



August 2011 News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,
AACE International

President's Message

Members,

Ethics. In September's Cost Engineering magazine, there is an article regarding revisions to AACEI's Canons of Ethics which will become effective on 01 January 2012 and will apply to all members renewing their 2012 membership. Changes will focus on intellectual property violations, integrity of the examination process and a responsibility for all members to report alleged ethical violations. This revised AACEI Canon of Ethics will be posted on the AACEI website soon after the Board of Directors approves it this fall.

It is important that we all behave ethically, not only in our jobs, but also as responsible community citizens. Most of us normally behave ethically and probably have to sign ethical acknowledgments yearly to indicate compliance to company ethical standards. But temptation is sometimes present and we need to be strong and not stray from our strong ethical beliefs. We need to be viewed as professionals with high ethical standards in order to gain the trust of our employers, family, friends and the community. With this trust, we will be able to perform our work better and will have more satisfying relationships with our clients and others that are important to us.

Sincerely, Bob Boyd

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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>). And for educational literature to help you with these exams, visit the AACE Online Bookstore (<http://www.aacei.org/technical/ppg.shtml>) where you can order Professional Practice Guides, Recommended Practices and other AACEI merchandise.

In recognition for those Section members that have AACEI certifications, we will now have an Honors Roll. The following Section members hold certifications and can be considered Subject Matter Experts, available to help you if you have any questions.

HONORS ROLL

CCE / CCE	PSP	CEP	EVP
Chris Swanson	Donald McDonald	Robert Boyd	Doug Findley
Donald McDonald	Robert Boyd	Jeff Bannister	Eric Marcantoni
Robert Boyd	Doug Findley	Walter Manning	
Doug Findley		Stan Ellzey	
Becky Spencer			
CFCC			
Doug Findley			

Please contact Stan Ellzey (stanellzey@charter.net) if you have any questions or need assistance regarding any of the certifications or workshops mentioned above.

The next certification exam is currently scheduled for:
November 12, 2011 – Location of test is Atlanta, Ga.
December 10, 2011 – Location of test is Greenville, SC

Deadline to sign up for a certification exam is 60 days prior to the above test dates. If you want to take the test in Greenville, please contact one of our officers or our Certification chairperson.



AAACEI Certification Hints and Other Educational Tidbits!!

The correct answer was given at the August meeting to the following question.

What type of scheduling technique is used to schedule pipeline and other linear-type projects?

The question for September's meeting is:

Which of the following types of costs listed below would be considered a Fixed Cost?

1. Depreciation
2. Utilities
3. Plant Overhead
4. Marketing

AAACE International's Meetings and Conferences!!

Make plans to attend AAACEI's Leadership Conference in Houston, Texas on November 12, 2012. This conference is being sponsored by the Diversity Task Force, Women in Project Controls Committee, Young Professionals Committee and Mentoring Advisory Committee. Please go to the AAACEI website for more information.

It's not too early to begin thinking about making plans to attend AAACEI's 56th annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas. The theme of this conference is "A Fiesta for Total Cost Management". It will be held from July 8th thru July 11th. Registration begins in 2012. Watch AAACEI's website for updates.

UpCountry South Carolina Section's Website!!

Please visit our web site that is being maintained by Becky Spencer. Becky continues to improve the website, including job postings. Feel free to provide feedback to Becky or Bob Boyd on comments/ideas that you believe would enhance the website.

<http://upcountry-acei.org/welcome.html>

Section News!!

August's meeting had about 9 people in attendance. The only announcement made at the meeting was for a Section Board meeting to be held in late September. A specific date will be made later.

Our next meeting on September 13th will be an informative presentation on the I-385 Project. If you have not received the meeting notice via e-mail, please contact Becky Spencer, beckyspencer@aol.com.



August 2011 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The UpCountry SC Section meeting was held on August 10, 2011 at Jacob's office. Our guest speaker was Mr. Bob Boyd. Mr. Boyd is a Director of Estimating at Fluor and is currently involved with establishing benchmarks and unit rates for PV Solar Plants.

The presentation started with describing the current mix of Renewable energy sources. Global power capacity from renewable energy sources has reached 312 GW (16% of Total Global consumption), excluding hydro, with 118 countries having renewable energy policy targets by early 2011. US energy supplied from renewable energy sources is now at 11% which is about the same as from nuclear sources. Investments in Renewables reached \$211 billion in 2010 with China at \$49 billion.

Solar radiation was defined and shown how it is captured by the different solar technologies to generate electricity. It was also stated that if the sun's solar radiation decreased by approx. 6%, the earth would be covered by ice. Clouds are the predominant atmospheric condition that determines the amount of solar radiation that reaches the Earth's surface. The atmosphere causes a reduction of the extraterrestrial solar input by ~30% on a very clear day to nearly 90% on a very cloudy day.

Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) plants was described next. It is believed that the Greeks in 212 B.C. were the first to use CSP technology. Various technologies were shown with Parabolic Trough followed by Central Receiver Towers being the current leading technologies. These plants are more expensive and use more land than PV solar plants.

Photovoltaics (PV) solar plants use two types of solar panels, crystalline and thin film. Recent price drops for crystalline solar panels and higher efficiency ratings than thin film panels makes these the preferred PV solar technology. The target market for solar PV plants centers around the equator where solar radiation is greatest. Current life span for a solar plant is 20 – 25 years with 5 year guarantee periods after Commercial Operation. Solar project challenges include financing – capital intensive; transmission line



and permitting issues/delays; technology challenges – lack of operating experience; and performance challenges – performance testing criteria and production guarantees. Multiple EPC companies in the US have entered the PV market and they need to establish new benchmarks quickly in order to compete due to their construction simplicity and large quantities with repetitive assembly-type activities.

This concluded Mr. Boyd's presentation. The attendees of this presentation thanked him for his time and the presentation. A copy of the presentation is available upon request to Bob Boyd.



2010/11 Meeting Schedule for AACE UpCountry SC Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Sep 2010	Cancelled
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	12 Oct 2010	Bob Boyd, Fluor, Nuclear New Build Challenges
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 Nov 2010	Bob Boyd, Fluor, Small Modular Nuclear Reactors
UCSC Dinner Meeting	Saturday	14 Dec 2010	Cancelled
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	11 Jan 2011	Cancelled due to Weather Conditions
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	08 Feb 2011	Eric Marcantoni, Fluor, Certification Testimonials
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	08 Mar 2011	Edward Storer, Financial Planner
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	12 Apr 2011	Cancelled
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 May 2011	Dan Springer, Fluor Mega Project Challenges – Nuclear PP
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 June 2011	Ward Lambert – Harper, Lambert & Brown What a Lawyer Wants in an Expert
UCSC Social Meeting	2 nd Thursday	14 July 2011	Ball Game Drive vs. BlueClaws
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 Aug 2011	Speaker – Bob Boyd Solar Power – Solar PV Plants
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	13 Sep 2011	Christel Allen – A ² Consulting, LLC I-385 SCDOT Project
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	11 Oct 2011	Mark Spencer Topic – TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	08 Nov 2011	Future Tour of BMW's International Center for Automotive Research (ICAR) ??
UCSC Social Meeting ??	2 nd Tuesday	13 Dec 2011	Social Gathering ??
			Donald McDonald Panel Discussion
			Future Joint Meeting with NCMA is being discussed with Mike Criss
			Future Presentation on How to Prepare for the CCE exam