



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Mississippi

The Voice of Mississippi's Engineering Industry.

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WHAT IS THE T-1 COALITION

Roosevelt Day we had a brief presentation of the T1 Coalition from Harry Lee James. This coalition has been established to focus private sector efforts to address transportation funding in Mississippi. Hopefully momentum will build until we have the interest of another "87 Highway Program", which was implemented 26 years ago.

While we support the efforts of state and federal legislators to address transportation funding, we believe it is time to step up—in a positive, collaborative manner—and augment government efforts with the type of leadership and bold action that can only come from the private sector.

The T1 Coalition is the product of discussions by the Mississippi Road Builders Association (MRBA), the Mississippi Concrete Industries Association (MCIA), and the Mississippi Asphalt Pavement Association (MAPA). The mission of the T1 Coalition is to bring together interested parties to:

- (i) produce a comprehensive statewide strategic plan to improve Mississippi transportation infrastructure in all modes, from the local to the state level, and
- (ii) advocate for the funding and implementation of such strategic plan

The T1 Coalition will coordinate with the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) and other transportation stakeholders on any major transportation program proposals brought forward to present to the leadership in the House of Representatives, Senate, and Office of the Governor.

We realize that any effort of this magnitude will have to include the cities and counties.

Officers of the T1 Coalition are **Charlie Williams** (Butler Snow), President; **Clark Holmes** (Central Mississippi Planning and Development District), Vice President; **Quincy Mukoro** (Mississippi Municipal League), Secretary; and **Chip Morgan** (Delta Council), Treasurer. Additional board members are yet to be named.

We are encouraging involvement of our members through financial contributions, attendance at Public Hearings, Letters to the Editor, talking to your elected folks about the needs of your area in roads and bridges.

ACEC-MS plans to be an active member of the Coalition. Contributions made to T1 are a deductible business expense and may qualify for a state and/or federal income tax deduction. Contributions may be made through the American Council of Engineering Companies of Mississippi (ACEC-MS), or directly to the T1 Coalition. Any contribution will be appreciated.

The special Senate Task Force will be having meetings around the state in the near future and the T-1 Coalition is asking our members to attend the public hearings around the state and bring your County Supervisors, Aldermen, etc. to express the need for funding.

If you have any questions about the T-1 Coalition or the involvement of ACEC-MS and its members, please do not hesitate to contact Judy or any member of the Executive Committee, which includes Jeff Dungan, Jimmy Nelson, David Bowman, Scott Burge, David Compton, Carey Hardin and Allen Scott.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 18	EEA Intent to Enter Due
October 27 - 30	ACEC Fall Conference Scottsdale, Arizona
November 14 & 15	Fall Meeting Capital Club, Jackson, MS
November 14	Fellows Dinner/PAC Drawdown Capital Club
December 11	EEA Projects Due

SAVE the DATE

**FALL FLING
FELLOWS DINNER & PAC DRAWDOWN**

NOVEMBER 14 & 15, 2013

Capital Club - Jackson, MS

Visit www.acecms.org for more event updates.

ACEC/MS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jeff Dungan



As your incoming President, I am both honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve our organization. I want to first thank our outgoing president, Ron Cassada, for an outstanding year of leadership. I look forward to working with our Executive Committee, committee chairmen, and general membership to continue moving our organization forward. I am especially thankful for our Executive Director, Judy Adams, and her assistant, Leah Head, and look forward to working with them to have another successful year. We are so fortunate to have such a competent and dedicated staff working tirelessly for the betterment of our organization.

Over the past several years, my appreciation for ACEC both at a state and national level has grown significantly. I attribute this growth in appreciation to my increased level of involvement. I recently attended the ACEC national meeting in Washington, DC and realized how strong our organization really is throughout our country. I would like to challenge each member to increase your level of involvement in ACEC in 2013-2014. I think that your appreciation for ACEC will grow as a result.

Now is a great time to be involved in ACEC. The increasing efforts on a state and national level to solve our infrastructure funding dilemma, as well as the implementation of the Affordable Healthcare for America Act makes having a "seat at the table" imperative for each of us. Our membership in ACEC guarantees just that.

As President, my top priority will be to increase membership. At our executive committee planning day last week, I challenged each member of our executive committee to join Judy and me in recruiting at least one new member and two new affiliate members each during the coming year. Our challenge is to spread the word to non-member firms about the value of membership in an organization that is the primary voice for the engineering companies of Mississippi.

I would also like to stress increased involvement in the legislative process by all of our members. ACEC-MS is our most effective way of monitoring and lobbying on behalf of the engineering profession. Judy and Al Sage need our help in contacting and educating our legislators during the legislative session. Please take an active role when asked to participate in the effort. There are also opportunities to support our efforts financially. Contributions to the legislative/legal fund, as well as, the PAC allow our state and national leaders to lobby more effectively on our behalf.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President. I look forward to seeing you at our Fall Fling on November 14 & 15, 2013 at the Capital Club in Jackson.

◆◆◆INTRODUCING◆◆◆

THE EDUCATION LINEUP

FOR ACEC/MS'S FALL FLING PREMIER

November 14 & 15 - Capital Club, Jackson, MS

→ **"Highlights of the 2013 EJCDC's Construction Series Documents"** Jud Jones, Mockbee, Hall & Drake

→ **"Water Issues in Mississippi"** Jimmy Palmer, Butler Snow

→ **"Bridging Generation Gaps in the Workplace"** Tom Wagner, Wagner Consulting

→ **"Surveying: New MEMA Flood Maps"** Stacey Ricks, MEMA

→ **"Surveying Minimum Standards"** Ed Springer, Springer Engineering



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ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS ARE COMING!

PROJECTS DUE DECEMBER 11

The definition of 'excellence': the quality of being outstanding; extremely good.

Being excellent isn't easy, but engineers do it every day. Each year ACEC of Mississippi provides opportunities to put the spotlight on your projects at the Engineering Excellence Awards. The competition recognizes engineering firms for work that demonstrates a high degree of achievement, value, and ingenuity.

The Grand Conceptor Award is considered "Best in Show" and is presented to the project judged to be the best overall in competition. The Grand Award and Honor Award are presented as well. For the second year, the People's Choice Award category will give everyone at the Awards Dinner a chance to vote on their favorite project.

The Engineering Excellence Awards provides a chance for firms to receive statewide recognition and the bragging rights that come with a prestigious EEA win. Entries for the Engineering Excellence Awards must be submitted by December 11, 2013. You can find the entry form online at www.acecms.org/Awards. For additional information, contact Leah Head at (601) 420-2001 or leah@acecms.org.

ZWEIGWHITE SALARY SURVEY

ACEC MS, along with other state ACEC member organizations, is collaborating with ZweigWhite to produce its annual series of regional salary surveys. ACEC member participation is a key element in providing a comprehensive report on salary trends at a broad base of engineering firms nationwide.

ZweigWhite will mail the 2014 Salary Survey to ACEC MS member firm key contacts in late September. It is also available online. The deadline to participate is October 25.

To encourage participation, ACEC MS members who participate in the survey receive the report for \$95, a savings of \$200. In addition, when members order a book, ACEC MS will receive 25% of the revenue generated from member purchases. This is a great way to support ACEC MS and get the information you need at a discount.

ZweigWhite's 2014 Salary Survey of Northeast and South Atlantic Engineering Firms, 2014 Salary Survey of Central Engineering Firms and the 2014 Salary Survey of Mountain & Pacific Engineering Firms are the most up-to-date and comprehensive surveys for engineering firms operating in these regions.

ACEC FALL CONFERENCE

October 27 - 30, 2013
Fairmont Scottsdale Princess
Scottsdale, Arizona

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

SOL ENGINEERING SERVICES, LLC - 49

106 South President, 4th Floor

Jackson, MS 39201

Telephone: (601) 961-1415

Facsimile: (601) 960-0420

Email: wonealjr@solengrs.com

www.solengrs.com

Principal(s): Willie A. O'Neal, Jr., Derek T. Starling, Sr.

GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, LLC - 5

1700 West Government St, Building A, Suite D

P.O. Box 86 (39043) Mailing Address Only

Brandon, MS 39042

Telephone: (601) 824-2060

Facsimile: (601) 824-2466

Email: dcoleman@geaeng.com

Principal(s): David M. Coleman, P.E.

LAIRD + SMITHERS, INC. - 3

P.O. Box 568

Jackson, MS 39205

Telephone: (601) 914-1547

Facsimile: (601) 352-0288

Email: jeff.laird@lairdsmithers.com

Website: www.lairdsmithers.com

Principal(s): H. Jefferson Laird, III.; Charles A. Smithers

CIVILTECH, INC. - 3

P.O. Box 12852

Jackson, MS 39236-2852

Telephone: (601) 713-1713

Facsimile: (601) 713-1703

Email: emoody@civiltechinc.net

Website: www.civiltechinc.net

Principal(s): Elmore Moody

KEMP ASSOCIATES - 7

P.O. Box 304

Noxapater, MS 39436

Telephone: (662) 724-2303

Facsimile: (662) 724-2304

Email: jimmykemp@noxapatertel.net

Principal(s): Jimmy Kemp

WELCOME NEW AFFILIATE MEMBER

URETEK HOLDINGS, INC.

108 Brighton Drive

Clinton, MS 39056

Telephone: (866) 987-3835

Facsimile: (863) 984-9290

Email: Cburns@UretekHoldings.com

Website: www.UretekHoldings.com

Principal(s): Chan Burns

ACEC PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

By Dave Raymond

September will be a crucial legislative month, with the federal debt ceiling and needed action on overall government funding high on Congress' to-do list. One of ACEC's major priorities is the Water Resources and Development Act which is expected to be considered by House Committee in September with floor action to follow immediately afterwards. At Committee Chairman Bill Shuster's (R-PA) request, ACEC is working with legislators to build support for WRDA; it would represent the first major infrastructure initiative to come out of the House, as well as a key test vote ahead of larger infrastructure initiatives. Our Fall Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona has record numbers of advance registrants spurred by a strong business program and notable speakers; early registration discounts continue through September.

- Advocated a broad-based national energy policy, hydraulic fracturing, and a broad definition of clean energy with Rep. Diane DeGette (D-CO) and staff from the office of Senator Mark Udall (D-CO) during the ACEC Environment and Energy Committee meeting in Denver.
- Australian Embassy staff briefed ACEC's International Committee on public and private partnerships (P3s) in Australia and opportunities for U.S. firms.
- Key government agencies (Corps of Engineers, Small Business Administration, Air Force, and State Department's Office of Overseas Building Operations) briefed ACEC on funding, impact of sequestration, and future programs.
- Updated representatives of twenty federal agencies involved in export promotion on the needs and challenges facing U.S. engineering firms overseas.
- Supported an increase in right-of-ways, permits, and temporary easements to construct, operate, and maintain oil and natural gas pipelines on federal lands by endorsing the Energy Infrastructure Improvement Act to grant issuing authority to the Department of Interior (DOI), rather than Congress.
- Supported the expanded availability of low cost capital for renewable energy projects by endorsing the Master Limited Partnerships Parity Act, introduced by Reps. Ted Poe (R-TX) and Sen. Christopher Coons (D-DE).



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