



# November 2008

## News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,  
AACE International

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### President's Message

Members,

Thanksgiving has come and gone and Xmas is around the corner. I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

As the new year approaches, it is time to make resolutions. I would like to encourage each of you to resolve to bring a co-worker or an associate to one of our chapter meetings. This would expose many who are unaware of AACEI to what we are about.

We are professional organization, whose members are a group of peers, which earn their livelihood as Estimators, Schedulers, Cost Engineers, and Claims Consultants. The membership is what makes our organization unique; no other professional organization has such a diverse experience base.

Our organizations standards and procedures have been adopted by many companies as policy. Individuals who have an AACEI certification are actively pursued by recruiters and HR departments.

To associate with many people within these carrier fields is an invaluable opportunity to exchange ideas, common experiences and network.

If the above are not enough, when you attend a chapter meeting. You will also have the opportunity to have dinner with new friends and form life long acquaintances that will have a positive affect on your career in Project Controls.

I am personally looking forward to seeing each of you at our next meeting.

Sincerely, Walter Manning



## Section Announcements

### **Certification!!**

AAACEI 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 AAACEI web page (<http://www.aaacei.org/certification/certExplained.shtml>).

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.

The next certification exams are currently scheduled for:

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

### **Continuing Education!!**

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

Note that the PSP Certification Study Guide, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, and the EVP Certification Study Guide, 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.futurecity.org).



## **AACE International's 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting!!**

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

TCM: Improving Decision Making in a Green World

## **AACEI Membership!!**

As of September 15, the AACEI association had a membership of 6,645. The association has grown 10 percent since December 2007. So as a reminder from AACEI 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 AACEI Headquarters and so members who do not pay their dues by their expiration date, will experience difficulties accessing some services after their expiration date. AACEI's database system will automatically block access to any of the member-only portions of the website.

## **Section News!!**

Section Board meeting was held on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Misty Kaplinski was chosen to be Brian Rock's replacement as our Secretary. We want to recognize her commitment to our organization by assuming this role. Thank you Misty!

Providing a scholarship fund for a local college student was also discussed. Further announcements will be forthcoming over the next couple of months. If you know of a dean that can be contacted to assist in identifying potential candidates for our scholarship or for AACEI's competitive scholarship program, please contact Bob Boyd.

Our Section is still looking for someone to help build a website for our Section. Anyone interested should contact Walter Manning or Chris Swanson.



## **November 2008 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap**

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on November 11, 2008 at the offices of Day & Zimmerman. Our guest speaker was Doug Findley, Adjunct Professor at Clemson University and Senior Consultant with High Bridge Associates, Inc. He has 45 years of Project Management and Project Controls experience. He was certified as an instructor for Primavera's P3e/c in 2002 and is also a subject matter expert on ERP, Enterprise Resource Planning. He has been part of the beta test and implementation team for Primavera's Enterprise Planning System and therefore agreed to give us a presentation on Primavera's ERP.

Per Wikipedia, ERP was introduced in 1990 by a research and analysis firm. It is an enterprise-wide information system designed to coordinate all the resources, information and activities needed to complete business processes such as order fulfillment or ordering.

Per Doug, ERP is the key to being competitive and successful in today's technology world. In Primavera's P6, ERP has the ability to address multiple projects in a group and has the following benefits:

- Allows development of multiple Enterprise Structures
- Provides superior reporting capabilities
- P6 can be used on the web
- Reports can be structured to report Organizational Breakdown Structures, Resource Breakdown Structures and Work Breakdown Structures

An ERP structure will typically have the OBS at the upper level and then followed by the EPS (Enterprise Project Structure), Projects and Project WBS. Pre-planning early in a Project's life cycle and defining roles is critical to successful implementation of ERP in your P6 schedule. If set up properly it will ensure that resources are properly allotted to various projects and that they are available when and where needed. P6 also has a Timesheet Module which can streamline time reporting and time costing.

An example of a project using ERP is Westinghouse's Nuclear Power Plant Project for Florida Power and Light. The project has over 30 planners developing and updating a 245,000 activity schedule.

The Upcountry SC Section would like to thank Doug Findley for an informative presentation.





## December 2008 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, December 09, 2008

**Location:** Day & Zimmerman's Office Building

### **Knowledge Management and Estimating**

**Guest Speaker: Robert Toet, PMP**

**Fluor Enterprises, Inc.**

Robert Toet has a BS in Civil/Structural Engineering and is currently working for Fluor as a Project Engineer on a FGD Project. He has over 30 years of International Project Execution experience in the oil & gas, chemicals, mining, power and pharmaceutical industries. He has been recognized as a "Distinguished Toastmaster" and is skilled in today's best available information technologies.

The high selling commodity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is knowledge. Those that have captured their knowledge and manage it efficiently win the game. Knowledge Management leads to wisdom and innovation. Many companies are dealing with a wealth of information, but getting that information to everyone within the company has been a struggle for some. Robert was part of the team that developed and deployed Fluor's Knowledge On Line system and has also been the Knowledge Manager for CSA's Community. In 2008, he was appointed the "KM Champion" for the Fluor Greenville office. Based upon over 6 years of experience with Knowledge Management, Robert will share with us his thoughts on how Knowledge Management can assist all of us, even estimating.

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

Please RSVP no later than Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	09 Sep 2008	Michael Ray, Legis Consultancy, Inc., Hurricane Katrina Rebuild Work
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	14 Oct 2008	Ken Willis, Fluor, Int'l Assignments – What to Expect
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	11 Nov 2008	Doug Findley, Clemson Professor, Topic TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	09 Dec 2008	Robert Toet, Fluor, Knowledge Management
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	13 Jan 2009	Al Gasper, Fluor, Risk Management
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	10 Feb 2009	Ron Winters, Ron Winters Consulting, Schedule Practice
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	10 Mar 2009	TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	14 Apr 2009	Donald McDonald will host a Mock Arbitration
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	09 Sep 2008	Don Johnson, Fluor, Membership Benefits
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	14 Oct 2008	Dr. Kenneth Humphreys, Consultant, Risk & Contingency using Range Est'g
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	11 Nov 2008	TBD
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	09 Dec 2008	TBD
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	13 Jan 2009	TBD
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	10 Feb 2009	Doug Creech, Carolina Healthcare System, Professional Paper
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	10 Mar 2009	Mark Hoecker, Duke Energy, Cliffside Power Project
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	14 Apr 2009	TBD
Social Dinner	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	08 May 2009	None

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



**2008/9 Meeting Schedule for AACE Atlanta Section**

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

Please contact Mark Cundiff at [markcundiff@hotmail.com](mailto: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