

ACEC/PEPP REPORTS ARTICLE(S) CONTRACTS PROMOTIONS CONTINUING ED ACEC INSURANCE CALENDAR



florida institute of Consulting Engineers

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF FLORIDA
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE OF FLORIDA

ENGINEERING... It's Practically Amazing

Volume XIX Number 1, September 2009

Message from the President

Sia Kusha, PE, F. ACEC

The Year Ahead...

As some of you might already know, I'm an avid reader and a student of history. I also find myself on the road quite a bit and have the opportunity to turn a few pages late at night on red eye flights home from all corners of this wonderful country of ours. I recently came upon a quote from the former British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill that I'd like to share with you. During World War II, Churchill was quoted saying: "...save the imminent threat of mortal danger, there is something exhilarating about being pinned down by enemy fire..." Some of you may wonder why I picked this particular quote for my opening message.



Those of you who had the opportunity to attend our annual conference at The Breakers several weeks ago heard about the challenges that face our industry. We all are aware of the critical shortage of public funding for the built environment; we are all aware of the fact many of the significant gains made in tort reform are being eroded as I write this as a result of several recent court cases in Florida; most of us are aware of the unrelenting attacks on CCNA by a select few public owners and the threat this represents to us and our businesses; and under the banner of Home Town Democracy, we are fully aware of attempts being made to change how local comprehensive plans are updated. I don't know about you, but to me it feels like we're being shot at and hence the sense of feeling exhilarated.

All of these actions will negatively affect our businesses, and as a member organization that prides itself in being the voice of the private practice engineer and the representative of private consulting engineering firms, we need to provide a solid defense on behalf our members.

Additionally, to not find ourselves in a constant defensive posture, we need to use our strategic plan as a guide star and develop a multi-year proactive program that would ultimately be used as litmus test for our political leaders in the future. How we will develop and deliver this program will be the subject of future columns.

Lastly, with this is my first message for the 2009-2010 FICE Program year, I would like to thank you, our members, for your continued support for FICE, our Board of Directors and our untiring staff in Tallahassee. None of what we accomplish can happen without your commitment and support.

Thanks, and see you on the front line.

Feature Article(s)



2010 FICE and FES Annual Directories and Guide

The annual *FICE Directory & Guide* is designed with two purposes in mind: (1) to facilitate contact between member firms and those seeking services from consulting engineers and (2) to improve the understanding of the consulting engineering business. This directory contains both an alphabetical and a county listing of all member firms with complete contact information for their main and branch offices. Member advertisements will be reaching key government decision-makers.

Contract due: September 7.

The *FES Directory and Guide* is a special issue featuring a complete membership roster, Society charter and bylaws, the Code of Ethics for engineers, information about the Florida Board of Professional Engineers, and the Laws and Rules that govern the engineering profession in Florida. This directory is a useful tool that our members refer to throughout the year. By using display advertising you increase your visibility to existing and potential clients, and to your peers. This directory is the most comprehensive reference source published in Florida for the engineering community. **Contract due: October 1.** [Click here](#) for more information.

FES/FICE 93rd Annual Summer Conference & Exposition: Mission Accomplished

Over 350 people attended the FES/FICE 93rd Annual Summer Conference & Exposition. Thanks to all of our sponsors and exhibitors for making this event possible. The theme, “Good Communication: License to Make a Killing,” was carried throughout the conference. FES agents won prizes in the exhibit hall by visiting individual booths and dropping off their business cards. The final mission of the conference was to attend the FES Informal Dinner and Casino Night where there was something offered for all. Congratulations to FES agent **Paul Catledge, PE** who was the lucky winner of a drawing for a 4 day, 3 night stay at The Breakers, Palm Beach.

Our educational sessions this year, which were presented on Friday afternoon, offered a variety of topics for all disciplines of engineering, culminating in four concurrent educational tracks. Those who chose to attend these sessions could earn up to four PDHs of technical engineering credit.

FICE hosted another beautiful banquet on Friday evening, in which recipients of the Engineering Excellence Awards were honored. FES award recipients were honored the following morning during breakfast.

The Annual Conference Steering Committee, co-chaired by **Carlos Gittens, PE** and **Jennifer Porter, PE** did an excellent job of planning this year’s event. We thank every member of the committee for their involvement. Planning for the 2010 FES/FICE 94th Annual Summer Conference & Exposition at The Marco Island Marriott in Marco Island, August 4-7, 2010 will begin soon under the leadership of Chair **Jennifer Porter, PE**.

Agent Engineers, mission accomplished—you will now be elevated to “00” status. Don’t forget to program your GPS for next year’s annual conference at the Marco Island Marriott. For a complete listing of FES, FICE and other practice section award winners, sponsors, exhibitors and photos taken during the conference and exposition, please visit our Web site at: www.fleng.org.

FICE Now Accepting Applications for 2010 Florida Engineering Leadership Institute

For more information [click here](#).

[New Online Enrollment Form](#)

[MS Word Printable Enrollment Form](#)



2009 FICE EEA Grand Conceptor – Winner Announced

On Friday, August 7, 2009 the 2009 FICE Engineering Excellence Grand Conceptor Award was presented to CDM for the Lantana Road Landfill/Park Ridge Golf Course in Lantana, FL. The firm and client were recognized along with the 9 other firms for their engineering excellence awards projects. The awards ceremony was held at the Breakers Resort in Palm Beach as part of the FES/FICE 93rd Annual Summer Conference and Exposition.

The 2010 Engineering Excellence Awards Brochure is available by [clicking here](#). The intent to enter deadline is Friday, **September 11**.

To learn the latest activities of the **FICE Water Resources Committee** with guest speaker SFWMD Director of the Water Supply Department *Marjorie Craig, PE's* review of the regional supply plan and more from the August 6, 2009 meeting minutes, [click here](#).

Audience Participants Wanted for Project Management Filming at UNF: Complimentary Registration

Jacksonville, University of North Florida, Engineering Education Delivery System (FEEDS) Center
October 23, 2009 • 4 PDHs of Technical Engineering Credit

What you will learn? The Project Management Body of Knowledge (Fourth Edition) updates. All PMI exams for the project management professional (PMP) certification will be based on this new edition starting July 2009.

How to register?

- Register online by [clicking here](#). • No registration fee.
- Registration deadline is Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 5 pm. Please note that the class size is limited to 40 participants. Seats may fill up prior to the registration deadline. Preference will be given to FES/FICE Members.

Join **SMPS Central Florida** to discuss the future of healthcare design and construction in Florida. How will it be affected by the current state of the economy, federal healthcare reform, and new trends on the horizon. [Click here](#) for more information.

If a member firm or licensed engineer within a member firm knowingly violates CCNA, FICE believes you may be in violation of Chapter 471, rules and regulations.

[2009 CCNA Letter Catalog](#)





Engineering America's Recovery
[The Fall Conference in ACEC's Centennial Year](#)

Contracts



Ardaman & Associates Inc. was recently selected by the city of Orlando for construction materials testing and inspection services for the Orlando Events Center parking garage. Under its contract, Ardaman will provide services during construction of the eight-level structure. Ardaman's contract is valued at \$175,000. The parking garage has a 395-day construction schedule.

With a capacity for 2,000 vehicles, the parking garage is a post-tensioned, cast-in-place concrete structure supported on pile foundations. The design also features a pedestrian bridge over South Street that will connect the parking garage to the new Orlando Events Center, currently under construction in downtown Orlando.

AVCON Inc. was reselected by the city of Orlando to serve as Continuing Consulting Engineers for Stormwater Engineering and Design Services. **Rick Baldocchi, PE** will serve as AVCON's Principal-in-Charge.

Bowyer-Singleton was recently awarded preliminary engineering and final design services for Dean Road by Seminole County. Dean Road, from SR 426 (Aloma Avenue) to the Orange County Line (McCulloch Road), a distance of 0.6 miles, will be widened from two to four lanes. The project includes the design of the utility adjustments, relocations and improvements for Seminole County. Bowyer-Singleton's services will include Roadway Design, Drainage Design, Structures Design, Utility Design, Maintenance of Traffic, Environmental & Permitting Services, Signing & Pavement Marking, and Surveying & Mapping. Dean Road has a project value of approximately \$1 million and a project schedule of 18 months,

Geotechnical and Environmental Consultants Inc. (GEC) is performing the construction materials testing for Orange County Public School's Apopka Middle School and Waterbridge Elementary School. GEC has also been awarded a continuing services contract by the city of Orlando to provide geotechnical engineering, environmental consulting and construction materials testing. The firm's Osceola County office is providing construction materials testing to the City of Kissimmee for Thacker Avenue widening. The GEC Orlando laboratory's validation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been renewed for an additional two years.

Engineering consulting firm **Greenhorne & O'Mara (G&O)** will provide final design services for construction Zone 6 of the I-595 Corridor Improvements Project in Broward County, FL, as a sub-consultant to AECOM, who is the lead designer for the I 595 Express, LLC/Dragados team. The final

design services provided by G&O will include roadway and structural design modifications to the University Drive three-level interchange that extends for more than 2 miles. G&O is also tasked with providing survey and utility locate (SUE) services for the entire project. G&O has also been instrumental in providing cost reductions to the team by saving five existing bridges including two steel box ramp bridges that were originally slated to be demolished. The concept was developed during the proposal phase of the project, and it is currently in the final design phase.

The Florida Department of Transportation recently named Martin County Airport's noise abatement project as Airport Project of the Year. **Hanson Professional Services Inc.**, serving as a consultant to **CDM**, led Martin County Airport's Airport Noise Advisory Committee (ANAC) and helped oversee this award-winning noise abatement departure profile (NADP) demonstration project. For the complete press release, please [click here](#).

Miller Legg recently began a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) for the Central Florida Regional Planning Council involving the Avon Park Air Force Range. The project includes comprehensive analysis of existing and proposed development as it relates to potential conflicts with the military training missions on and around the base. Miller Legg has teamed with Tetra Tech on this project.

PBS&J International Inc., in association with Horizon Group Qatar and Lea+Elliott, has been awarded a contract by Qatari Diar to provide program and construction management services for the Lusail Light Rail Transit (LRT) project. The LRT network of 17.8 kilometers of double-track guideway serves as the backbone of the future city of Lusail's transportation network, providing a seamless connection between communities, and will contribute to the city's world-class, modern appeal. For additional information, click here please click on the [following link: >>](#)

Wantman Group Inc. (WGI) is pleased to announce the completion of the Lutz Lake Fern Road Interchange, the Suncoast Parkway's new interchange in northern Hillsborough County. The interchange officially began operation on August 15th, by the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE), in anticipation of the opening of the new high school on Lutz Lake Fern Road. The design/build team, headed by Cone & Graham Inc. as the contractor and WGI as the lead designer, designed and constructed the \$10 million project in just 17 months. The partial-cloverleaf interchange will reduce traffic congestion on Lutz Lake Fern Road, near the Suncoast Parkway's on-and-off ramps and on Van Dyke Road and State Road 54. Hillsborough County is planning to widen Lutz Lake Fern Road to a four-lane roadway in the vicinity of the new interchange to relieve local congestion.

Promotions



Dan A. Tintner, PE recently joined **Eckler Engineering Inc.** Tintner brings 29 years of experience to the firm and serves as senior project manager for water and wastewater projects. **Evan L. Kennedy, PE** recently earned his professional engineer license. Kennedy joined Eckler Engineering Inc. in 2004 and serves as project manager for water and wastewater projects.

Maryam Ghyabi of **Ghyabi & Associates Inc.** was featured in the August issue (page 26) of *Florida Trend*. Maryam serves as President for this full-service civil and transportation engineering and planning firm with offices in Jacksonville, Lake Mary, and Ormond Beach. She is leading a group that is studying to transform a 5-by-2-mile area along International Speedway Blvd between I-4 and State Road A1A.

McKim & Creed has once again been ranked among the top engineering firms in the U.S. by *Engineering News-Record* and *Public Works* magazines. In its August 3 issue, ENR listed McKim & Creed #162 among the top 200 environmental firms in the country. *Public Works*, in its July edition, included McKim & Creed among an unranked list of the leading architectural/engineering/contracting firms that work in the public sector. ENR ranks companies based on gross revenue reported for the previous year for providing environmental services and products. *Public Works* lists firms based on revenue and areas of expertise.

McKim & Creed has been included on ENR's top environmental firms listing for nine out of the past 10 years, and has been ranked by *Public Works* since 2005. McKim & Creed provides engineering, surveying and planning services to public and private sector clients via 16 offices located throughout the Southeast. In Florida, the company maintains offices in Clearwater, Tampa, Sarasota, Orlando, Daytona Beach, Palm Coast and Fort Myers.

Miller Legg is pleased to announce that (shown top left to right) Engineering Service

Manager/Senior Project Manager **Marc Stehli, PE**, Director of Information Technology **William Daly**, and CAD Systems Manager **Todd Nochomson** have been promoted to Senior Associates. As Senior Associates, they will be given additional firm management team responsibilities as well as continue to participate in corporate strategic planning activities. **Samuel Hall, PSM** (shown bottom left and center) and **Christopher Holmes, PE**, two of the firm's employees have been promoted to Associates. Regional Manager of Environmental Services at Miller Legg's Central Florida Office (shown bottom right) **Mark Brandenburg, MS, CE, PWS** is now an Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agent, permitted by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission to conduct gopher tortoise assessments, submit permit applications, and relocate gopher tortoises.



Miller Legg was also named one of Florida's *Best Companies To Work For*. One-hundred companies were recognized in small, medium and large company categories, and Miller Legg was ranked number 33 of 50 in the medium-sized category. The rankings – the first statewide Best Companies list – appeared in the August issue of *Florida Trend* and on FloridaTrend.com. For the complete press release, please click [here](#).

The **PBSJ Corporation** was recently named one of Florida's *Best Companies To Work For*. The rankings—the first statewide Best Companies list—appear in the August issue of *Florida Trend* magazine. To be considered for participation, companies or government entities had to employ at least 15 workers in Florida and be at least a year old. Companies that chose to participate in the Best Companies To Work For process underwent a two-part survey. The first part consisted of evaluating each company's workplace policies, practices, philosophy, systems, and demographics. The second part consisted of an employee survey to measure employee satisfaction. The combined scores determined the top companies and the final ranking. PBSJ was ranked 15th in the large company category. For additional information, please click on the [following link >>](#)

Stanley Consultants has relocated to make room for its growing workforce. The new office is located at 1641 Worthington Road, Suite 400 in the new EcoPlex at Centrepark West office complex. With nearly 13,000 square feet of office space, the new facility provides ample room for employee work areas, conference rooms and future growth. A highlight of the new office is its environmentally-friendly atmosphere. The building has a LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The property houses a landscaped natural water feature that filters and improves water

quality for further use. A highly reflective rooftop regulates building temperature and reduces hot spots for lower cooling costs. Oversized windows throughout bring in natural light. The building also contains hurricane resistant features such as 100 percent emergency power, tilt-up reinforced exterior wall panels, and high impact window glazing at all levels.

TKW Consulting Engineers Inc. is pleased to announce the addition of **John Wojdak, PE** to their Fort Myers headquarters Management Team in the role of Civil Engineering Manager. Engineer Wojdak will manage all civil engineering operations for TKW, and will immediately be responsible for oversight of all existing civil engineering projects. TKW is also pleased to announce the addition of **Michael McGee, PE** to their Environmental Engineering team as Senior Project Manager.

Wade Trim is proud to announce that **Amanda Warner, AICP** recently earned her American Institute of Certified Planners certification by passing the exam and completing more than four years of planning work experience.



Continuing Education



FICE Roadside Design Course

September 15-17. FICE is pleased to offer a three-day seminar that teaches how to design safe roadsides, as presented in the 2006 *AASHTO Roadside Design Guide*, the *Florida DOT Plans Preparation Manual* and the *Florida Design Standards*. This course has been recently updated to reflect the best design practice throughout the country, as well as here in Florida. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

Engineering Sustainability: How to Be a Green Champion

Please join us at the Embassy Suites - 17th Street in Ft. Lauderdale on September 29 for Engineering Sustainability:

How to be a Green Champion Seminar. We will be offering four PDH's of technical engineering credit. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

Site Development Permitting in Walton and Okaloosa Counties

September 22. Both counties, the cities of Destin and Ft. Walton Beach, NFWMD, FDOT, and USACE will describe their application processes, share common application errors, and offer tips to expedite the review and approval process. Earn five PDH's of technical engineering credit. To register, [click here](#).

WEBINAR

Stormwater Permitting—Engineers Throughout Florida Involved with Surface Water Permitting

September 16–17, 2009 • 10 am–Noon (EDT, both days). Featuring all five WMDs... plus the latest on Florida's *Unified Stormwater Rule*. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

LUNCH & LEARN WEBINARS

Excelling as an Expert Witness—Tips and Strategies from a Technical Perspective

September 9, 2009 • Noon–1:30 pm (EDT). For more information and to register, [click here](#).

Continuing Obligations and Landowner Liability Protections—the Impacts to Brownfields

Project

September 23, 2009 • Noon–1:30 pm (EDT).

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

Calendar of Events**September**

- 4 Site Development Permitting in Southwest Florida, Crowne Plaza, Ft. Myers
- 9 Lunch & Learn Webinar: Excelling as an Expert Witness – Tips and Strategies from a Technical Perspective
- 15 - 17 FICE Roadside Design Course, Tampa
- 16 - 17 WEBINAR-Stormwater Permitting in Florida - 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. both days
- 22 Site Development Permitting in Walton and Okaloosa Counties, Hilton San Destin Resort, Destin
- 23 Lunch & Learn Webinar: Continuing Obligations and Landowner Liability Protections – the Impacts to Brownfields Project
- 29 Engineering Sustainability: How to be a Champion!

October

- 22 FDOT Automated Fee Proposal (AFP) & Consultant Invoice Transmittal System (CITS) Training
- 23 Project Management Filming at University of North Florida, Jacksonville

November

- 5 - 7 FELI Class of 2010, Session I Grand Hyatt, Tampa

For full details and registration information, please check the web at www.fleng.org



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