



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of Colorado

# THE VOICE

OF COLORADO'S ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

[Home](#)
[Member Log-in](#)
[Events Calendar](#)
[Newsletter Archives](#)

Vol. 10 Issue 9  
September 2010

[Printable Version](#)

## Features

[Membership  
Notices](#)

[Engineers In The  
News](#)

## Resources

[Job Center](#)

[Legislative  
Updates](#)

**ACEC/CO opposes  
Amendments 60, 61  
and Proposition 101.**

[Podcast  
Center](#)

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

[Other  
Programs and  
Events](#)

## President's Report



*ACEC/CO President  
Bill Hoffmann*

Labor Day is the traditional end of summer. Most primary and secondary schools start weeks before Labor Day signaling an earlier end of summer. The board of directors, various committees and liaisons that represent and support the organization have met throughout the summer and have been busy. I'd like to give some insight as to what has been going on over the "Summer Break" locally and nationally.

We all know the construction, engineering and architectural professions are morphing. If you are like me, you get bombarded with articles about the death of the mid-size firm; that's my company size so I take the statement to heart. This hypothesis hit home recently when a mid-size member firm was acquired by a company that has a manufacturing base, not a professional service base. Through some by-law research we deduced that the engineering part of this firm can continue as an ACEC member, but higher questions were raised. [Read More..](#)

## ACEC/CO Offers its PR & Marketing Counsel to Member Firms

ACEC/CO is offering a new free service to members to further assist you with enhancing your business practices.

Each month, our Public Relations Consultant, uli Creative, LLC will be available to members to provide two hours of complimentary consultations from 1-3 p.m. following the monthly ACEC/CO PR Committee meeting in the ACEC office conference room. PR meetings are typically scheduled the third Wednesday of each month. Members may sign up to meet with the consultant by calling ACEC/CO at (303) 832-2200 to schedule a meeting up to one hour.

Our PR consultant provides ACEC/CO with strategic marketing and public relations guidance, leadership and professional services to further the visibility of the organization and consulting engineering. As a part of their service provision to ACEC/CO they will provide members with advice regarding your marketing, public relations and brand/creative issues. [Read More..](#)

## [Contact Us](#)

**Become a fan of us on  
Facebook!**



## CCCD Seeking Volunteers

Volunteers are still needed at the 2010 Colorado Construction Career Days (CCCD) to lead student groups, manage student safety and handle many other details of the event. Set-up is October 4, with the event October 5-6, at the Adams County Fairgrounds.



By volunteering, you'll help give students a hands-on experience of career options in design and construction – and have a chance to network with other volunteers from the industry. Organizers of the 2010 Colorado Construction Career Days include over 50 nonprofits, government agencies, businesses, schools, training program and community colleges. Join them in making this event a success again this year.

Volunteers are needed from 7-8 a.m. until 1p.m. all three days. Register or get more information at [www.coloradoconstructioncareerdays.com/volunteer.htm](http://www.coloradoconstructioncareerdays.com/volunteer.htm)  
Or contact Lisa Platz at 303.947.3178 or by email [cccdcoordinator@agccolorado.org](mailto:cccdcoordinator@agccolorado.org)

## In the News

### News Faces in Engineering Nominations Due

Please help ACEC/CO recognize our young and exceptional engineers by nominating them for the "New Faces in Engineering Award." This award strives to promote the accomplishments of young engineers by highlighting their engineering contributions and the resulting impact on society.

Nominees must be 30 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2010 and must be employees of ACEC/CO member firms. [View full criteria here.](#)

The nomination deadline is September 24, 2010. So if you know a deserving individual, don't hesitate to [nominate them now!](#)

Nominees and "New Faces" recipients will be recognized during Engineers week in February 2011.

### "No on 60, 61 and 101" Info and Tool Kit Available

ACEC/CO opposes amendments 60, 61 and proposition 101. This Saturday, September 18, is "Yard Sign Saturday" for the campaign. Yard signs will be available at several locations across the state on a first-come first-served basis until they run out. [Click here for yard sign locations and "tool kit" info to share with your employees.](#)

ACEC/CO's [September General Meeting](#) will be devoted to learning about these initiatives. Follow the campaign online to learn more, get involved, and donate at [www.DontHurtColorado.com](http://www.DontHurtColorado.com).

### Check out EERE's Monthly Report

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) publishes this summary of news stories posted the past month on the [EERE State Activities & Partnerships](#) Web site. EERE collects news stories dealing with state involvement in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects from EERE technology program Web sites, the State Energy Program, and [EERE Network News](#).

## News from National

### President's Report

From ACEC's President Dave Raymond on the latest developments of ACEC's government affairs on your behalf. [Read more..](#)

## Membership Notices and Engineers in the News

[Membership Notices](#) for new and prospective members and other membership changes.

[Engineers in the News](#) from our members and member firms.

## ACEC/CO Events and Professional Development

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

- September General Meeting - "Evaluating the Bad Ballot Initiatives"  
Don't miss the September General Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 28, 11:30 a.m. Ballot Initiatives 60, 61 and Proposition 101 will be discussed. [Read More..](#)
- Wake-up Call Breakfast Series  
Wednesday, October 6, 7:30 a.m. at the Sunrise Sunset Restaurant in Lakewood. "Smart Grid: Fact, Fiction and the Future" [Read More..](#)
- 2010 Green Building Summit & Expo  
October 7, 2010. This will be Colorado's largest commercial green building conference of the year, with an anticipated attendance of more than 500. [Read More..](#)

## Additional Professional Development Opportunities and Events

- SMPS Upcoming Events:  
Check out the upcoming events for the Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) [Read More..](#)
- 2010 DBIA Rocky Mountain Regional Conference [Read More..](#)
- ACEC National: Applying Expertise as an Engineering Expert Witness Workshop  
Thursday, November 11, 2010 - Friday, November 12, 2010 at Loews Royal Pacific Resort at Universal Orlando. [Read More..](#)

## President's Report



Labor Day is the traditional end of summer. Most primary and secondary schools start weeks before Labor Day signaling an earlier end of summer. The board of directors, various committees and liaisons that represent and support the organization have met throughout the summer and have been busy. I'd like to give some insight as to what has been going on over the "Summer Break" locally and nationally.

We all know the construction, engineering and architectural professions are morphing. If you are like me, you get bombarded with articles about the death of the mid-size firm; that's my company size so I take the statement to heart. This hypothesis hit home recently when a mid-size member firm was acquired by a company that has a manufacturing base, not a professional service base. Through some by-law research we deduced that the engineering part of this firm can continue as an ACEC member, but higher questions were raised.

Marilen and I have asked for a change in the focus of the board of directors, committees and support groups within the Council from being mainly operations-oriented to taking on a more strategic or long-term vision based upon the challenges being forced upon members. With this shift in the thought process, we hope to maintain the vitality of the organization and hopefully in turn be of greater value to our members.

It's an election year which means CPAC (Colorado Political Action Committee) has met to discuss contributions to various candidates that are supportive of business interests as they affect the engineering community. We like to hand deliver these contributions and talk with the various candidates' about their views on our issues. The committee invites the general membership to participate in these deliveries to the people that will represent them at the state capitol. Feel free to contact the ACEC office if you have a candidate for your district you would like see ACEC support, or would like to accompany someone else handing out the checks. This is a time sensitive endeavor and has started on round one. Expect a second round of contributions as we get closer to November.

The transportation committee and CDOT liaison group have been meeting with representatives for CDOT to discuss issues revolving around audits. The program committee is looking at adding more management and supervisory classes and opening these programs up to non-ACEC members. Complimentary engineering groups will be contacted as a way of increasing non-dues revenue but with a larger goal of keeping this program alive and available to ACEC member firms. The education and scholarship groups are gearing up with contacting the engineering schools for students to submit applications for the various scholarships ACEC-CO sponsors or administers for other funding sources. Manning career fairs is a challenge and I encourage anyone interested in the future of engineering to look at attending a fair at the colleges in your area. Let the ACEC staff know if you have some interest in helping at a career fair. It's Engineering Excellence Awards time so the awards committee is busy. This lunch program occurs November 1st. We are looking to invite more of our partners like CDOT, CDPHE and the deans of the various engineering schools to attend as a guest of member firms.

We continue to have quarterly meetings in Colorado Springs and the southern Colorado Committee also meets quarterly to discuss issues relevant to the southern part of the state. Since the first of the year, a northern Colorado group has been active discussing sustainability issues. This group meets about every other month and has been talking about ACEC member firms' potential in the various "Clusters,"(energy, water, others), that have been forming in the north part of the state. On September 21 we are having a program with Dr. Wade Troxell from CSU and Mark Forsyth of Rocky Mountain Innovative Initiative, (RMI2), on what they are doing related to new technologies and renewables and how ACEC can be actively involved. Let's not forget the West Slope members. We met with member firms in Vail and Glenwood and had great turnouts including a prospective member who gave us some great thoughts on the long-term impacts of wind farms on some of the fragile landscape we have in the western states. We also had a chance to meet with ACEC National EXCOM in Aspen while we were in Glenwood. They do like to know what goes on outside of the DC beltway and seemed very interested in how the economy is affecting our members and how we are dealing with these issues.

I could go on about what good things the various committees do for this organization. If you or representatives of your firm do not actively serve on a committee, you are not getting the full value of your membership. In closing I hope everyone had a good summer and I look forward to a productive rest of the year.

## ACEC/CO Offers its PR & Marketing Counsel to Member Firms

ACEC/CO is offering a new free service to members to further assist you with enhancing your business practices. Each month, our Public Relations Consultant, uli Creative, LLC will be available to members to provide two hours of complimentary consultations from 1-3 p.m. following the monthly ACEC/CO PR Committee meeting in the ACEC office conference room. PR meetings are typically scheduled the third Wednesday of each month. Members may sign up to meet with the consultant by calling ACEC/CO at (303) 832-2200 to schedule a meeting up to one hour.

Our PR consultant provides ACEC/CO with strategic marketing and public relations guidance, leadership and professional services to further the visibility of the organization and consulting engineering. As a part of their service provision to ACEC/CO they will provide members with advice regarding your marketing, public relations and brand/creative issues.

Consider taking advantage of this free opportunity to answer your PR and marketing questions and receive assistance with a range of professional services activities including development of press releases, reviews of business correspondence, marketing and PR plans and marketing materials, and Web sites; discussing events marketing, proposal reviews and answering new business development questions. Our consultant will listen to your needs and provide advice and direction. Consultations are ideal for small firms that do not employ full-time marketing professionals and for those who wish for an unbiased review and sounding board for marketing and PR programs.

## News From National

### President's Report

#### General

- Called on President Obama to put a moratorium on government in-sourcing.
- Urged Secretary of Interior to lift the moratorium on offshore oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico which is causing economic hardship.
- Executive Committee implemented a program of regular conference calls with state leaders to enhance national-state communications.
- ACEC/South Carolina became the fifth state organization to achieve its 2010 ACEC/PAC fundraising goal, thereby adding critical sums to war chest for the November elections.



ACEC President  
Dave Raymond

#### Government Affairs

- Secured language in pending legislation clarifying liability relief for structural and other firms that worked at Ground Zero after 9/11.
- Participated in multi-state, multi-organization outreach campaign calling for immediate congressional action on a six-year transportation authorization bill.
- Met with FHWA officials on implementation of revised audit guidelines and forthcoming regulatory changes on consultant services.
- Worked with State MOs to address specific FAR and AASHTO Audit Guide compliance issues in conjunction with FHWA and AASHTO.
- ACEC International Committee members lobbied Congressional committees to increase international business opportunities for U.S. engineering firms in the foreign aid program.
- Government and industry officials in the energy arena discussed the strong market outlook for natural gas and other energy sources at a recent ACEC Environment and Energy Committee meeting.
- Urged the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt greater flexibility in the "grandfather" regulations for group health plans under the health care reform law.

#### Institute for Business Management

- Continuing growth of the ACEC/NCEES Registered Continuing Education Program (RCEP) includes 5,100 individual members who are having their CE records kept by RCEP.
- Popular business seminars this month: *Responding to Requests for Discounts or Unilateral Fee Reductions* and *How to*

*Develop More Persuasive Proposals.*

- New book release – *Megaprojects: Challenges and Recommended Practices* –offers unique insights into every facet of these challenging projects.
- Collaborated with USGBC in on-line course leading to the LEED professional credential.
- Bookstore hot sellers are all ACEC-published books: *The Blue Sourcebook: Business Practices and Risk Management for Engineering Firms*; *Clientship, 2nd Edition*; and *Megaprojects*.
- Offered 25% discount on the *2010 Design & Construction Industry Trends Survey Report*.

*By Dave Raymond, ACEC President*

## Membership Notices

Prospective Individual Members:

Robert Farrar, Stanley Consultants, Inc.  
Jay Robinson, Stewart & Associates, Inc.  
Marshal Clark, Forensic Consultants Group, LLC.

Welcome Individual Members:

Shane Ewing, Martin/Martin, Inc. 12499 W. Colfax Ave, Lakewood CO 80215. 303-431-6100 [sewing@martinmartin.com](mailto:sewing@martinmartin.com).  
Shane is a graduate of University of Colorado at Boulder with a B.S. degree in Architectural Engineering. Recommendations came from Duane Jansen, Charles Keyes, and Steve Maxson.

Edward Fronapfel, SBSA, Inc. 4680 Table Mountain Drive, Ste 170, Golden CO 80403. 303-425-7272  
[efronapfel@callsbsa.com](mailto:efronapfel@callsbsa.com) Ed is a graduate of Colorado State University with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. He also received his M.S. degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Colorado-Denver. Recommendations came from Peter Nelson, Paul Duncan, and Everod Samuel.

Shan-Tai Yeh, Yeh and Associates. 5700 E. Evans Ave, Denver CO 80222. 303-781-9590 [styeh@yeh-eng.com](mailto:styeh@yeh-eng.com). Shan-Tai is a graduate of Central University Taiwan with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. He also received his M.S. degree in Civil-Geotechnical Engineering at the University of Colorado-Denver. Recommendations came from Bruce Tonilas, Rob Refvem, and Lauren Evans.

## Engineers in the News

Stanley Consultants elected Kenneth Moriarty a vice president.



*Jason Morovitz*

URS Corp. added Jason Morovitz as an environmental planner in the Denver office. Mike Schmidt recently joined URS as the Denver office's federal business-line leader.

Matthew Wigle has been appointed program manager for HDR's Federal, Energy and Resource Management business group.

Bryant Walters, P.E., LEED AP, has joined Collins Engineers as Regional Manager.

Loren K. Shanks of Boulder-based Drexel, Barrell & Co. was recently promoted to associate principal and Ann Bowers was promoted to associate.



*Mike Schmidt*

The RMH Group recently promoted Jessica Jones, EIT, LEED AP O+M to director of sustainable



Jessica Jones

services.

Emily Allen of Kennedy/Jenks Consultants recently received her professional engineering registration from the state of Colorado Board of Licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors.

Merrick & Co. has been awarded the 2010 American Business Ethics Award.



Kevin Bergschneider

Kevin Bergschneider has been named Chair of the Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association, (RMSAWWA).

Samual Jeyanayagam, PhD, has joined CH2M Hill as a vice president and senior principal technologist in the company's Global Technology Group.

The Society for Design Administration Denver Chapter recently named Kay Riley, MKK Consulting Engineers as Treasurer and Paula Coyne, Architectural Engineering Consultants, as Director.

MWH has announced that Jack Shandley has joined the management team as chief human resources officer.

Bohannon Huston announced that Ryan M. Sisson, P.E. was licensed as a Colorado Professional Engineer on July 30, 2010 and promoted to the position of Project Manager in BHI's Denver office.

*Congratulations to all of our engineers making the news!*

### In Memory:

Doyle G. Abrahamson, vice president of surveying for Aurora-based Merrick & Co., died unexpectedly at the age of 60 on August 28. Abrahamson was with Merrick for 31 years.

## ACEC/CO Events

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



### [September General Meeting](#)

Register now for the September General Meeting to be held Tuesday, September 28, 11:30 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 600 S. Colorado Blvd, Denver. We will be discussing Amendments 60, 61 and Proposition 101. Rick Reiter, who is spearheading the campaign for Coloradans for Responsible Reform, will be presenting.

### [Wake-up Call Breakfast Series](#)

Join us on Wednesday, October 6, for our second Wake-up Call Breakfast of the series. Mark Gabriel, Senior Vice President at Halcrow, Inc., will be discussing intelligent infrastructure and what it means for utilities, customers and the environment. Wake-up Call Breakfasts are at 7:30 a.m. at the Sunrise Sunset Restaurant, 1424 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood. Cost is \$25/member (\$35/ non-member) and includes breakfast! Click the link above for more info.

## 2010 Green Building Summit & Expo

The 2010 Green Building Summit and Expo will be held the morning of October 7, 2010 at the Inverness Hotel and Conference Center. You can earn four hours of continuing education and USGBC credit.

Produced by Colorado Real Estate Journal, the 2010 Summit will be Colorado's largest commercial green building conference of the year, with an anticipated attendance of more than 500. ACEC/CO is pleased to be a trade association partner in the event.

Topics and speakers include:

### *Owner/Developer/Investor Panel*

Anne Hayes, Westfield Company, Inc.; Drew Torbin, ProLogis; Dean Barber, McWhinney, Chris Waggett, Lend Lease Americas; Ben Weeks, Aardex, LLC; John R. Benitez, Moyel White, Moderator

### *Construction, Design & Engineering Panel*

William O. Green, The RMH Group, Inc.; Mark Kieffer, Norris Design, Richard L. von Lührte, RNL, Dave Schroeder, JE Dunn Construction Co., Kari Foster, Associates III; Laura Thompson, Architectural Energy Corp., Moderator

### *The Case for Green: Tenant Perspective*

Barry Dorfman, Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc; Dominick Sekich, Moyel|White.

### *The Case for Green: Finance, Valuation and Accounting Perspective*

Lloyd F. Sweet, Jr., Eide Bailly, LLP and Ron Tilton, FirstBank of Denver

### *The Case for Green: Improving the Bottom Line*

Joel Asrael, Governor's Energy Office; Connie O'Murray, Jones Lang LaSalle Americas Inc.

### *Keynote Address: A Landmark Sustainability Project for the Empire State Building*

Dan Probst, Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc.

Click the link above for registration information.

## 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 three for \$45. To purchase, contact [jennifer@acec-co.org](mailto:jennifer@acec-co.org) or call 303-832-2200. The following are now available:



- June 2, 2010: Climate Change - How Real is it, and Will CO2 Reduction Work, by Steven E. Sondergard.
- May 5, 2010: Construction on Leed Overview & Responsible Parties During the Leed Process, by Drew Russ, Director of Sustainability, Adolfson & Peterson
- March 3, 2010: BIM to Construction , by Cameron Donegan, Assistant Project Manager/Virtual Construction Manager, Adolfson & Peterson.
- December 2, 2009: *The Reality of Bank Lending*, by Jody Mc Nerney, Compass Bank
- September 2, 2009: *Fastracks & RTD Update*, by Phil Washington, RTD GM
- May 6, 2009: *The Current Economic Meltdown & Its Implications for Infrastructure Planning*, by Edward F. Harvey, Harvey Economics
- April 1, 2009, *Colorado Economy*, by Richard Wobbekind, of the Business Research Division and Associate Dean for External Relations at the University of Colorado at Boulder

## Additional Professional Development Opportunities and Events

### ACEC's Applying Expertise as an Engineering Expert Witness Workshop

Thursday, November 11, 2010 - Friday, November 12, 2010 at Loews Royal Pacific Resort at Universal Orlando.

ACEC national offers this focused and engaging 1-1/2-day course takes you step-by-step through the qualifications, ramifications, and expectations of serving as an expert witness. Learn about courtroom demeanor, how to maintain your credibility, the differences between a fact witness and an expert witness, deposition behavior, permissible out of court statements, ethics, pre-courtroom testimony preparation, visual aids and more.

For more information contact LaCreshea Makonnen, [education@acec.org](mailto:education@acec.org), 202,682-4338

800 Grant St Suite 100  
Denver CO 80203  
303-832-2200; Fax 303-832-0400  
[www.acec-co.org](http://www.acec-co.org)  
[acec@acec-co.org](mailto:acec@acec-co.org)