



# October 2007

## News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,  
AACE International

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Bob Boyd, PSP  
(robert.boyd@fluor.com)

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(chris.swanson@fluor.com)

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### President's Message

As we embark upon a new season for the UpCountry South Carolina Section, I would like to solicit your help in making this another successful year for our section. I would like to make our section meetings entertaining and also educational. Your officers, board members and I are still trying to line up speakers for our meetings. If there is someone or some organization that you would like to see make a presentation, please send Chris Swanson or myself an e-mail and we will try to make it happen. Otherwise we will select speakers or different venues that we believe may be of interest to all of you. As you'll see at the back of this newsletter, we have started to identify events taking place at another AACEI section in case they have a presenter that is of interest to you. We plan to also get the speaker agenda for the Atlanta section.

We will also be looking into what other nearby sections are doing relative to technical seminars. For those of you that plan on taking a certification test this year, please inform Chris Swanson know so that we can monitor and assist you in achieving your goals. Please be aware that we can hold a certification test locally if we are made aware of your needs.

Sincerely, Bob Boyd, PSP



## Section Announcements

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### **Certification!!**

AACEI now offers 6 certifications.

1. Interim Cost Consultant Certification (ICC)
2. Certified Cost Consultant (CCC) / Certified Cost Engineer (CCE)
3. Planning and Scheduling Professional Certification (PSP)
4. Earned Value Professional Certification (EVP)
5. Certified Portfolio, Program & Project Management (C3PM)
6. Certified Forensic Claims Consultant (CFCC)

For descriptions and requirements regarding each of these certifications go to the AACEI web page (<http://www.aacei.org/certification/certExplained.shtml>).

AACEI has also released two publications that are useful reference tools and will assist in passing some of the certification tests. "Professional Practice Guide #7 – Cost Engineering in the Utility Industries" and "AACE International Recommended Practices" are now available through the AACE International Online Bookstore.

Contact Chris Swanson ([chris.swanson@fluor.com](mailto:chris.swanson@fluor.com)) if you have any questions or need assistance regarding any of the certifications mentioned above.

### **Continuing Education!!**

Dr. Ken Humphreys will be teaching two continuing education courses for UNCC in November. One is on Contingency and Risk Analysis and the other is on Engineering Ethics. Both are one day sessions at UNC Charlotte Uptown and cost \$245. For additional information, please visit the following sites:

<http://www.continuinged.uncc.edu/1day/EngEthics20071128.htm>, the engineering ethics course

<http://www.continuinged.uncc.edu/1day/ContRiskAna20071129.htm>, the risk analysis course



## September 2007 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on September 10, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Our guest was Don Broeils, the leader of Fluor Power Plant Betterment Business Line. He has over 32 years in the Industry and 8 years in Project Management. Don's presentation was on "Project Controls - A Project Manager's Perspective."

He gave us his definition of what Project Control is; "Promoting and Reporting the planning of cost and schedule using specific tools." Don also shared his experiences with Project Controls, both good and bad.

Good Project Controls is:

- a. Having a Project Leadership Team that is supportive of Project Controls
- b. Early Implementation of Project Plans
- c. Accurate Cost and Scheduling Forecasting
- d. Understanding the Contracts and the Requirements (ie, Reporting)
- e. Establishing the WBS Early
- f. Having an effective Change Management System
- g. Accurate Home Office and Field Progress Tracking

Bad Project Controls is:

- a. Project Controls is not aligned with the Project Team
- b. Expectations of Project Controls are undefined by Project Management and/or Client
- c. Invalid Progress Base which leads to Inaccurate Progress Tracking
- d. Undependable Cost and Schedule Forecast which leads to Surprises
- e. Weak or non existing Change Management system which leads to Leakage of Profits

Though most of us in project controls have experienced both the good and bad side, we understand and agree with Don when he highlighted the key areas in making Project Controls Successful.

In Closing Don Left us with the 10 Commandment of Project Controls.

1. Thou shall be aligned with the Project Team
2. Thou shall have an understanding of the Contract
3. Thou shall understand the expectation of Project Management
4. Thou shall understand the expectation of the Client
5. Thou shall establish a cost and schedule baseline
6. Thou shall have a valid progress base
7. Thou shall establish an intergrated and traceable schedule
8. Thou shall establish the WBS Early
9. Thou shall establish an effective Change Management System
10. Thou shall institute progress data sampling/validation/reconciliation

The Upcountry SC Section will like to thank Don Broeils for giving a very enlightening presentation.



## October 2007 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Monday, October 08, 2007

**Location:** Crowne Plaza Hotel on Congaree Road

### **Richardson's Dynamic Data and the Future**

**Guest Speaker: Bill Bragan**

**Cost Data On Line, Inc.**

Bill Bragan is Vice president of Technology for Cost Data On Line, Inc., the publishers of the Richardson Process Plant Construction Cost Estimating Standards and the International Cost Factors Manual. Bill has 35 years of information technology experience and over 10 years experience with the Richardson line of products.

Bill will update us on the current status of the Richardson Standards and will introduce us to Richardson Dynamic Data delivered to users via CostdataOnLine.com. He will provide a look into the future for the Richardson products and is very interested to hear comments on how to improve the standards. And in today's market of escalation, Bill will also tell us what they are doing to keep their product(s) current with today's prices. And of course, if you are interested in any of the product(s), Bill will be happy to answer your questions.

We will be selling \$1.00 raffle tickets to allow the winner to enjoy a free evening. We look forward to seeing you, don't miss it! Note that the meeting location in the hotel has changed. Signs will be posted.

Please RSVP no later than Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM by e-mail or phone. The cost of the meeting is **20<sup>00</sup>**. Other refreshments are available in the hotel.

#### **Schedule:**

6:00PM to 6:55PM Registration, Networking and Hors D'oeuvres

7:00PM to 8:00PM Presentation / Program

#### **Reservations**

For information, please contact:

Chris Swanson (864) 517-1571 (e-mail – [chris.swanson@fluor.com](mailto:chris.swanson@fluor.com))



**2007/8 Meeting Schedule for AACE UpCountry SC Section**

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	12 Nov 2007	Mark Stofega, Fluor, Site Productivity Measurement Studies
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	10 Dec 2007	Speaker TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	14 Jan 2008	Speaker TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	11 Feb 2008	Michele Jones, Fluor, Proliance Cost System for Government Work
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	10 Mar 2008	Dr. Kenneth Humphreys, Ethics
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	14 Apr 2008	Speaker TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	12 May 2008	Speaker TBD
AACEI Annual Convention	Sun. to Wed.	29 June to 02 July 2008	Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**2007/8 Meeting Schedule for AACE Catawba (Charlotte) Section**

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	09 Oct 2007	Donald McDonald - Fluor-Subject
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	13 Nov 2007	Joe Rubin - Project - Red Bridge Golf & CC
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	11 Dec 2007	Ken Humphreys - Risk & Contingency
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	08 Jan 2008	John Heitkamp - Cost Data on Line, Inc. – Richardson
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	12 Feb 2008	Ken Humphreys – Ethics
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	11 Mar 2008	Mark Hoecker – Duke - Cliffside Power Project
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	08 Apr 2008	Doug Creech – Paper Presentation
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	09 May 2008	Social Dinner @ Sullivans

Please contact Shirley Harris at [Shirley.Harris@ch2m.com](mailto:Shirley.Harris@ch2m.com) if you are interested in attending a Catawba Section Meeting. These meetings are typically held at: 11301 Carmel Commons Blvd. Suite 304 in Charlotte