



October 2008

News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,
AACE International

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President's Message

Members,

WOW, Halloween has come and gone and it's November already! Election Day is tomorrow and I encourage everyone to get out and VOTE!

As this year flies by, I would like everyone to pause for a moment and asses their personal and professional goals. When I was elected as Chapter President I set 4 goals.

1. Increase or Chapter Membership
2. Increase the Certified Members of the Chapter
3. Increase the size of the Chapter Bank Account
4. Broaden the Chapter Membership to include other companies outside of Fluor

Right now, all of these goals are being realized. If any of you have suggestions or think you can assist with these goals, please contact me.

We currently have a need for someone to design and put on the World Wide Web a Chapter Website. If any of you have the time and skills to assist with this task it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact myself or Chris Swanson, if you are up for the challenge.

Let me wish all of those members seeking an AACEI Certification good luck on the test December 6th. If you are considering a Certification, it is not a bad idea to start preparing for the July 20th 2009 exam. There are many Certified Members that may be able to assist you with test preparation.

I would ask that you all invite some of your co-workers to attend this meeting.

Sincerely, Walter Manning



Section Announcements

Certification!!

AACEI offers 7 certifications.

1. Certified Cost Technician (CCT)
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)
7. Certified Estimating Professional (CEP)

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

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

The next certification exams are currently scheduled for:

December 06, 2008 – Location to be determined (Deadline to register is October 27, 2008)

June 20, 2009 – Location to be determined (Deadline to register is April 06, 2009)

Certification Workshops:

Atlanta Section is hosting CCE/CCC Certification Workshops. Their meeting schedule and coverage is:

- Oct 25 8:30am to 12:30pm Part I – Supporting Knowledge and Skills
- Nov 01 8:30am to 12:30pm Part II – Cost Estimating and Control
- Nov 08 8:30am to 12:30pm Part III – Project Management
- Nov 15 8:30am to 12:30pm Part IV – Economic Analysis

Study Materials – All participants are required to have a copy of the following two publications.

1. CCC/CCE Certification Study Guide 2nd ed. By AACEI
2. Skills & Knowledge of Cost Engineering 5th ed. By AACEI

Format - Test – Discuss; Workshop participants should be ready to take a two-hour test at the start of each session. The leader will discuss and answer the questions for the remainder of the session.

Registration – Please contact the Atlanta Certification Director, Andreas Kristanto at 678.481.1621 or at akristanto@uscost.com. If less than 5 people sign up, the workshop may be cancelled.



AAACE Upcountry South Carolina Section

Clemson, Greenville, Spartanburg & Surrounding Areas



Venue – 1200 Abernathy Rd., NE
Building 600, Suite 950
Atlanta, Ga. 30328

Continuing Education!!

Visit the AAACE Online Bookstore (<http://www.aacei.org/technical/ppg.shtml>) where you can order Professional Practice Guides, Recommended Practices and other AAACEI merchandise.

Note that the PSP Certification Study Guide, 1st Edition, and the EVP Certification Study Guide, 1st Edition, have recently been released and are now available.

2009 Engineers Week!!

During the week of February 15 – 21, 2009, middle school students from across the US will use engineering principals to design and build cities of the future with a focus on self-sufficient water systems. The school deadline for entering in this Future City competition is October 20, 2008. For more information about this contest, visit www.futurecity.org.

AAACE International's 53rd Annual Meeting!!

Make plans to attend the next AAACEI annual meeting in Seattle, Washington. It will be held from June 28th thru July 1st. The theme for this meeting is:

TCM: Improving Decision Making in a Green World

AAACEI Membership!!

As of September 15, the AAACEI association had a membership of 6,645. The association has grown 10 percent since December 2007. So as a reminder from AAACEI Headquarters, your membership will expire on December 31, 2008. Renewal notices will be sent out soon. Corporate Sponsorship Program dues have also been mailed to the CSP contacts.

Changes have been made at AAACEI Headquarters and so members who do not pay their dues by their expiration date, will experience difficulties accessing some services after their expiration date. AAACEI's database system will automatically block access to any of the member-only portions of the website.



October 2008 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on October 14, 2008 at the Best Western Hotel. Our guest speaker was Ken Willis, Project Controls Engineer, who has been with Fluor almost 20 years and has worked 7 years on international assignments. These assignments along with being raised in a military family have given Ken a different perspective to living and working abroad. Therefore Ken wanted to share his perspective with his fellow AAACEI associates.

The presentation focused on:

1. Why Accept an International Assignment
 - Money
 - Travel
 - The Experience
2. Personal Traits for International Assignments
 - Good Health
 - Adventurous
 - Sense of Humor
 - Desire to Live Life to its Fullest
3. Preparations Prior to Leaving on Assignment
 - Passport and Visas
 - Medical Vaccinations and Prescriptions
 - Set up a Will
 - Research your Destination
4. Language and Cultural Differences
 - Ability to speak a little of the language goes a long way with the locals
 - Learn and accept local customs, it's part of the experience
5. Living and Working Conditions
 - Housing and Living Conditions can be harsh or pleasant
6. Rewards
 - Job experience
 - Career advancement

The Upcountry SC Section would like to thank Ken Willis for an interesting presentation. If you would like to receive a copy of his presentation, please send your request to Robert Boyd at robert.boyd@fluor.com.



November 2008 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, November 11, 2008

Location: Day & Zimmerman's Office Building

ERP – Enterprise Resource Planning **Guest Speaker: Doug Findley** Clemson University

Doug Findley is a PMP, CCC, PSP and adjunct Professor at Clemson University, Dept. of Construction Science and Management. He has over 40 years of Project Management and Project Controls experience in electrical utilities, research and development, petrochemical, and heavy industrial projects. He has worked in 30 different nuclear institutions in the US and overseas. Doug is a Senior Consultant and Trainer with High Bridge Associates, Inc., Norcross, Georgia, a project management consulting firm providing services to the energy, defense, information technology, pharmaceutical, and aerospace industries. (email: DAFindley@HBA-INC.com)

ERP is short for Enterprise Resource Planning. As an attempt at a definition one could say that ERP is a business management system that integrates all facets of the business, including strategic planning, operational planning, manufacturing or project execution, marketing and sales, and finance. For the better part of the last 10 years software giants have been touting their wares as the up-to-date solution for that working ERP system: SAP R/3, INDUS –Supply Chain Management, and, perhaps soon, Primavera's P6 Project Management by Oracle. But is this enterprise tool ready to provide boardroom Portfolio Management and PMO resource decision making, as well as provide the project manager and the project team with day-to-day direction and performance metrics?

YOU ALSO DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF AACEI TO ATTEND.

Please RSVP no later than Friday, November 7th at 5 PM by e-mail or phone. The cost of the meeting is **\$20.00**.

Schedule:

6:00PM to 6:30PM Registration, Networking and Light Meal
6:30PM to 7:00PM Presentation

Reservations

For information, please contact:

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



2008/9 Meeting Schedule for AACE UpCountry SC Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 Sep 2008	Michael Ray, Legis Consultancy, Inc., Hurricane Katrina Rebuild Work
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Oct 2008	Ken Willis, Fluor, Int'l Assignments – What to Expect
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	11 Nov 2008	Doug Findley, Clemson Professor, Topic TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 Dec 2008	Robert Toet, Fluor, Knowledge Management
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	13 Jan 2009	Al Gasper, Fluor, Risk Management
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 Feb 2009	Ron Winters, Ron Winters Consulting, Schedule Practice
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 Mar 2009	TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Apr 2009	TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	12 May 2009	TBD

2008/9 Meeting Schedule for AACE Catawba (Charlotte) Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 Sep 2008	Don Johnson, Fluor, Membership Benefits
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Oct 2008	Dr. Kenneth Humphreys, Consultant, Risk & Contingency using Range Est'g
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	11 Nov 2008	TBD
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 Dec 2008	TBD
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	13 Jan 2009	TBD
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 Feb 2009	Doug Creech, Carolina Healthcare System, Professional Paper
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 Mar 2009	Mark Hoecker, Duke Energy, Cliffside Power Project
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Apr 2009	TBD
Social Dinner	2 nd Tuesday	08 May 2009	None

Please contact Shirley Harris at 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



2008/9 Meeting Schedule for AACE Atlanta Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	16 Sep 2008	Michael Opitz, 3D Imaging Services, The Emerging Technology of 3D Imaging
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	21 Oct 2008	Kamyar Molavi, Esq., Weissmann, Zucker Euster PC Law Firm, Changes to the Georgia Lien Statute
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	18 Nov 2008	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	16 Dec 2008	Holiday Social Dinner
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	29 Jan 2009	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	17 Feb 2009	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	17 Mar 2009	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	21 Apr 2009	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	15 May 2009	TBD

Please contact Mark Cundiff at markcundiff@hotmail.com if you are interested in attending an Atlanta Section Meeting. These meetings are typically held at: Cross Creek Café, 1221 Cross Creek Parkway in Atlanta