From the Executive Director of ACEC/NC:

ACEC recently released the results of its national study of the cost of contracting out services to the private sector. 28 states have completed their survey so far, but North Carolina is not one of them. I wanted to make another pitch on behalf of New York University (NYU) to urge firms to take a few minutes to respond to their survey in support of ACEC’s study in-house engineering costs at State DOTs versus contracting out to the private sector. We need a few more firms to respond to give NYU the data it needs to provide us with an analysis and results. Please click HERE to access the short online survey, and I would ask you to respond by June 9th.

Why is participating in this study important? It’s no secret that State DOT’s face unparalleled budget pressures along with the growing need to upgrade infrastructure.

But there are political and social issues. DOT’s are criticized for contracting out services, often by labor unions, which promote the belief that it’s cheaper to perform the work in-house.

Likewise, lawmakers have debated in-sourcing versus contracting out, once again with cost savings in mind. The new ACEC-commissioned study completed in states to date confirms the benefits of government contracting out, and supports utilizing the private sector as the most efficient method of providing infrastructure design services. That benefits ACEC member firms.

Once again, all survey submissions will be completely confidential and viewed only by university researchers – no firm names will be used in any way in the final report. ACEC/ North Carolina will be provided with the study findings as soon as they are available, to use in any way we see fit.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact ACEC’s Vice President of Government Affairs, Steve Hall (shall@acec.org). Steve is the point person in the national office on the study, and is also available to answer any questions that you might have. The lead researcher at NYU – Dr. Bud Griffis, PE – can be reached at griffis@nyu.edu.

Thank you for your attention and assistance in this effort!

James A. Smith, P.E.
Executive Director, ACEC/NC

ACEC/NC Executive Director Jim Smith with Senator Richard Burr and President George W. Bush last October
Available Positions

Junior Stormwater Engineer
Senior NEPA Planner
Traffic Engineer
Traffic Signal Design Engineer
A. MORTON THOMAS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
(301) 881-2545

Transportation Engineer,
Traffic Engineer
ACCELERATE ENGINEERING, PLLC
(919)-263-5678

Senior Civil Transportation Engineer
AECOM
(919) 854-6253

Civil Project Managers (2)
ALPHA & OMEGA GROUP
(919) 981-0310

SENIOR BIOLOGIST
(FOCUS-BAT RELATED PROJECTS) | CARY, NC
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST | CARY, NC
TRANSPORTATION EI | CHARLOTTE, NC
WATER RESOURCES
(STEM DRAINAGE) EI | CHARLOTTE, NC
ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT MANAGER | CARY, NC
SURVEY SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER | CHARLOTTE, NC

CALYX ENGINEERS + CONSULTANTS
(919) 836-4800

Senior Transportation Engineer PE
CLARK NEXEN
(910) 828-1876

Transportation Project Engineer
CLARK PATTERSON LEE, PC.
(704) 331-9131

June 1, 2017

Dear Colleagues –

Great to see you all at our record-breaking Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. with 1,600 attendees! Our Capitol Hill visits on infrastructure and tax reform were well-received by Representatives and Senators working on legislation that will affect our industry for years to come. Kevin Nealon was a big hit at our 50th Anniversary Engineering Awards Gala (where HDR won the Grand Conceptor Award for the world’s longest and largest floating bridge). We recognized outgoing chair Peter Strub and his executive committee members for their impressive service to the Council, and welcomed our new chair Satch Pecori and his ExCom members for 2017-18. We also thanked retiring Connecticut executive director Paul Brady for his many years of service, and welcomed his successor Bob Gonyeau. I, too, will be retiring a year from now after 20 years with ACEC, and Satch Pecori has named a Search Committee to find a successor. In the meantime, we have a big legislative and business agenda ahead of us this year, and we are gunning for major achievements.

~Dave

From the ACEC President’s Monthly Update:

General

• The ACEC Annual Convention last week focused on business issues of importance to our industry; attendees lobbied on Capitol Hill and heard prominent speakers including former White House Communications Director Nicolle Wallace; Fortune Magazine editor Geoff Colvin; a panel of Representatives Jeff Denham (R-CA), Pat Meehan (R-PA), and John Delaney (D-MD) moderated by Cook Political Report editor Amy Walter; and transportation experts including the PennDOT secretary, Amtrak director and BART manager.

• ACEC’s new national leadership took office with Satch Pecori succeeding Peter Strub as Chair; Manish Kothari becoming Chair-elect; Charlie Godzdiewski, Mike McMeekin, Gayle Roberts and Dave Bender succeeding Gregg Spagnolo, Lee Cammack, Phil Houser, and Abbie Goodman; and joining Joel Goodmonson, Mary Erchul, Tom Mosure, John Nelson and Dave Raymond on the 2017-18 Executive Committee.

• The Engineering Excellence Awards Gala – with a record 700 attendees – recognized the finest engineering achievements of the year, 162 projects, including Grand Conceptor Award winner HDR for Seattle’s new floating bridge.

Government Advocacy

• Lobbied for $1 trillion infrastructure package, tax reform, and government funding to prevent a shutdown.

• ACEC/PAC activities at the Convention raised a record $278,910; overall ACEC/PAC surpassed $440,000 in YTD receipts, well ahead of last year’s pace; ACEC/Hawaii, ACEC/Tennessee and ACEC/Massachusetts made their 2017 ACEC/PAC fundraising goals, bringing the total number of states at goal early this year to five.

• Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman John Barrasso (R-WY) thanked Convention attendees for their help in promoting infrastructure investment and regulatory reforms to move projects forward more efficiently.

• A Minuteman Fund grant was awarded to ACEC/Louisiana to help defray the cost of promoting a gas tax increase.

• Joined 33 other stakeholder groups, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, and AASHTO, in a letter to the House and Senate Budget Committees urging them to prioritize increased infrastructure
Reports & Updates

2017 JOINT LEGISLATIVE DAY WITH ACEC/NC, AIA, PENC & CAGC

On April 5, 2017, our industry allies from across North Carolina - AIA, CAGC & PENC joined together to show our strength during NC Day at the State House. This event gives us the opportunity to unite with our strategic partners and collectively voice our concerns with Legislators face-to-face. The day started out with a review of current construction industry legislation and a briefing on our state’s infrastructure needs. After lunch we moved to visits with legislators at the NCGA. Overall, another successful day lobbying for issues important to the A/E/C industry!

2017 CONSULTING CONGRESS DAYS

On April 25 and 26, 2017, the ACEC/NC “Magic Bus” transported our Citizen Lobbyists to Washington, DC for Consulting Congress Days, in conjunction with ACEC’s Spring National Convention.

The two-day excursion kicked-off with a reception at The City Club Washington for members of the North Carolina Congressional delegation. Attending were Representatives Meadows, Budd, Foxx, Rouzer, and aides for Holding. On Wednesday morning, everyone traveled to Capitol Hill for meetings with the delegation in the Rayburn House Office Building.

As always, the sessions allow ACEC/NC members to interact with our national representatives and advocate for issues critical to our industry.

• KEY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES Download

ACEC’S TRUST PROGRAMS:
Serving ACEC Members While Saving Them Money

“With a total annual ACEC Insurance savings of $45,000... I could kick myself for resisting ACEC’s repeated requests to join their plans earlier.”

-Kenneth P. Herceg, President, Ken Herceg & Associates, Inc.

ACEC’s Trust Programs are designed to enhance your membership investment by helping to control your firm’s costs. ACEC’s Life/Health, Retirement, and Business Insurance Trusts provide the highest quality services, help navigate legal and compliance requirements for each of your benefits packages, and deliver real savings for you to invest back into your company. The ACEC Trusts have created partnerships with reputable administrators and plan providers that offer valuable services with quality and competitive prices. In addition to providing business savings, these programs make for an attractive employee retention program in which individual employees benefit from your ACEC purchasing power.

For additional information on ACEC’s Trust programs, contact Jim Smith at 919-781-7934 and jsmith@acecnc.org, or Charles Kim at 202-347-7474 and ckim@acec.org.
Committees and Forums 2017-2018

ACEC/NC Committees and Forums are one of the most important benefits to our members. Each group has a Board nominated Chair and Vice-Chair who are selected each year from the active participants. Your entire staff can be involved. Following are the Committees’ and Forums’ Board Liaisons:

Click the Committee or Forum name to go to the Descriptions our website:

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<th>COMMITTEE/FORUM</th>
<th>BOARD LIAISON</th>
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<td>Senior Leaders Forum</td>
<td>Stephanie Hachem</td>
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| Transportation               | Paul Meehan    | Paul Jacobs | Jason Peterson (S&ME)  
                            |                |           | Keith Skinner (RK&K) |

ACEC/NC Summer Conference
Wrightsville Beach, NC

July 27, 2017 - July 30, 2017

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Holiday Inn Resort,
Wrightsville Beach
706 North Lumina Avenue
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480

Book Your Hotel Room Today!

The group rooms are available for booking from now through June 27, 2017.
Please make your reservation as soon as possible - the group room block will fill quickly!

Summer Conference Sponsorships

Sponsorship of the ACEC/NC Summer Conference provides your firm with the ability to enhance its image with engineering professionals from across the state.

Here is a list of sponsorship opportunities that will demonstrate your support and affiliate your firm with the ACEC/NC Summer Conference.
Welcome our Newest Council Members

**THE ACEC/NC BOARD** has welcomed the following new members:

- **BBFoster Consulting, PC**
  GREENSBORO
  [www.bbfosterconsulting.com](http://www.bbfosterconsulting.com)

- **CJS Conveyance, PLLC**
  RALEIGH

- **Perigon International Inc**
  MATHEWS
  [www.bbfosterconsulting.com](http://www.bbfosterconsulting.com)

- **Summer Consultants, Inc.,**
  RALEIGH
  [www.summerconsultants.com](http://www.summerconsultants.com)

- **Tower Engineering Professionals, Inc**
  RALEIGH
  [www.tepgroup.net](http://www.tepgroup.net)

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**President Trump Unveils Infrastructure Program**

President Trump unveiled his full budget proposal for the coming fiscal year recently. Many of the details were already published in the release of the "skinny budget" preview back in March, including a proposed 12% reduction in transportation program funding that includes cuts to transit capital investment grants, Amtrak, and TIGER multi-modal grants.

The budget proposal includes a six-page fact sheet on the Administration's infrastructure initiative. The document states that "the Administration's goal is to seek long-term reforms on how infrastructure projects are regulated, funded, delivered, and maintained." Funding will be coupled with incentives for private investment and regulatory permitting changes to facilitate project delivery.

The infrastructure plan includes $200 billion in additional funding over 10 years, starting with $5 billion in FY’18, $25 billion in FY’19, and ramping up to $50 billion in FY’21 and then declining down to $5 billion by FY’26. There are no details specified for how that funding would be allocated across any infrastructure modes or programs. The budget overview references a range of sectors, including surface transportation, airports, waterways, ports, drinking and waste water, broadband, and key federal facilities.

ACEC will be monitoring this proposed legislation closely and providing regular updates to you as they become available.

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**Headlines Shared by ACEC.org...**

- "State of the Bridges: Call it progress?" States double down on fixing bridges, but U.S. makes little gain
  [ROADS & BRIDGES](http://www.roadsandbridges.com) Article by Bill Wilson May 02, 2017

- "Health Care Reform and What it Means for Member Firms"
  Memo from David Raymond <draymond@acec.org>, May 04, 2017

- "Mayors’ group creates infrastructure task force to work with Trump"
  BY MELANIE ZANONA - 05/08/17 11:17 AM EDT

- "Two Wastewater Projects Attain Energy Savings Using Different Approaches"
  [Industrial WaterWorld](http://www.industrialwaterworld.com) (05/17) Wood, Paul

- "ACEC fights "Blacklisting" of Member Firms Working on Border Wall"
  Memo from David Raymond <draymond@acec.org>, May 22, 2017.
Members in the News

WK DICKSON WELCOMES NEW MANAGER TO THE WILMINGTON REGIONAL OFFICE

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina – WK Dickson & Co., Inc. is pleased to announce the addition of JULIE HELLMANN, PE as the firm’s newest Vice President and Regional Manager. Julie assumes responsibility for the operation of the firm’s Wilmington, NC area office and will play a significant role in directing much of the growth of WK Dickson’s overall infrastructure consulting services throughout the coastal area of the Carolinas. With over 20 years of service in the water resources industry, Julie has proven success in operations, sales, and project management. She previously served as a vice president and business development manager for water resources at HDR Engineering in Charlotte, NC, and later as a sales manager and engineer at Hach Company and Heyward, Inc. She is active in the water resources industry having been a trustee, treasurer, and chair of NC AWWA-WEA as well as serving on the national board of directors of Water for People.

“We’re lucky to have her with us,” said David Peeler, PE, president and chief executive officer of WK Dickson. “Julie will play an integral role in helping WK Dickson continue to grow. Her established relationships within the industry combined with her leadership skills will serve our clients well.”

Julie earned her Bachelor of Science in environmental engineering from Michigan Technological University and her Master of Science in civil and environmental engineering from North Carolina State University. She is a licensed professional engineer in both North Carolina and South Carolina.

FRESEE AND NICHOLS EXPANSION TO PROVIDE REGIONAL INVESTMENT SERVICES AND CAPABILITIES

GREENSBORO, North Carolina – April 3, 2017 – Freese and Nichols, Inc., a consulting firm that serves municipalities, counties and utilities across the Southeast, has expanded its presence in North Carolina by opening an office in Greensboro. This increased regional investment enhances the capabilities and services provided by the firm’s team in Raleigh.

“Our new office strengthens our ability to serve clients and foster new relationships in the Triad, as well as in western North Carolina and southern Virginia,” said Mike Ways, North Carolina division manager. “Freese and Nichols has built a solid reputation throughout the region, and I am confident that the Greensboro team will provide the same outstanding service that our partners have come to expect from us.”

Freese and Nichols provides a broad range of services to plan, design and manage public infrastructure projects. In 2016, the firm acquired Lotie Solutions, based in Graham, which specializes in geomorphology, stormwater management and environmental science.

Bipartisan Senate Water Bill Funds CSO Projects, Expands QBS

Reprinted with permission from American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and Last Word, May 2017.

Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD) and John Boozman (R-AR) introduced legislation this week that authorizes funding to control wet weather discharges and expands Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) for federally-funded water projects.

The bill authorizes $1.8 billion over five years to assist communities with projects to control combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, and storm water discharges. The measure would also expand the requirement to use QBS for engineering services under the State Revolving Fund program to include drinking water projects.

Both provisions were adopted as part of a larger water bill in the Senate last year. ACEC is working with the bill’s sponsors to promote passage, either as a stand-alone bill or as part of a larger infrastructure package this year.

###

CALYX ENGINEERS AND CONSULTANTS OPENS NEW OFFICE IN ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA

CALYX Engineers and Consultants, a leading Southeastern civil and environmental engineering firm, is pleased to announce the opening of its Rock Hill, South Carolina office.

Principal and transportation program manager, Steve Drum, PE, leads the Rock Hill office. “We’ve had our eye on a South Carolina location,” says Drum. “CALYX has an ongoing and successful working relationship with the South Carolina Department of Transportation and numerous South Carolina municipalities,” he explains, “having an office in-state will help us better serve our clients and further our relationships.”

Rock Hill is CALYX’s fifth location. Headquartered in Cary, North Carolina, the firm also has offices in Charlotte, North Carolina, and Roswell and Columbus, Georgia. “We’re growing,” says Drum. “We expect to add more than thirty new employees this year alone. It’s the right time to expand.” CALYX’s newest address is 448 Lakeshore Pky, Suite 215, Rock Hill, SC 29730.
ACEC-backed legislation to create a dedicated trust fund to support water infrastructure projects.

- Senators Rob Portman (R-OH) and Mazie Hirono (D-HI) reintroduced legislation to curtail the use of one-step design-build and reverse-auctions on federal projects.

- Lobbied House and Senate appropriators to fully fund U.S. foreign aid agencies in the 2018 budget and to increase use of U.S. firms in USAID work.

- Joined with coalition allies in urging the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to revamp its rules on Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) so they align with other federal agency requirements.

- FIDIC and ACEC’s International Committee lobbied the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank to increase their use of QBS in their procurements.

- ACEC’s Federal Agencies Committee met with GSA political appointees to press for the exclusion of engineering services on the Federal Supply Schedule and increased use of engineering focused procurements.

- Urged Congress to support the S Corporation Modernization Act of 2017, which would update rules that govern the day-to-day management of S corporations.

- Philip Houser (IL) joined the 2017 Capitol Club (members who contribute $5,000 to ACEC/PAC each year), joining Anthony Bartolomeo (PA), David Bills (HI), John Carrato (IL), Tom Collins (IL), Jeffery McBride (MD), Terry Neimeyer (MD), Judith Nitsch (MA), Satch Pecori (IL), Gary Raba (TX), Milo Rivero (NY), Mitch Simpler (NY), Kenneth Smith (LA), Peter Strub (SC), Jerry Stump (TN), Jason Webber (FL), and Jerry Wolverton (GA).


- 23 participants graduated from the inaugural class of ACEC’s Pathways to Executive Leadership program at this year’s Annual Convention; registration for Class 2 is open now.

- With 31 registered sites and more than 200 participants, April’s most popular online class, The Battle of the (Paper) Bulge: Document Retention Issues and Best Practices for Design Professionals, examined document retention from a practical and legal perspective.


- RCEP added a new education provider, Surtech Engineering, for a total 149.

###

**June Online Classes:**

How Oh What a Feeling – From Bland to Brand; Retaining Great Marketing Talent in 10 Easy Steps; When the Buck Stops with You – Risk Management Strategies for Designers of Alternative Project Delivery/Design-Build; Emerging Technologies for Engineers; Conversation and Collaboration Win Sales; PowerPoints Simplified! Tools and Tips for Presentations That Bring Results; Aptitude, Talent, & Interest: Becoming A Successful A/E Project Manager; Increase Shareholder Liquidity without an ESOP: The Better Alternative; Taking Stock of the Engineering Industry in 2017 - The Economic and Market Trends Shaping the ; How to Avoid Organizational Amnesia: Transferring Employee Knowledge and Skills Before They Walk Out the Door.

**ACEC/NC and Coalition Members Successfully Oppose PVC Pipe Mandate**

Last year, ACEC/NC and its industry coalition members, successfully beat back an attempt to mandate the use of PVC pipe in a manner that interferes with the judgment of licensed engineers, but the battle continues. So far this year, ACEC has had an unbroken string of successes in killing such mandates in other states. We’ve prevented the PVC industry from making any headway in the U.S. Congress, but state fights have been particularly fierce in Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and South Carolina. With help from industry allies, including water utility groups, we’ve effectively resisted. Now we’re also putting together a resource center on our website www.acec.org to assist states facing this challenge, as well as looking at what further steps we can take to help. ACEC/NC will remain diligent in preventing this mandate from being reintroduced in the North Carolina General Assembly.

###
Qualifications Based Selection Process — Easy as One, Two, Three

1. Select the best Qualified Firm.
   - Establish Evaluation Criteria.
   - Solicit Statements of Qualifications from Interested Firms.
   - Develop a Short List of 3-5 Firms.
   - Investigate References, Jobs, and Office. Invite for Interviews.

2. Jointly define scope and contract terms, taking advantage of the selected firm.
   - Invite the Highest Ranked Firm to Assist in Defining the Scope of Work.
   - Establish Contract Terms.
   - Agreement???
     - NO
     - Ask for Fee Proposal.
     - Agreement???
       - NO
       - RETAIN THE FIRM! Enter into Written Contract
     - YES

3. Retain the firm on the basis of an acceptable proposal.
   - Go to Next Firm on the Short List

QBS Myths Debunked: Did you know...

“Units of local government may now (only in writing) exempt from QBS particular projects with an estimated Professional Fee of less than $50,000.”
Projects with an estimated Professional Fee greater than $50,000 must use QBS.

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ACEC-NC RALEIGH NORTH CAROLINA
150 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1340
Raleigh North Carolina 27601

HOURS OF OPERATION:
Weekdays, Monday through Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

Please use the Alexander Square Parking Deck that sits across Fayetteville Street from the Wells Fargo Capitol Center.

120 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
Hourly: $1.00 for each half hour
$12.00 daily maximum

The office is closed on the following holidays:

- New Years Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Day

Contact ACEC/NC: 919-781-7934 or info@acecnc.org