

Vol. 9 Issue 4
April 2009

Features

MEMBER NEWS

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GIVING BACK

News and opportunities: Engineers' contributions to the community

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Programs

ENGINEER'S GUIDE TO MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION

April 22, 11:30 am - 5 pm Expert Witness Practices seminar

ANNUAL MEETING

April 17, 6:30 pm at Lakewood Country



ACEC/CO President Reviews the Year - Looks Ahead

As I reflect back on my year as president of ACEC/CO, and indeed my entire involvement with ACEC, one of the things that always impressed me is the friendships and working relationships that develop among those who really are competitors. It is obvious that for our industry in general, and particularly for those who find value in ACEC, the competition is friendly and the relationships valued by all. [Read more..](#)

Looking for a Great Return On Investment?

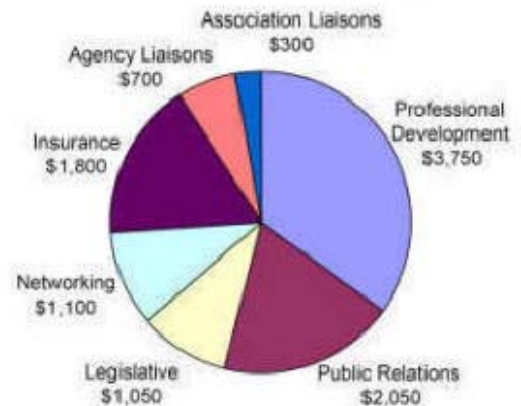
Consider your ACEC/CO Membership!

In a recent survey conducted by the Membership Committee on the value received by members of ACEC/CO, the respondents indicated that the benefits of being a member firm have a total value of about \$10,750.

Considering that a median-sized firm in ACEC/CO pays approximately \$2,500 per year for its combined state and national dues, a total value of \$10,750 represents quite a return on investment!

You can see in the chart on the right that the value members place on professional development opportunities alone easily outweighs the cost of membership—and that value increases with the size of the firm. [Read more...](#)

Average Value of Membership



ACEC/CO Events and Professional Development

Register [online](#), by calling 303-832-2200, or by [e-mail](#) for ACEC/CO programs.

- **ACEC/CO Annual Meeting**
Plans are underway for the 2009 Annual Meeting. Transfer of the President's gavel will take place and the Orley Phillips, George Washington, General Palmer, Outstanding Educator of the Year and other awards will be presented. **Friday, April 17, 6:30 pm** at the Lakewood Country Club. See who's being honored, and [read more...](#)
- **Scholarship Reception**
Join us to recognize our 2009 scholarship applicants, and the recipients of the ACEC/CO scholarships, **4:30-6:30 pm April 9th** at Simms Landing, 11911 W 6th Ave, Lakewood. This event is free, but please register to assist us in planning.
- **Engineers' Guide to Arbitration, Mediation, and Conflict Resolution**
Expert Witness Practices Seminar, **Wednesday, April 22, 11:30 am - 5 pm**. Doubletree Hotel, 3203 Quebec Street, Denver. [Read more...](#)

Club. Register by April 15.

[WAKE-UP CALL](#)

2009 Breakfast Series, Weds., May 6th

[FUTURE LEADERS](#)

[Management Series](#)

[Resources](#)

[JOB CENTER](#)

[LEGISLATIVE UPDATES](#)

[PODCAST CENTER](#)

Wake-up Call Breakfast Series podcasts available \$20/members

[OTHER PROGRAMS AND EVENTS](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

- **Roles & Relationships in Construction Seminar**
A one-day interactive session for architects, engineers and contractors, **Wednesday, April 15, 7:45 am - 4:00 pm**, at Lakewood Country Club. [Read more..](#)
- **Wake-up Breakfast Series**
Wednesday, May, 5th, 7:30 am at the Sunrise/Sunset Restaurant in Lakewood.
Speaker: Ed Harvey. Topic: Natural Resources & Economics [Read more...](#)
- **Wake-up Breakfast Series Podcasts Available** [Read more..](#)
- **Future Leaders Management Workshop**
How to Interview & Hire the Best - Planning & Asking for Skills You Need, **Wednesday, May 6, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.** at ACEC/CO 6th Floor Boardroom. Registration deadline is May 1.
- **NEPA Document Quality Workshop**
Workshop to be held **April 16**, to define what makes a quality NEPA document and how to get there. [Read more...](#)
- **Sustainability '09 - Green Building Expo & Conference - Discounts for ACEC Members**
ACEC/CO is a sponsor for the Colorado Facilities and Green Building Expo and Conference, **May 6-7** at the Colorado Convention Center. ACEC members interested in exhibiting receive a 10% member discount on the cost of a booth. [Read more...](#)
- **COBRA Subsidy Rules - ACEC Life/Health Trust Update**
Free program hosted by ACEC/CO and VanGilder Insurance Corp., **Tuesday, April 28, 7:30-9:30 am** at the Denver Country Club, Denver Room. **RSVP by Friday, April 24.** [Read more...](#)

Membership Notices and Engineers in the News

See our [Membership Notices](#) section for new and prospective members and other membership changes, and our [Engineers in the News](#) to hear the latest from our member firms.

Growing in a Tough Economy

ACEC/CO's job board, the Engineering Science Career Network, helps you identify the best technical staff for your firm. Your job posting will be viewed by thousands of applicants from all over the country—or set parameters to search the résumé database and notify you when a résumé is posted by a candidate with the skills you're looking for. [Read more...](#)



Is Your Staff Benefiting from Your ACEC/CO Membership?

When a firm joins ACEC/CO, principals, owners, and other members of the firm can also benefit. Here are just a few of the benefits available... [Read more...](#)

News from National

Small Firm Council Report

ACEC committee and Small Firm Coalition chair Gregg Ten Eyck summarizes the SFC Winter Meeting. [Read more...](#)

ACEC President's Report

Dave Raymond's report this month covers ACEC's legislative activity. DOT Secretary Ray LaHood will speak at ACEC's 100th Anniversary Convention in Washington, D.C. at the end of April. [Read more..](#)



ACEC Trust Programs

ACEC's Trust Programs help control your costs and thereby enhance your membership investment. The ACEC Trusts also provide an attractive employee retention program in which individual employees benefit from your ACEC purchasing power. [Business Insurance](#), [Life/Health Insurance](#), [Retirement Programs](#). [Read more...](#)

ACEC National Committees

Join an ACEC national committee and receive valuable information on your area of expertise. Even if you are unable to attend committee meetings, receiving committee information can be important for your business. To join, visit www.acec.org/about/committeeform.cfm.

Participate in the 2009-2010 ACEC Industry Trends Survey for a Free Copy

Complete the 2009-2010 Design & Construction Industry Trends Survey by April 23, 2009 and receive a FREE electronic copy of the survey results—a \$399 value. Participants can complete the survey that was recently mailed to all member firms, or [click here](#) to take the survey electronically.

Call for Nominations for 2009 ACEC Community Service Awards

The ACEC Committee of Fellows is now accepting nominations for the ACEC Community Service Awards to recognize individuals who have at least 5 years experience as a principal or manager in an ACEC member firm, and who has made a significant impact on the quality of life in their communities. **Completed forms for Colorado nominees must be sent to ACEC-Colorado by May 22.** [Click here](#) to access the Community Service Awards program criteria and nomination form. For more information contact Daisy Nappier at dnappier@acec.org.

ACEC 2009 Annual Convention and Legislative Summit

ACEC will be celebrating its centennial anniversary at the 2009 Annual Convention and Legislative Summit, April 26-29, 2009 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C. This is the education and advocacy event of the year! Learn about the new administration's programs and policies, lobby your senators and congressman, network with fellow principals nationwide and join the celebration of ACEC's 100 years of service to the engineering industry. Register by April 3 to save \$100. For registration and more information [click here](#).

Marketing and Business Development

Stimulus Resources for your Business

The *Denver Business Journal* provides online resources to help you answer your questions about the economic stimulus and bailouts, and what they can do for your company. [Click here](#) to find out more.

Giving Back

Interns Offer a Rewarding Partnership

In tough economic times, finding engineering employees to meet corporate needs can become a challenge. College student interns are a viable solution to function within tight budgets and meet business demands. [Read more...](#)

Additional Professional Development Opportunities and Events

[Read more](#) about the following programs...

- Recognizing the Snares and Pitfalls in A/E/C Industry Contracts
- Colorado Small Business Forum Labor Law Seminar
- Green Energy eForum webcast
- SWEP Happy Hour
- RMMI - Free Lunch n' Learn - Changes to LEED from 2.2 to 2009
- Free Thornton Business Expo
- SMPS - Alternative Energy Business Opportunities

Welcome to the our interactive newsletter! We designed the new format to be easier to read and easier to forward to colleagues. [Let us know](#) what you think.



President's Report

As I reflect back on my year as president of ACEC/CO, and indeed my entire involvement with ACEC, one of the things that always impressed me is the friendships and working relationships that develop among those who really are competitors. It is obvious that for our industry in general, and particularly for those who find value in ACEC, the competition is friendly and the relationships valued by all.

I was again reminded of this around the time that the Chinese welcomed their new year - the Year of the Ox. As happens every two years around this time, those of us who worked at Chen & Associates hold a reunion. If you haven't been in Denver for the last 20 years, Chen & Associates was a multi-discipline engineering firm with offices throughout the Rockies, headquartered here in Denver, and considered one of the top geotechnical companies in the area. In 1989, the firm was sold to a British holding company, and the employees started leaving for other opportunities. A lot of firms have spun out of Chen—Kumar & Associates, HP Geotech, Hollingsworth & Associates, Ground Engineering, Northwest Colorado Consultants, Applied Geotechnical Engineering Consultants and of course my firm, Pinyon Environmental.

Beyond the spin-offs, what is amazing is that 20 years after the sale of the company, a reunion still draws more than 70 people. It is not only a testament to the people who worked there, but to the company leadership and to the founder, Dr. Fu Hua Chen. We've talked a lot about leadership lately, and the need for more engineers to be leaders. Dr. Chen certainly fit that mold—he was the chief engineer of the famed Burma Road, connecting China with Burma, over three mountain ranges. After that road fell to the Japanese in 1942, he oversaw the construction of the Tibetan highway, connecting China with India. At some times he was in charge of 30,000 employees, working in conditions none of us can even imagine. I would suspect that leading a company of engineers and scientists in Denver was a bit tame after all of that, but Dr. Chen and the other leaders at the firm not only instilled a dedication to quality, but also to the profession and the importance of being involved in the community. It is not surprising that of the 52 presidents of ACEC/CO, five of us worked at Chen.

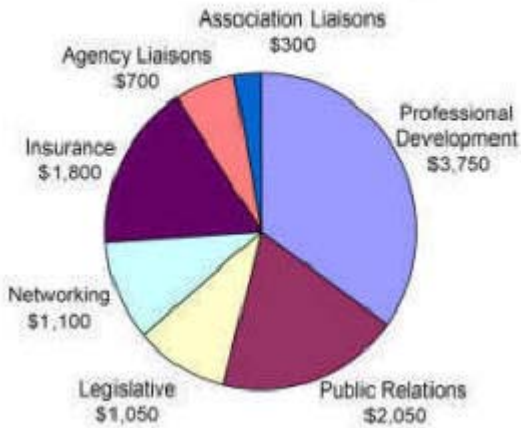
The engineering industry in Colorado is facing a lot of challenges right now—lack of funding from both private sector and public sector clients, a recession and unknown time to recovery, and government at both the state and federal level that is inclined to grow their agencies and contract less. There will also be an attempt to increase business requirements that will affect all of us. We can individually complain about it, or as an industry we can band together and try to fight unreasonable requirements and the stated perception that government is more efficient than the private sector. (OK, actually we can do both, plus we can probably get together and complain, which is a third option.)

As I stated in my address a year ago, engineers need to step up and be more vocal to help the nation solve the myriad challenges we are facing, and I thank all of you for your support of ACEC/CO and the time you spent advancing the mission. It has been an honor to work with all of you, but the work is far from done, and the challenges keep growing.

I know that working together to confront the challenges facing our industry will be a major focus for incoming president Rob Refvem. Under the Chinese system, the Earth Ox year calls for hard work. Information on the Year of the Ox also states that patience is needed as progress will not be quick, and that we need to be persistent without being pushy. It seems like great advice, and I encourage all of you to stay involved, and stay the course. Thank you again.

-Lauren Evans, ACEC/CO President

Average Value of Membership



Looking for a Great Return On Investment?

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The results of the survey, showing a breakdown of activities, is summarized below. Clearly, Professional Development activities are valued highly by ACEC/CO's members (nearly 35 percent of all benefits), and Public Relations activities and the Insurance programs are also considered very significant benefits.

Activity	Average Value	% of Total
Professional Development: Programs/Seminars, Future Leaders, Resource Library, Podcast, Salary Survey, Leadership Opportunities, and Expert Witness Certification	\$3,750	34.90%
Public Relations: Website, Newsletter, Engineering Excellence Awards, Advertising Opportunities, Directory/Annual Magazine, Publishing Opportunities	\$2,050	19.10%
Legislative Voice: Federal, State, Local	\$1,050	9.80%
Networking	\$1,100	10.20%
Insurance Programs: Life/Health, Business, Retirement	\$1,800	16.70%
Agency Liaisons Denver, Colorado Springs, CDOT, RTD, CDPHE, State Engineer	\$700	6.50%
Association Liaisons APWA, AIA, AGC, SWE, CDA, CCA, WTS	\$300	2.80%
Total Average Value	\$10,750	

ACEC/CO Events

Register [online](#), by calling 303-832-2200, or by [e-mail](#) for any ACEC/CO program or event.



ACEC/CO 2009 Annual Meeting

Please join us to celebrate another year of engineering success on **Friday, April 17, 6:30 pm** at the Lakewood Country Club where we will be recognizing the following award recipients:

- George Washington Award: **Ralph R. Peterson, P.E., M.ASCE**, Chairman and CEO of CH2M Hill
- Orley Phillips Award: **David E. Austin, P.E.** of Martin/Martin, (posthumously), and **Gordon C. Meurer, P.E.**, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants.
- General Palmer Award: **John Fetcher, P.E.**, (posthumously), pioneer on land and water conservation issues, and developer of infrastructure in the Steamboat Springs area.
- Outstanding Educator Award: **Andy Leonard**, Teacher at Overland High School

- President's Award: Chairs of the Expert Witness Certification Program will receive this award in recognition of the committee's success in developing the model for the national Expert Witness Designation program. Awardees include **Janet Williams, P.E., Gregg Ten Eyck, P.E., Bill Taggart, P.E. (posthumously), Frank Holliday, P.E., and Darrel Holmquist, P.E.**
- Committee Chair of the Year: **Sally Corey**, Outsourcing Marketing Inc., Professional Development/Programs Committee Chair

We will also recognize our outgoing and incoming board of directors and the transfer of the ACEC/CO President's gavel to Rob Refvem. Cost: \$55. Register by April 14.



Engineer's Guide to Mediation and Arbitration Seminar

Four prominent Colorado construction-industry attorneys will hold a panel discussion on alternative dispute resolution (ADR), **April 22, 11:30am - 5:00pm** at the Doubletree Hotel, 3203 Quebec Street, Denver.

This seminar is designed for engineers and administrators at all levels who want to learn more about expert witness or the legal ramifications of the engineering profession. **Deadline for early registration is April 15.**

Roles & Relationships in Construction Seminar

The AIA/AGC/ACEC Liaison Committee is presenting this one-day interactive session designed for project managers with two to five years experience. The seminar is **Wednesday, April 15, 7:45 am to 4:00 pm** at the Lakewood Country Club, West 10th Avenue & Pierce Street - Lakewood, Colorado. [Click here](#) for more information and registration.

Wake-up Breakfast Series

Held **7:30-9 am** at the Sunrise-Sunset Restaurant, 1424 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood. Members \$20.

Wednesday, May 5th

Speaker: Ed Harvey. Topic: Natural Resources & Economics

Ed Harvey joined BBC Research & Consulting in 1973 and served as a Managing Director of the firm from 1989 until 2002, when he formed **Harvey Economics**. His career has been devoted to water, mineral, energy and environmental resource studies and community change. He has conducted many economic, financial and market studies, and he has focused on regulatory issues, new business opportunities or restructuring, and impacts upon businesses, employees, government and affected populations. He has directed socioeconomic evaluations for a number of Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and Environmental Assessments (EAs).



Breakfast Series Podcasts For Sale

Missed a Wake-up Call Breakfast Series? Not to worry! Now you can catch up by purchasing our breakfast series presentations podcasts. Available to members for \$20 each or 3 for \$45. To purchase, contact jennifer@acec-co.org or call 303-832-2200. The following are now available:

- March 4th, 2009, *Renewable Energy Sources and Costs* by Lee Boughey, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association
- January 7th, 2009: *It's Not As Bad As You Think: An Economic Review* by Brian Coggon, Engineered Finance, LLC
- December 3rd, 2008: *Important Emerging Trends & Issues* by Bill Wallace of Wallace Futures Group, LLC,
- November 5th, 2008: *Demographics and the World of Predicting Your Market* by Rod Hoffman, CEO and co-founder of S&H Consulting

NEPA Document Quality Workshops

CDOT, FHWA and ACEC/CO are taking a collaborative effort to define what makes a quality NEPA document and how to get there. To this end, another workshop will be held on **April 16th, 8 am to 5 pm** at FHWA, 12300 West Dakota Ave., Trail Ridge Rd. Conference Room, Lakewood. Register by sending your name, agency/company, and e-mail address to deborah.mcalexander@fhwa.dot.gov. For general questions and more information contact Stephanie Gibson at stephanie.gibson@fhwa.dot.gov.



Sustainability '09 - Discount for ACEC Members on Exhibit Space

ACEC-CO is a sponsor for the Colorado Facilities and Green Building Expo and Conference, entitled Sustainability 09', **May 6, 10 am - 3 pm and May 7, 10 am - 2 pm** at the Colorado Convention Center. If you are interested in the sustainability of your building or helping to make your building green, this is the show for you. ACEC members receive a 10% discount on booth space 10% member discount on the cost of a booth for ACEC members who wish to exhibit (regular booth price is \$1900, discounted price for ACEC/CO members - \$1710). For more information and registration [click here](#).

COBRA Subsidy Rules—ACEC Life/Health Trust Healthcare Update

ACEC/CO and Van Gilder are hosting an insurance information program **Tuesday, April 28, 7:30-9:30 am** at the Denver Country Club, Denver Room. This session will cover the new COBRA Subsidy rules under the stimulus law and Colorado HB 07-1355. Presentations given by Laura Fry, Fry Consulting/Insurance Business Consultant, and Mark W. Major, J.D., ERISA/Employee Benefits Specialist. **RSVP by Friday, April 24** to cleitner@vgic.com.

Membership Notices

Prospective Affiliate Members: Thomas Cole, Terracon.

Welcome New Affiliate Member: Robert Manzanares, HNTB: 1600 Broadway, Denver, CO 80202. 303-839-8300 rmanzanares@hntb.com. Robert is a graduate of New Mexico State University with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. Recommendations came from Greg Fischer, Ridley Moorman, and Anthony Marcello.

Transfer of Membership: Christopher Lattimer, Lattimer Engineering, Inc.

Resignations: Ron Geurts, CRG & Associates, Inc.

Engineers in the News

The City of Fountain Utilities Department has been awarded the 2009 Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) Colorado Award for Professional Procurement Services. **Rick Coldsnow, P.E.**, former QBS board member and president of Professional Engineers of Colorado, and **Dave Krenek, P.E.**, president of the Colorado Engineering Council, presented the award to **Michael R. Fink, P.E., F.NSPE**, water resource engineer for the City of Fountain Utilities Department.

The QBS Colorado award recognizes public and private entities that make exemplary use of the QBS selection process at the state and local levels. *Photo by Linda Hobbs.*



Presentation of 2009 QBS Colorado Award
(l-r) Dave Krenek, P.E., Rick Coldsnow, P.E.,
Mike Fink, P.E., F.NSPE



Tom Cole, P.E. (pictured at left), has joined **Terracon's** Wheat Ridge office as senior consultant. Tom is the former president of Signet Testing Labs in Sacramento, and brings more than 18 years experience in geotechnical and construction materials engineering and testing to the firm.

Job Board

Growth in a Tough Economy

Successful businesses understand the key to growing in a tough economy is by employing quality employees. Investing in the infrastructure of your organization is vital to your success. By posting jobs on the ACEC-CO Job Board, you will get more traffic from engineering professionals. Plus you can widen your talent search with access to thousands of resumes. Visit the ACEC-CO Job Board today!



- FIND QUALIFIED, EXPERIENCED CANDIDATES
- SEARCH RESUMES
- GAIN MORE EXPOSURE
- WIDEN TALENT SEARCH

www.jobboard.acec-co.org 303-832-2200

Is Your Staff Benefiting from Your ACEC/CO Membership?

When a firm joins ACEC/CO, principals, owners, and other members of the firm can also benefit. Here are just a few of the benefits available:

- Committee and liaison participation
- Attending meetings and seminars at member prices
- Business insurance: employees can purchase discounted [personal car and home insurance](#) if the firm is covered by ACEC Business Insurance Trust

Develop your staff's skills in leadership, communication, presentation, teamwork, and networking. By encouraging your staff to join a committee, you give them a risk-free environment to practice these skills, and an opportunity to learn from peers and mentors.

Some committees offer opportunities to meet with agencies and potential clients such as CDOT, CDPHE, the State Engineer, and municipalities, to name a few. Network with colleagues of similar disciplines, interests, and passions. Develop new relationships to partner on projects. Discuss current issues that affect your business and your clients' businesses.

Committee service is also a great way to give back, and have fun doing it! Click [here](#) for a listing of committees, their missions and their activities, or [log in](#) to see members-only committee resources. Your committee service will be time well spent to the advantage of your business for the long term.

News from National

Small Firm Council Report



The ACEC Small Firm Council Winter Meeting was held in Nashville, TN on February 27 and 28. This year's meeting was co-sponsored by the ACEC Council of Professional Surveyors. Thirty-seven ACEC members attended the one-day presentation by David Burstein of PSMJ, who gave us a special version of the PSMJ Principals Bootcamp. This program was tailored to small firms in general, and refined to specifically emphasize topics requested by the audience. David has been a frequent presenter to the SFC, and based on member evaluations of this year's program, it is likely that David will be invited back to our winter meeting again---maybe as early as next February.

Incoming ACEC Chairman Tim Psomas joined the meeting for the always lively CEO roundtable, where members discuss issues facing their firm and the group offers ideas and examples of their practices. The CEO roundtable format has proven popular; there will be a small firm CEO roundtable at the ACEC Convention in Washington, D.C. on April 26, and again at the fall conference in October. If you are interested in joining the SFC, please contact Heather Talbert at htalbert@acec.org or the SFC Chairman, Rob Overfield from Engineering Associates in Cody, Wyoming at RobertOv@EAEngineers.com. Colorado members Mark Hamouz, Mark McDonald and Gregg Ten Eyck were in attendance and could also answer questions you might have about the SFC Winter Meeting.

-Gregg Ten Eyck, Small Firm Council Chair

President's Report

General

- DOT Secretary Ray LaHood will speak at ACEC's 100th Anniversary Convention in Washington, D.C. at the end of April.
- Nominations are currently being accepted for ACEC's 2009 Community Service Awards which recognize Member Firm owners and principals who have made a positive difference in their communities. Nomination forms and guidelines are available on the ACEC website or by contacting Daisy Nappier at 202-682-4340.



ACEC President
Dave Raymond

Government Affairs

- The House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved the "Water Quality Investment Act of 2009" which includes a significant boost in federal loans for wastewater projects, and the application of QBS to EPA State Revolving Fund projects.
- Presented the engineering industry's perspective on levee liability issues at the Levee Policy Forum hosted by The Infrastructure Security Partnership
- Successfully defended the use of QBS on a major overseas infrastructure procurement for A/E services managed by USAID.
- Outlined the engineering industry's views on storm water Effluent Limitation Guidelines in public comments submitted to EPA, including input on prescriptive sediment and erosion control and ACEC's preference for the Best Management Practice option.
- ACEC's Federal Agencies and Procurement Advocacy Committee meeting in Washington, D.C. featured presentations on business opportunities from NAVFAC, GSA, and the State Department's Office of Overseas Buildings Operations.
- Hosted a conference on business opportunities for member firms in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) that included presentations from the US-UAE Business Council, U.S. Department of Commerce, and law and insurance firms with extensive business in the UAE.
- ACEC's Environment and Energy Committee meeting in Washington, D.C. featured presentations by House and Senate environmental committee staff, EPA's Office of Wastewater Management, and the Corps of Engineer's Engineering and Construction Team.
- The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee approved an FAA reauthorization bill that expands the reach of QBS to include certain projects funded through Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs).

ACEC Trust Programs

ACEC [Business Insurance Trust](#)

The ACEC Business Insurance Trust oversees The ProShop program, which provides business and professional liability insurance coverage for participating ACEC member firms. The ProShop offers policyholders tailored coverage along broad policy terms and conditions. Program coverage includes automobile liability and physical damage; workers' compensation; and the "Spectrum" package policy affording protection for buildings, business personal property, money and securities, business liability, equipment breakdown, computers and media. Catastrophe liability protection is available through umbrella coverage. The plan underwriter is **The Hartford**, and the plan administrator is **Marsh USA Inc.**

The Trust has authorized Marsh to make engineers' professional liability coverage available to member firms. Neither ACEC nor the Trust endorses any one PLI provider. It is the objective of Marsh to offer a choice of providers for PLI coverage. The selection of underwriters may change from time to time.

For more information on the Business Insurance Trust, including contact information on the Trustees, please [click here](#). Further information on the program, including quotations, can be obtained by contacting **Sharon Zach** of Marsh at (800) 338-1391 and sharon.l.zach@marsh.com.

[ACEC Life/Health Insurance Trust](#)

The ACEC Life/Health Insurance Trust oversees a program that provides life and health insurance coverage for participating ACEC member firms. The program offers flexible benefits designed by engineers for engineers. You'll find the right plans for your whole firm in one place: health, dental, disability, life and more. With the program, you're backed by the group purchasing power of more than 1,700 firms and 26,000 employees. The plan is administered and underwritten by UnitedHealthcare.

For more details on the Trust, including Trustee contact information, please [click here](#). To find out more about the Trust, or to receive a no-obligation quote, please call 800-573-0415. Existing Trust employers and members can find more program information at www.uhctoday.com/acec.

ACEC Retirement Trust

The ACEC Retirement Trust oversees a program that provides retirement plans for participating ACEC member firms. The program recordkeeper, **Prudential Retirement**, offers full service 401(k), Profit Sharing, Money Purchase, and Defined Benefit plans with discounted fee schedules to all member firms. Investment options are comprehensive and are reviewed regularly by an independent investment advisor retained by the Trust. A dedicated service team at Prudential ensures professional assistance with all aspects of administering the participating firms' retirement plans.

For more information on the Retirement Trust, including contact information on the Trustees, please [click here](#). Further information on the program can be obtained by contacting **Nancy Barrette** of Wachovia Securities, LLC, at (800) 521-9463 or nancy.barrette@wachoviasec.com.

The ACEC Staff Liaison for all three Trusts is **Charles Kim**. He can be reached at (202) 347-7474 or ckim@acec.org.

Giving Back: News and Opportunities

Give and Take: Consider an Intern for a Rewarding Partnership

In tough economic times, finding engineering employees to meet corporate needs can become a challenge. College student interns are a viable solution to function within tight budgets and meet business demands. College students with hands-on experience are ideal, but most engineering programs are predominantly theoretical. For a list of all engineering programs in Colorado, visit [. For a list of internship coordinators, visit \[www.acec-co.org/education/interns.html\]\(http://www.acec-co.org/education/interns.html\). For a list of all engineering programs in Colorado, visit \[www.acec-co.org/education/other_scholarship.html\]\(http://www.acec-co.org/education/other_scholarship.html\).](#)

The [Engineering Technology program](#) at Metro State College of Denver (MSCD) focuses on applied engineering. The students work with industry equipment to blend the theoretical portion of engineering with hands-on labs. Students become comfortable with industry demands for design, testing and troubleshooting. An MSCD engineering intern provides a cost-effective solution to obtain results to many short-term issues. The internship also enhances the student's education by combining classroom learning with real-world experience.

The MSCD Internship Center works with employers to match students with positions that best use the applied skills and theoretical training received in the college's academic programs. For employers, the benefits include:

- Students are an excellent source of personnel for part-time work, special projects or peak periods.
- Recruiting costs are low. There is no charge for internship services to employers (or to students).
- Students reduce the time your professional staff spends on entry-level tasks.
- Students bring energy, fresh ideas and new skills to your company.
- You have the opportunity to improve higher education by giving feedback on the academic training most valuable to your business.
- Interns give you a pool of qualified, known applicants when permanent positions become available.

The expectations of the student interns by the employer include:

- A supervisor who will determine an appropriate project or set of activities that will occupy the student's time. Job duties can include some "go-fer" work, but should primarily be at a para-professional level. The student should be building skills that will apply toward an entry level position in the field. The job duties will be outlined in writing.
- The supervisor needs to be available to train the student and provide teaching and guidance as they learn the job.
- The supervisor will host a short visit from the student's internship coordinator or faculty advisor. The internship coordinator will serve as the college representative in the rare event of any problems or issues with the student.
- The supervisor will be asked to fill out a written evaluation for the student.

If you are interested in exploring the opportunities presented by the MSCD internship program, visit our website at www.mscedu.com/internship. Click on "Employers" then scroll down and look for the Position Announcement Form. Fill out the form and submit it to us. We can fax resumes of interested students to you or we can refer students to your website. Or give Rhonda Eaker a call at 303 556-3290.

Additional Professional Development Opportunities and Events

Recognizing the Snares and Pitfalls in A/E/C Industry Contracts

ACEC hosts this 1 1/2 day course **May 28-29**, in Philadelphia, PA. Identify and demystify two dozen "red-flag contract provisions" that you must understand to maintain professional standards and protect your business. For information, contact education@acec.org or call 202-347-7474, ext. 338. Information also available online at www.acec.org.

Colorado Small Business Forum - Labor Law

Have you ever wanted to know more about US Labor Laws? Colorado Labor Laws? Employee vs. Contract Labor? IRS is hosting a Small Business Forum (SBF) with US Department of Labor, & CO Division of Labor to provide small business owners & organization/association members with information on this important area for employers, **May 27, 9 am to noon**, at 1999 Broadway, Denver. This event is **free of charge** so register early as seating is limited. For questions and more information contact Ann Burton at 303-603-4723 or Ann.Burton@irs.gov. To register, e-mail: sl.northwest@irs.gov.

Webcast—Green Energy eForum

Nine experts keep you on top of the latest solutions. Hosted by the Green Energy Economy Center at Challenge International. **April 8, 10 am** Mountain time. \$49 per connection. Visit www.GreenEnergyEconomyCtr.com.

SWEP Rocky Mountain Chapter Events

Happy Hour co-hosted with RMAEP, Thursday, **April 16**, 5:30 to 8:00pm, at Uptown Tavern on 17th Ave in downtown Denver; contact dmcneill@ecc.net for more information

Free Lunch N' Learn—Changes to LEED from 2.2 to 2009

The Rocky Mountain Masonry Institute is hosting a free lunch n' learn seminar for architects and engineers on **April 8**, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at 686 Mariposa St., Denver. Bring your lunch and learn for free. We provide self-report certificates and DORA forms. Advance registration is not required, although a courtesy RSVP would be appreciated, 303-893-3838 or info@rmmi.org.

Free Thornton Business Expo 2009

The City of Thornton presents the *2009 Business Expo - Advancing Thornton's Business Community* on **Friday, April 24**, 7:30 am - 1:30 pm at the Stonebrook Manor, Thornton. Join other Thornton business leaders for an informative morning of networking. Hear Mayor Erik Hansen deliver the State of The City address, and meet key city staff that can assist businesses. The expo is free, but you are required to register to attend and receive a lunch ticket. [Click here](#) for more information and registration.

Alternative Energy Business Opportunities from SMPS

The Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) hosts their monthly lunch on Alternative Energy Business Opportunities **April 8, 2009, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm** at the Oxford Hotel. Visit www.smpscolorado.org.

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