donald Stone, CEO, Dewberry
- * **UNthink - The Art of Innovation and Leadership** with Erik Wahl, Business strategist, artist and bestselling author -
- * **General Session: Development of America's New Energy Infrastructure** with Commissioner Tony Clark, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

ACEC Member Action Alert: House Cash Accounting Letter Gains Steam

Support of Oklahoma Delegation Needed!

More than 180 House Members have signed on to a bipartisan letter in support of preserving the cash method of accounting.

ACEC is working to get a majority of the House—218—signed on and urges Council members to lobby their Representatives. Click here for a sample letter...

www.acec.org/advocacy/advocacy-home

However, to date, only **ONE** member of the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation has signed onto the letter...Congressman Frank Lucas.

Recent draft tax reform legislation would limit the use of cash accounting to firms with less than \$10 million in revenues and sole proprietors. This change would impose significant cash flow problems on many ACEC Member Firms because the vast majority of their costs are labor-related and must be paid before firms are paid by their clients.

The deadline for Representatives to sign the letter has been extended to September 8th.

ACTION NEEDED NOW!!! Please go to the "sample letter" link above and send it to **Congressmen Bridenstine, Mullins, Lankford, and Cole**. Our delegation need to hear from **ACEC OKLAHOMA** members and they need to know the importance of this issue to the engineering community!

* **Expert Panel: Opportunities in Booming Energy Markets** with Steve Bakken, Larson Engineering, radio host of "Energy Matters"; Tony Bartolomeo, President & CEO, Pennoni Associates; Kendall King, V.P., Energy Division, Freese & Nichols

* **Local Color Night - "Surf's Up!" with Jimmy Mac and the KoolKats**

* **Amazing sightseeing tours including a Picnic Snorkel Sail, Adventure Hike, Volcano and Waterfall Helicopter Tour, and Mauna Kea Summit and Stars Tour.**

It's going to be a great conference, and the **Hilton Waikoloa Village Resort** offers a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Look forward to seeing you October 22-25 in Hawaii!!!!



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President's Report

September, 2014

David Raymond, ACEC President

Dear Colleagues – Despite a month-long Congressional recess, ACEC has had an active August – pressing to preserve the cash method of accounting, to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, resolve outstanding AASHTO audit issues, improve the SEC municipal advisor rule, reform design-build procurements by limiting the use of the one-step process to very small procurements, and eliminating reverse auctions. We also just got through our annual audit with high marks for financial management and serving as effective stewards of member resources. Our Fall Conference in Waikoloa, Hawaii already has record numbers of advance registrants spurred by a strong business program, and I encourage you to sign up if you haven't already as early discounts end in a few weeks.

General

- ACEC received a clean bill of health from its FY 14 annual audit by outside auditors CliftonLarsenAllen, who said the Council's "sound financial practices and procedures indicate it is among the best managed associations we serve."

Government Advocacy

- Asked the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB) to address the Council's concern that the proposed municipal advisor rule places the client's financial interests over the professional engineer's ethical duty to public safety, health, and welfare.
- Secured 190 House members on a bipartisan letter in support of cash accounting, following a similar successful effort in the Senate.
- Launched an Action Alert to support the reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank.
- Filed comments urging that A/E firms be excluded from redundant reporting requirements in a DFARS Service Contract Reporting proposed rule.

- Submitted recommendations to improve the GSA Standard Form 330, "Architect-Engineer Qualifications."
- AASHTO agreed to work with ACEC on updates to their audit guide.
- Former ACEC Chairman Mac MacMurray has been appointed to an FAA rulemaking committee on integrating unmanned aerial vehicles into the national airspace.
- Federal Agencies and Procurement Advocacy Committee met with USACE, NAVFAC, Air Force, SBA and the Veterans Administration on market opportunities and procurement reform; and advocated in Congress for limiting the one-step design-build to only very small procurements, controlling the number of shortlisted firms in the two-step process, eliminating reverse auctions, and undertaking surety reform.
- Energy and Environment Committee met with representatives of the Corps of Engineers on the need for additional investments in the nation's locks, dams, and waterways; and senior DOE officials briefed committee members on challenges and opportunities in fossil fuel-based power generation and in performance evaluations of hydraulically-fractured shale systems.



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