A one-of-a-kind structure, the Selective Water Withdrawal facility revitalizes downstream migrating fish patterns disrupted over 40 years ago, prevents fish from entering powerhouse intakes, and at the same time restores Deschutes River basin river currents and water temperatures to historic conditions.

The structure is anchored 270 feet below the water’s surface and measures just 30 feet short of the Statue of Liberty. Sited in a steep canyon area, the entire facility had to be built on the water using a precisely choreographed combination of floating barges and marine engineering.

The facility works by drawing intake water from different levels in the reservoir and mixing colder bottom water with warmer surface water. The ability to control these temperature gradients restores natural water currents needed to attract and guide migrating fish. In the first year, more than 100,000 juvenile salmon and steelhead successfully migrated past the dam, easily surpassing fisheries agency’s expectations and the hopes of the owners.

The project, jointly owned by Portland General Electric and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, required careful planning and collaboration between some of the Northwest’s best engineers, hydrologists, marine specialists and construction contractors.

“This project may revolutionize fish passage and water quality in high head dams; produces positive ecological, social and economic impacts, both upstream and downstream.” – Judge’s comment

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“This project may revolutionize fish passage and water quality in high head dams; produces positive ecological, social and economic impacts, both upstream and downstream.” – Judge’s comment
Eight projects receive Grand Awards from a field of thirty-four entries

**Grand Award**
**CATENA CONSULTING ENGINEERS**
**Shriners Hospital for Children - Portland**
The Shriners Hospital was an aging facility with increased patient needs. After looking at several options, the team designed a five-story, 73,000-square foot hospital addition that spans 90 feet over an existing four-story parking structure. The addition was designed to accommodate a future three-story addition. The innovative concept of having the addition span over the existing parking structure saved the owner $20 million dollars in project costs. The structure incorporates Buckling Restrained Braced Frames for seismic resistance, an innovative system that saved the owner in construction more than 10 percent in structural costs.

“Very challenging site with elegant resolution to the presented challenges.”
--Judge’s comment

Pictured with their project’s Grand Award are, from left: **Craig Tompkins**, SRG Partnership, Inc.; **Tom Ochab**, Shriners Hospitals for Children; **Christopher Thompson** and **Jake Stept**, Catena Consulting Engineers; **Chris Douglass**, Andersen Construction Company; and **Skip Stanaway**, SRG Partnership.

**Grand Award**
**CH2M HILL, INC. Sellwood Bridge Project for Multnomah County**
When it came time to fix or replace the 85-year-old Sellwood Bridge spanning the Willamette River, there was a wide range of opinions. Consensus required an inventive approach—one involving a community task force and policy group, and an innovative, “Build-A-Bridge” website to gather public input on more than 120 alternatives. The award-winning outreach program included web-based interactive tools, social media, community meetings, stakeholder briefings, newsletters, speakers bureau, advisory committees, and bridge banner. After four years of study and numerous challenges, the preferred alternative is a new structure on the existing alignment, with enhanced facilities for car, truck, transit, bicycles and pedestrians. It is a forward-thinking, sustainable solution, with all additional trip capacity devoted to alternate modes—transit and new bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

“Provides transformative way to engage and interact with public on significant projects.”
--Judge’s comment

Pictured above are, from left: **Steve Katko**, CH2M HILL; **Jon Ferguson**, T.Y. Lin International; **Ian Cannon** and **Michael Eaton**, Multnomah County; **Marcy Schwartz**, CH2M HILL; **Ross Roberts**, Metro; **Michael Pullen**, Multnomah County; **Vaughn Brown**, JLA Public Involvement; and **Sue Keil**, City of Portland Bureau of Transportation.
Grand Award DAVID EVANS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.  I-5: Victory Blvd. to Lombard St. for Oregon Dept. of Transportation

Ever since Interstate 5 was constructed in the 1960s, traffic traveling south within the 1.3 mile section between the Victory Blvd. and Lombard St. interchanges was reduced from three lanes to two, creating a bottleneck. This project had four major objectives:

“Seamless execution of engineering design to achieve project goals millions under budget, ahead of schedule and with a minimum of disruption to traveling public.”

---Judge’s comment

- Widen I-5 southbound between the Victory Blvd. and Lombard St. interchanges from two lanes to three with minimal loss of mobility during construction;
- Bring the highway section up to current ODOT standards;
- Prepare the corridor on the Oregon side for the Columbia River Crossing; and
- Support future local improvements.

The result was a highly successful project outcome. I-5: Victory Blvd. to Lombard St. was completed early with negligible impacts to the public and corridor mobility during construction, and was delivered nearly five million dollars under budget.

Grand Award JACOBS ASSOCIATES  Balch Consolidation Conduit Shafts and Pipelines for James W. Fowler Company/ City of Portland

The Balch Consolidation Conduit (BCC) Shafts and Pipelines project consists of about two kilometers of reinforced concrete pipeline installed by microtunneling and six shafts up to 75 feet deep. The project has challenging and varying ground conditions, including contaminated soil and groundwater from past industrial activities. The cutter soil mixing (CSM) method, a soil mixing method new to the United States, was chosen to construct tunnel shafts because it offered the project benefits in cost and schedule over alternative methods of construction.

CSM mixes water and cement with in-situ soils to create “soilcrete” panels. By implementing the CSM method, several construction tasks were completed using a single carrier machine, including shaft shoring, ground improvements, and tunnel break-in and break-out features. This maximized the use of this single asset on the BCC project, and minimized the need for additional specialty construction machinery. A side benefit to CSM was that it reduced the amount of waste material that needed to be hauled off because of its use of the in situ soil materials in shaft wall construction. The BCC project is the first use of CSM in Oregon. It is also the first known use in the U.S. of CSM panels as ground improvement. (see more Grand Awards continued on pages 4-5)

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“A willingness to implement a new technique in variable sub-surface ground conditions.”

---Judge’s comment
Grand Award  
**KPFF CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
University of Michigan Museum of Art for Allied Works Architecture

A renovation and expansion to double The University of Michigan, Museum of Art’s historic building provides increased educational and experiential opportunities in the arts. To support the continual cross-campus student travel through the site and foster a sense of spaciousness in adjacent exterior courtyards, the architect and engineer designed the arms as enormous cantilevers and illuminated the galleries and circulation space with natural daylight. At the time of design, no cantilevered structures of this magnitude and proportion had been built – up to 60 feet long and carrying significant loads from the two-story building. KPFF used reinforced concrete wall/beams for the cantilevered portions of the structure, which touched the ground at only three main bearing points. A lightweight steel tube structure provides visual ribbons of support for the glazing system and the roof. The tubes span 50 feet vertically from the ground to the roof without intermittent support and then clear span horizontally across the roof without interior supports, allowing light to radiate throughout the space.

“**Innovative structural system—stretching the boundaries—in an effort to retain the open space—a brilliant expression of the structural integrity of the building.”**  
---Judge’s comment

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Grand Award  
**PAE CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
LOTT Administrative Educational Center and Water Quality Laboratory for LOTT Clean Water Alliance

The LOTT Administrative Educational Center and Water Quality Lab is a four story building that features an interpretive center and water education classroom, a board room, renovated laboratory and administrative office tower. LOTT is not your every day wastewater treatment plant. Rather than treat wastewater as a liability, LOTT has turned it into an asset. The building heats and cools itself without a boiler, cooling tower, or geothermal field. A new cogeneration plant burns methane captured from the digestion process and transfers the heat to a low temperature water loop which provides heating for all buildings in the plant. LOTT is doing its part to reduce potable water use by treating wastewater effluent to Class A standard reclaim water that is used at the site for water features, irrigation and flushing needs. The reclaim water is also pumped to the adjacent Children’s Museum as well as back to the community. LOTT’s new state of the art facility is on track to achieve LEED Platinum and is a part of a key city development plan for the East Bay area of Olympia.

“The **Innovative way to express a utility for the greater public good.”**  
---Judge’s comment
Pursuing a LEED Platinum rating, the project was recognized by Forbes.com as one of the world’s most high-tech green buildings. Renewable energy captured from the ground by 200 geothermal wells, each 340 feet deep, will provide most of the building’s heat. These wells are also used to cool the building over twice as efficiently as more conventional high efficiency chillers. Indoor air quality is maintained by a dedicated outdoor air system that provides fresh air to each space, using heat recovered from the exhaust air to pre-condition the incoming air. The lighting systems maintain proper illumination levels in the workspaces, while maximizing use of natural daylight and minimizing electricity use. All sanitary wastewater leaving the building is treated in a Living Machine that uses plants and microorganisms to clean the water by natural processes. Recovered water is used for flushing of toilets, irrigation, and evaporative cooling.

The project is destined to achieve its goal of streamlining Port operations, while projecting leadership to Oregon and the world as a champion of green building design.

“Flagship project with systemic integration of ‘bleeding edge’ sustainable technologies.”
—Judge’s comment

Shannon & Wilson served as geotechnical design consultant on this challenging project that safeguards the City of Portland’s primary water supply from natural and human hazards. Prior to this project, two large-diameter water conduits carrying water from the Bull Run watershed to Portland crossed the Sandy River on a 114-year-old steel bridge. With an objective of reducing the exposed conduits’ vulnerability to earthquakes, floods, volcanic debris flows, and terrorist acts, the City of Portland decided to relocate the conduits underground. The Kiewit Pacific/Parsons design-build team proposed a conventional tunneling alternative. Shannon & Wilson provided slope stability evaluations for excavations, soil and rock characterization and critical design parameters. Twin welded steel pipelines were assembled within the tunnel, allowing the client to inspect the welds before the pipes were encased in concrete. The pipelines now cross securely under the Sandy River, and the old bridge was disassembled and removed, providing a secure, long term water delivery system for the City of Portland.

“Selection of design and construction methods that ensure long-term performance of a critical piece of infrastructure.”
—Judge’s comment
Twenty-five Engineering Excellence projects take home Honor Awards

HONOR AWARDS

4B Engineering & Consulting, LLC
- The Meridian Dewatering System for Misscom, LLC
- Pringle Creek Geothermal/Irrigation System for Pringle Creek Community - Sustainable Investments

Anderson-Perry & Associates, Inc.
- City of Stanfield Fights its Way out of Floodplain

Berger/ABAM
- Circle Avenue Pedestrian Bridge for City of Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation
- Berth 9 Grain Export Terminal for Port of Longview, Washington

Black & Veatch
- Rogue River Intake Improvements for Medford Water Commission

CH2M HILL, Inc.
- S.E. Anderson Road Reconstruction for City of Damascus

People’s Choice Award
David Evans and Associates and GRI Geotechnical and Environmental
- Oneonta Gorge Tunnel Rehabilitation for Oregon Dept. of Transportation

Degenkolb Engineers
- Portland State University Science Building 2, Seismic Upgrade

Harper Houf Peterson Righellis, Inc.
- 172nd Avenue for Clackamas County
- East Burnside/Couch Couplet for City of Portland
- Utility Mapping Project for Washington State University, Vancouver

Interface Engineering
- University of Oregon John E. Jacqua Academic Center for Student Athletes for Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects

Kennedy/Jenks Consultants
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion for City of La Center, Washington

Kittelson & Associates, Inc.
- Mt. Hood Highway Road Safety Audit for Oregon Department of Transportation

(more Honor Awards on page 7)

Pictured during the awards dinner are, from left: ACEC Oregon Past President (2007-08) Mel Sears, Isabella Bejarano and Jack Gonsalves, all with Parsons Brinckerhoff.

Sharing a laugh at the awards dinner are, from left: Rod Bliss, Casey Overcamp, Steve Fox and Mike McNeill, Epic Land Solutions.

Pictured at right are Gerry Heslin, Cornforth Consultants, Inc. and Gene Tupper, GRI.
People’s Choice Award goes to DEA for Oneonta Gorge Tunnel Rehab

Pictured at the awards dinner are Charles Radosta (left) and Anthony Yi, Kittelson & Associates, Inc.

Otak, Inc.
- 1st Street and Main Avenue Sidewalks and Bike Facilities for City of Irrigon

Professional Service Industries, Inc. (PSI)
- Lake Oswego Interceptor Sewer Prototype Testing for Advanced American Construction

R&W Engineering
- Portland Water Bureau - Meter Shop Relocation for Gazley Plowman Architects

URS Corporation
- Clark County High-Capacity Transit Study for Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council

Kleinfelder West, Inc.
- Encore Building - Block 19 Redevelopment for Hoyt Street Properties
- Flat Water Wind for Gestamp Wind

KPFF Consulting Engineers
- Simon and Helen Director Park for Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects and Portland Parks & Recreation

Kramer-Gehlen & Associates, Inc. and HDJ Design Group
- Clover Island Shoreline Improvements for Port of Kennewick, WA

Murray, Smith & Associates, Inc.
- Vacuum Sewer System Project for Miles Crossing Sanitary Sewer District

OBEC Consulting Engineers
- Delta Ponds Pedestrian Bridge for Oregon Department of Transportation

THANK YOU SPONSORS

People’s Choice Award Sponsor
PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF

Gold Sponsors
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Kittelson & Associates, Inc.

Patrons
Catena Consulting Engineers, GRI, HDR, KPFF Consulting Engineers

Friends
David Evans and Associates, Jacobs Associates, Kleinfelder, OBEC Consulting Engineers, R&W Engineering

Media Sponsor
Daily Journal of Commerce

PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARD goes to David Evans and Associates, Inc. for receiving the most votes for their Oneonta Gorge Tunnel Rehabilitation display panel. Pictured from left, are: Phil Boultinghouse, David Evans and Associates, Inc.; Darlene Rose and Bob Hadlow, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT); Michael Zimmerman, GRI; Kristen Stallman, ODOT; Kelly Burnell and Kevin Bracy, David Evans and Associates, Inc.; Mark Beeson, Adam Markell and Ken Earlywine, ODOT.

Pictured with their display panel for the Delta Ponds Pedestrian Bridge project are, from left: Andy Howe, OBEC Consulting Engineers; Mark Schoening, Patrick Cox and Michelle Cahill, City of Eugene; Greg Ausland and Gary Rayor, OBEC Consulting Engineers.
From the president: Economy, leadership, staying grounded
by Troy Bowers, P.E., Murray, Smith & Associates

Another year behind us and another is well underway—
I am amazed how fast time goes when we are busy keeping up with daily tasks at hand, doing projects, and chasing work. With the economy being forefront in our lives and its affect on our livelihoods, becoming myopic is all too easy. It’s good to step back and gain perspective once in awhile. I am fortunate to gain such perspective through the very good people I collaborate with on board and committee work professionally and through my personal life. While giving back through these collaborations, I have become richer and have gained more than I have given in so many ways.

With so many Oregonians and southwest Washingtonians struggling for so long now in this economic downturn, the best thing we can do for others (and ourselves) is to do our part to return to a strong economy through our good works and through advocating for laws and public funding where it can make a difference. With engineering typically being a leading indicator during construction downturns, we have felt the pain in our sector early but are starting to see indicators of things turning around. It is time to prepare for better times ahead and to position our industry for reemergence and opportunity just as we have in prior economic cycles.

Through ACEC Oregon, we have strengthened our position in the business world this past summer, fall and early winter in order to correct inequities regarding business practices at the state level. With the legislature back at work, we are ready to get our priorities passed. At the top of the list is improving our QBS law in the state, making it comprehensive for any dollar spent on A&E services supporting public projects. We have a good coalition and a strong legislative sponsor. We are also working to address unintended consequences of legislation two years ago affecting liability and insurance coverage on many of our state contracts. Additionally, we continue to implement a court ruling which affected economic loss doctrine. Here, we seek to enforce contract remedies for professional services as the required course of remedy if the chain of contracts has not been broken. We are engaging stakeholders on each of these priorities in order to work through issues together where we can. Our Engineers’ Day at the Capitol is a very good opportunity to be seen by legislative decision-makers and for our priorities to be heard. With our encouragement, they can also provide funding to programs which build the economic foundation for industry to leverage and to secure our economic recovery. Come join us and be heard on February 22 in Salem.

Lots of good work continues through our other committees which have us engaged and conducting business. While the total number of employees represented by ACEC Oregon has reduced over the past couple of years, the number of member firms remains strong through new membership. We continue to welcome the new firms and their staff and look forward to harnessing their new energy on committees to achieve our common goals together.

Our Engineering Excellence Awards banquet was bigger and better than ever this year and reflects the good work we do for society and, importantly, represents our increasing willingness to stand up and acknowledge our good works so others can see and take note. We can best influence others when we have standing in the community; being visible and engaged is an essential part of leadership. Thank you to those who are raising our level of leadership here and nationally on important issues for our industry and the economy.

Let’s remember to reflect on the potential in each of us, our firms and our engineering community and what we can continue to do for society and our planet. Get involved; if you already are involved, thank you and stay involved. Together, we can and do make a difference. I am thankful to those who have set the example for me to follow and for those who have given me the opportunity to lead. We need to take advantage of what others have done for us and to leverage it for the benefit of the many. Let’s not forget to set the example and to provide opportunities for others so we can all realize our potential.

While doing good works for the benefit of all, let’s remain grounded in humanity and family. In the face of recent tragedies, let’s use these painful experiences to remember what is most precious in life and to find balance and purpose in all we do.
A comparison of ACEC’s political action committees
by ACEC Oregon’s new PAC Champion Bob Carson, Mason, Bruce & Girard, Inc.

As a member of ACEC, you play a crucial role in ensuring ACEC’s success in all aspects of the engineering industry—especially in advancing our industry’s legislative initiatives. A strong political action committee (PAC) is essential to maintaining our legislative strength in Washington D.C. and in Oregon, and we need your support of both the ACEC/PAC and ACEC Oregon PAC.

ACEC’s national and state Political Action Committees make sure that the voice of our industry is heard on Capitol Hill and in Salem. ACEC/PAC and ACEC Oregon PAC are the primary weapons in our industry’s political arsenal to help elect candidates to office who support pro-business, pro-engineering positions. These PACs are bipartisan and operate out in the open in full compliance with the Federal Election Campaign Act and applicable state laws. Each state is represented by a “PAC Champion” to help meet its annual PAC fundraising goals. I was asked by the ACEC Oregon Board of Directors to serve as ACEC Oregon’s new PAC Champion, filling the large shoes left by Jack Beemer, who had served in that role from 2008 through 2010. (Please see related stories on pages 12 and 14.)

One of the first tasks I undertook in my new role was to dive in and really understand the differences between the ACEC/PAC and the ACEC Oregon PAC. I’d always had lingering confusion about this and I know others have too. The major difference between the two PACs is that ACEC/PAC supports national races, and ACEC Oregon PAC is used to support local races. Another big difference is that ACEC/PAC can only accept personal contributions, while ACEC Oregon PAC can also accept corporate contributions. Both PACs invest in pro-business candidates who support our industry and legislation that is important to us. The table below provides more information about these two PACs.

Invoices for suggested contributions to the ACEC Oregon PAC were sent out to member firms in November and contributions are starting to come in. In the coming months you will start hearing from your ACEC Board members asking for your personal support for the ACEC/PAC. Thank you in advance for your support of ACEC’s PACs, which are critical to the success of your industry, profession, and career.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparing ACEC’s PACs</th>
<th>ACEC/PAC (National)</th>
<th>ACEC Oregon PAC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>Supports federal (congressional) races.</td>
<td>Supports state races, typically those running for House and Senate seats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC Donations to Candidates</td>
<td>ACEC/PAC may give up to $10,000 to a federal candidate per election cycle ($5,000 for the primary and $5,000 for the general election).</td>
<td>ACEC Oregon PAC can make unlimited contributions to candidates under Oregon law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC Donations to Oregon Candidates in 2009-10 Election Cycle</td>
<td>$29,500</td>
<td>$26,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giving to the PAC</td>
<td>Only personal (or partnership or sole proprietorship) checks or credit cards can be used to donate to ACEC/PAC. Individuals working for ACEC-member firms with a current approval form on file may give up to $5,000 per calendar year to ACEC/PAC.</td>
<td>Oregon law allows unlimited corporate or personal contributions to ACEC Oregon PAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current PAC Fundraising Goal</td>
<td>Oregon: $14,492 for 2011 Nationally: $920,000 for 2011</td>
<td>$20,000 for FY 2010-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Year’s PAC Fundraising Goal</td>
<td>Oregon: $12,363 for 2010 Nationally: $900,000</td>
<td>$20,000 for FY 2009-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Year’s Contributions to the PAC</td>
<td>Oregon: $13,200 Nationally: $580,000</td>
<td>$11,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2010 Election Success Rates</td>
<td>Overall success rate of 86%, including an impressive 94% in Senate races.</td>
<td>Won 16 of 17 races in the Oregon Senate, and 38 of 40 races in the House. Overall, 54 out of 57 = 94% success rate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Among ourselves...

The ACEC Oregon Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following new member firms. Please welcome...

3J CONSULTING, INC., 4780 SW Joshua Street, Tualatin, OR 97062, phone (503) 946-9365, www.3j-consulting.com. Firm representative and key principal is John Howarth. Other key staff is Jesse Emerson. 3J Consulting is a multi-disciplinary firm specializing in project management and design in civil engineering for public and private development projects. The firm also provides urban design and planning for the public and private sectors, from two lot partitions to master planned communities and subdivisions.

AECOM, 333 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 225, Portland, OR 97204, phone (503) 227-1042, www.aecom.com. Firm representative is Marc Peterson. Other key personnel include Kevin Coulton, Marilee Stander and Bob Ward. AECOM is ranked number one on Engineering News-Record’s list of the Top 500 design firms for Pure Design. The firm’s multidisciplinary staff of engineers, planners, construction specialists and other professionals are strategically deployed in offices across the Americas and worldwide. AECOM’s unique perspective brings together global resources with local expertise. The firm provides professional and technical services utilizing creative solutions for all challenges, large and small.


GEOPACIFIC ENGINEERING, INC., 13910 SW Galbreath Drive, Suite 102, Sherwood, OR 97140, phone (503) 625-4455, www.geopacificeng.com. Firm representative is Tara Bircher. Other key personnel are Scott Hardman and James Imbrie. The firm specializes in geotechnical engineering services, applied earth sciences, geoenvironmental services and geotechnical quality control services for construction. The firm provides geotechnical consulting services to industrial, commercial, residential and municipal clients throughout Oregon and Washington.

KELLER ASSOCIATES, INC., 780 Commercial Street SE, Suite 202, Salem, OR 97301, phone (503) 910-2183, www.kellerassociates.com. Primary contact is Peter Olsen. Other key personnel are James Bledsoe and Rod Linja. The firm provides engineering services for the planning, design, and construction administration of public works and infrastructure projects. Service disciplines include transportation, municipal water and wastewater, storm water, structural, and related services.

NORTHWEST ENGINEERING SERVICE, INC., 14835 SW 72nd Avenue, Tigard, OR 97224, phone (503) 639-7525, www.nwesi.com. Firm rep is Joseph Helm. Other key personnel are Jerry Burstedt, Jerry Conner, David Cunningham, Kim Dickey and Kevin Fish. The firm provides testing, verification and commissioning of buildings and process systems.

REYES ENGINEERING, INC., 10555 SE 82nd Avenue, Suite 203, Happy Valley, OR 97086, phone (503) 771-1986, www.reyeseng.com. Firm representative is Flaviano Reyes. The firm specializes in renewable energy, lighting design, electrical design services and telecom/security design.

David Evans and Associates, Inc. announces Al Barkouli as the firm’s CEO. In addition to becoming CEO, Barkouli will also remain the company’s president. Barkouli succeeds Ken Wightman, who served as CEO from 2004 to 2010. Wightman will remain with the company as CEO of David Evans Enterprises, the firm’s holding company. Barkouli served as the company’s chief operating officer, executive vice president and Portland office manager. David Evans and Associates is known for its work on several high-profile Portland municipal projects, including the Columbia River Crossing.

Degenkolb Engineers is celebrating its 70th anniversary. Established in 1940, Degenkolb is one of the nation’s leading structural engineering firms in the design and seismic strengthening of buildings.

Degenkolb also announces that Stacy Bartoletti has been named Chief Executive Officer, in addition to his position as President and Chief Operating Officer. At the same time, senior principal Jim Malley was named Degenkolb’s Vice President of Engineering. Chris Poland, CEO for the past 25 years, remains Chair of Degenkolb’s Board of Directors and will lead the firm’s New Technologies Group.

The firm also announces Kent Yu’s promotion to Principal. Yu manages the Portland office. He is active in mitigating tsunami risk and helped design the country’s first tsunami evacuation building in Cannon Beach. Next term he will serve as chair of the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Committee.

Harper Houf Peterson Righehills added Monica Krueger and Todd Fleming as civil engineers and Penny Williams as a marketing coordinator. The firm provides civil and structural engineering, planning, landscape architecture, surveying and project management services.

Marvin Chorzempa & Larson, PC has moved. The firm is now located at River Forum I, Suite 515, 4380 SW Macadam Avenue, Portland, OR 97239. Phone and fax numbers remain the same.

Mason, Bruce & Girard, Inc., a natural resources consulting firm headquartered in Portland, recently added seven new staff members to meet its increasing project requests. Dr. Chuck Stiff is a 30-year forestry expert in tree and stand-level growth and yield modeling. Jim Schriever, Director of Business Development, is nationally renowned in geospatial imaging with 22 years of experience in GIS, forestry, and operations. Two additional forestry staff include Dr. Douglas Larmour, forest analyst and programmer, and Zach Dewees, forest management,
Among ourselves… (continued from page 8)

planning, and inventory specialist. Sebastian Dudek is a programmer who combines forestry and GIS experience. Matthew Kurkowski applies his GIS experience to forestry maps and forestry inventory assessments. Jenn Stebbings joins MB&G as a biologist with expertise in wildlife, wetlands, permitting, water quality, and monitoring.

Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) announces Stefano (Stef) Viggiano has joined the firm as transit planning manager. He will manage the planning function in PB’s Portland office. He most recently served as assistant general manager for Lane Transit District in Eugene managing development and implementation of the district’s progressive and very successful EmX (BRT) system from its 1995 conception until 2010.

Professional Service Industries (PSI) promoted Britton Gentry to geotechnical and environmental services department manager in its Portland office. Founded in 1881, PSI is an engineering, consulting and testing firm with 125 offices nationwide.

Shannon & Wilson has new phone and fax numbers. The new phone number is (503) 210-4750 and new fax is (503) 210-4890.

National News ACEC’s Board of Director’s has elected four new members to ACEC’s Executive Committee, with two-year terms beginning at the upcoming 2011 Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. ACEC Oregon Executive Director Alison Davis will serve as the NAECE (National Association of Engineering Council Executives) representative on the 2011-12 Executive Committee.

ACEC National: President’s monthly update, February 1, 2011
by ACEC President Dave Raymond

GENERAL
■ Executive Committee approved ACEC’s 2011-12 legislative agenda prioritizing passage of transportation, aviation, water and energy infrastructure; amended the Minuteman Fund strategic goal to accommodate a $2 million reserve war chest (subject to Board approval); underscored the importance of state leadership in meeting PAC goals; met jointly with the FIDIC Executive Committee to discuss international objectives of mutual concern; and with the ACEC/Hawaii leadership on membership issues.
■ ACEC/Illinois’ landmark legal victory two weeks ago, supported by the Minuteman Fund, affirmed that the scope of a design professional’s duty is limited to the terms of the contract.
■ ACEC/Connecticut was awarded a Minuteman Fund grant to help the MO defend the contracting-out of engineering services in the state.
■ ACEC/PAC’s final year-end receipts for 2010 were $580,000—again establishing ACEC/PAC as the top engineering Political Action Committee in the nation—and in the top 4 percent of all PACs; 30 states achieved their 2010 ACEC PAC goals, up from 29 in 2009.
■ Engineering Inc. won a “Bronze Eddie” from Folio Awards—the largest national competition recognizing excellence in magazine content—for a story on the use of social media in our industry.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
■ Updated state executive directors on ACEC legislative efforts in wake of President’s State of the Union address, emphasizing importance of lobbying program at the upcoming Spring Convention. Solicited names of State Coordinators to promote member participation in this program.
■ Gained support from key members of the new Congress for repeal of the 3 percent withholding mandate, including Congressmen Herger (R-CA) and Blumenauer (D-OR) taking the lead in the House; and Senators Snowe (R-ME), Brown (R-MA) and Vitter (R-LA) taking the lead on the Republican side in the Senate.
■ Met with the President’s Office of Procurement Policy and Small Business Administration to oppose federal in-sourcing and discuss changes to small business size guidelines.
■ Lobbied the Millennium Challenge Corporation and USAID for greater infrastructure spending and “buy American” priority.
■ Opposed Department of Labor proposed changes to the definition of a fiduciary for retirement plans that would adversely affect employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs).

INSTITUTE FOR BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
■ ACEC’s Contracts website has added the following resources: SIC Codes, Small Business Size Standards, Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations (DFAR), General Service Administration (GSA) Regulations, and Code of Federal Regulations.
■ Recent sell-out business webinars: Responding to Requests for Discounts or Unilateral Fee Reductions and Engineering Opportunities in the Upcoming Urban Water Crises.
■ Senior Executives Institute Class 16 focused on effective communication skills and development of business plans.

Pictured during the Engineering Excellence Awards dinner are, from left: Master of Ceremonies and ACEC Oregon Vice President Marc Butorac, Kittelson & Associates and ACEC Oregon President Troy Bowers, Murray, Smith & Associates.
Thank you, ACEC Oregon PAC donors!

Thank You to the following firms and individuals who contributed to the ACEC Oregon PAC (donations received July 30, 2010 through February 14, 2011):

- Anderson Engineering & Surveying
- CardnoWRG
- Charles Youngman, Inc.
- David Evans and Associates, Inc.
- Engineered Monitoring Solutions
- Gary Peterson (Shannon & Wilson)
- Kleinfelder West, Inc.
- Landau Associates, Inc.
- Miller Consulting Engineers
- Murray, Smith & Associates, Inc.
- OBEC Consulting Engineers
- Shannon & Wilson, Inc.
- Stephen Bryant (PSI)
- WEST Consultants

The ACEC Oregon PAC helps support candidates who are receptive to the political goals of our association. Please see related story on page 9, “Comparison of ACEC’s political action committees.”

If your firm is not listed and would like to contribute, please contact ACEC Oregon at (503) 292-2348 or mwebber@acecOregon.org.

Above left, newly elected state Rep. Patrick Sheehan, R-Clackamas, visits with Gary Peterson, Shannon & Wilson, Inc. during Engineering Excellence Award festivities. Sheehan was elected to his first term in the State House of Representatives in November. For the 2011 legislative session, Sheehan is appointed to serve as Co-Vice Chair of the Transportation and Economic Development Committee.

Pictured above at the election recap dinner are, from left: ACEC Oregon lobbyist Marshall Coba, CobaCo, LLC and ACEC Oregon President Troy Bowers, Murray, Smith & Associates, Inc.

Sen. Starr thanks ACEC Oregon for continued support

Pictured above at the election recap dinner held in November at The Governor Hotel in Portland are, from left: Mike Baker, David Evans and Associates, Inc.; Rebecca Starr; Jay Lyman, David Evans and Associates, Inc.; and Senator Bruce Starr (R-Hillsboro). Senator Starr thanked ACEC Oregon for its continuing support over the years, particularly during the recent re-election campaign.
Focus on risk management...

Project evaluation more important than ever

The following material is provided for informational purposes only. Before taking any action that could have legal or other important consequences, speak with a qualified professional who can provide guidance that considers your own unique circumstances.

As the economy dictates what has now become our ‘new normal’ design firms can feel compelled to compete for virtually every opportunity. Firm’s feel they can’t afford to be picky with the projects they pursue and aggressively go after RFPs they may have ignored in a better economy. When the bottom first dropped out of the economy, the largest change we saw were firms taking familiar project types, but in unfamiliar and far-away locales. The influx in RFPs from out of town firms was unparalleled. As the coffers gradually dried, selection standards eventually dwindled, and once choosy firms were now considering once off-limits project types.

In such an environment, project evaluation can often take a back seat. Design firms are less concerned about project risks. Their number one priority is getting the work. Yet it is in tough times such as these that project evaluation becomes more critical than ever. A design firm that decides to take on a risky or unfamiliar project needs to know the potential perils and how to best mitigate them. When firms say “yes” to a project they’ve typically said “no” to, they should proceed with caution and have their risk management toolkit fully stocked and ready for application.

Let’s look at several factors that must be weighed when evaluating potentially risky projects.

Type of Project
Some types of projects are so litigation-prone that only the most qualified—or most desperate—architect or engineer would accept them. Condominiums, for example, have historically been so high-risk that professional liability insurance companies are hesitant to insure firms that design them. Historic renovations are also high risk due to the chance of hidden problems such as asbestos, lead paint and other hazardous materials or conditions.

According to insurance industry studies, other project types can present higher than average risks including wastewater/sewage plants, custom homes, residential subdivisions, schools (k-12), high rises, hotels, residential subdivisions, airports, sports stadiums and bridges/trestles. Lower-risk projects include malls/retail and commercial industrial buildings of nine or fewer stories.

This is not to say that design firms should not take on condos, historic restorations or other types of higher-risk projects. They should, however, approach these types of projects cautiously, making sure they have qualified individuals to design them, set their fees to reflect the higher risk and are persistent in negotiating protective contract language. In certain circumstances firms who’ve shown a specialty of a project type (albeit high risk) can be more appealing to an insurance carrier vs. the firm that simply dabbles.

Location of Project
When the economy first went sour in late 2007, and most notably in third quarter 2008, firms quickly reacted by expanding their reach to new territories. Smaller firms were reaching out to Portland from Seattle and vice versa. Mid-size firms were responding to RFPs in Denver, California, and Washington, D.C.

When we engage in projects outside of our territory, issues can arise—even domestically.

Design firms of all sizes were now expanding their reach internationally in hopes of new work and revenue streams. At the same time, firms from all over the country were now competitors in our backyard.

When we engage in projects outside of our territory, issues can arise—even domestically. Local laws vary from state-to-state, and project oversight can be significantly diminished if travel limitations prevent us from getting onsite in an afternoon’s notice. Issues can spiral out of control, while you and your staff are thousands of miles away. When an issue does arise, will we be forced to travel hundreds or thousands of miles to resolve a dispute in unfamiliar territory? Who’s our attorney? Does this jurisdiction have a bias towards the local firm/project owner and their impact on their local economy? Does our staff have experience working with the municipalities like they do back home? All questions should be considered even if we’re just responding to an RFP in Boise. Just because we’ve worked on numerous projects like this one, doesn’t mean we should find complacency, and not treat it like our first rodeo.

Internationally, the issues become even more complex. Many countries don’t accept professional liability insurance issued in the U.S. at face value. Furthermore, what we consider domestically to be a standard of care and finding of negligence to be legally liable simply isn’t recognized the same way outside of our borders.

So what can we do specific to project locales? To assist on a first party basis, we always have the ability to modify the governing law/venue clauses under contract to more familiar or favorable venues. Always check with your insurance broker and attorney about international projects, and their liability or insurance implications.

Is our Reputation at Risk?
Nearly every design firm we’ve ever worked with finds their reputation to be one of the most important aspects of their business. Often when ten years have passed after completion of a project, most parties involved in the construction have either folded, or closed their doors—except for the A/E firm. We’ve seen retroactive dates of current firms that date back prior to the incorporation of the borough or suburb they reside in.

One of the best stories we can tell about reputation was a mid-size firm who’d been engaged to design a restaurant. The owner had a great reputation, financing, and overall good contract. The project team in place was even better than most. However, the restaurant to be built was a national restaurant chain traditionally comprised of male only patrons who weren’t just dining for the wings and refreshments. The firm, in an effort to distance themselves from having to ‘claim’ the project as one of their own, created a dba (doing business as) to work solely on this particular restaurant project. We found this to be a creative way to retain the work, but keep this particular project out of the marketing brochure going forward.

Even in prosperous times, we should always consider the prospect of living with all our projects (both good and bad) for years to come. Megaprojects, high-rises, and publicly funded buildings all have the opportunity to place firms on the map, but what if there’s a huge claim and our name is in the newspaper or the five o’clock news? Are we happy to market our involvement in this project? In the event we aren’t, what can we do?...

---continued online---

---See the full article at http://www.acecoregon.org/riskManagement.php and click on “Project evaluation more important than ever.”---

This article is provided by Risk Management Committee member Morgan Kemp Kibble & Prentice, a leading broker for the insurance needs of design professionals in the Northwest and specialists in risk management and loss prevention education services.
Thank you,
ACEC/PAC donors!

Thank you to
Jerry Lane
OBEC Consulting Engineers

for his national ACEC/PAC donation received December 9, 2010.

Previous donors from January 1 through October 26, 2010 were thanked in the Fall 2010 newsletter.

A big thank you to all who contributed to the national ACEC PAC in 2010—allowing us to reach our goal for the third consecutive year.

“Recognition of Excellence” presented to Jack Beemer

During the November election recap dinner in Portland, ACEC Oregon presented long-time member and past president (1997-1998) Jack Beemer, P.E., FACEC, David Evans and Associates, Inc., with a “Recognition of Excellence” award in grateful acknowledgement of Beemer’s outstanding gift of time, energy and commitment to the Council. Beemer has served as Oregon’s PAC champion for the ACEC National PAC for the past several years and has been instrumental in ACEC Oregon achieving our ACEC National PAC goal for the third year in a row. Beemer also chaired the ACEC Oregon Risk Management Committee for many years. Thank you, Jack!
UPS Savings Program

Save up to **30%** on UPS shipping thanks to ACEC Oregon!

ACEC Oregon members can save up to 30% off UPS Express air and international shipments. *That’s a significant savings over FedEx published rates!* All this with the peace of mind that comes from using the carrier that delivers outstanding reliability, greater speed, more service, and innovative technology. UPS guarantees delivery of more packages around the world than anyone, and delivers more packages overnight on time in the US than any other carrier, including FedEx. And UPS tools and services make greening your shipping easy!

Simple shipping! Special savings! It's that easy! Use promo code **PAC002** to enroll. For complete details or to sign up, [click here](http://www.savewithups.com/enroll/) or go to [http://www.savewithups.com/enroll/](http://www.savewithups.com/enroll/).

**Members currently enrolled in the UPS Savings Program must re-enroll to take advantage of this new exclusive offer.**

ACEC Oregon members can save:

- Up to 30% on UPS Next Day Air® and Worldwide Express® services
- Up to 23% on UPS 2nd Day Air®, 3 Day Select®, and Worldwide Expedited® services
- Up to 16% on UPS Ground services
- Up to 10% on business services at The UPS Store®.
- Use promo code **PAC002** to [enroll today](http://www.savewithups.com/enroll/).

*See Rates and Services Chart for detail of Savings and Discounts, which depend on total weekly gross shipping charges incurred.*
Mark your calendar...

For the latest information on upcoming events, including registration materials, please go to http://www.acecoregon.org/calendar/upcomingEvents.php.

FEBRUARY
- FEBRUARY 20 - 26
  It’s National Engineers Week—Engineers Make it Work!
- FEBRUARY 22 Tuesday
  “Day at the Capitol” & Board Meeting
  Salem, Oregon
  This is a great opportunity to meet your legislators and support legislative efforts. To find the names of your state legislators, go to www.leg.state.or.us/findlegislators.

MARCH
- MARCH 10 Thursday
  Board of Directors Meeting
  OBEC Consulting Engineers, Lake Oswego
- MARCH 16 Wednesday
  “Everyday Risk Management—Steps Firms Can Take Every Day to Reduce Risk and Prevent Claims”
  David Evans and Associates, Portland
- MARCH 30 thru APRIL 2 Wed-Sun
  ACEC National Annual Convention and Legislative Summit
  Grand Hyatt, Washington, D.C.
  www.acec.org/conferences/annual-11/index.cfm

APRIL
- APRIL 6 Wednesday
  Half Day Workshop with Janet Sanders
  Portland, Oregon
  Watch for more info to come!
- APRIL 7 Thursday
  Play Pool with the Future Leaders Forum
  Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewpub, Portland
  Watch for more info to come!
- APRIL 14 Thursday
  Board of Directors Meeting
  OBEC Consulting Engineers, Lake Oswego
- APRIL 27 Wednesday
  ODOT/ACEC Conference
  Wilsonville, Oregon
  Watch for more info to come!

MAY
- MAY 12 Thursday
  Board of Directors Meeting
  OBEC Consulting Engineers, Lake Oswego
- MAY 25 Wednesday
  Business Dinner with committee reports
  Portland, Oregon
  Watch for more info to come!

JUNE
- JUNE 1 Wednesday
  State of the Industry: Update on Professional Liability Insurance
  David Evans and Associates, Portland
  Watch for more info to come!
- JUNE 9 Thursday
  Board of Directors Meeting
  OBEC Consulting Engineers, Lake Oswego
- JUNE 22 Wednesday
  Networking Day Golf Tournament
  Langdon Farms Golf Course, Aurora
  Sponsorship opportunities available!
  Watch for more info to come!

SEPTEMBER
- SEPTEMBER 15 - 17 Thurs - Sat
  ACEC Oregon Fall Conference
  The Riverhouse, Bend, Oregon
  Sponsor & exhibitor opportunities available!
  Watch for more info to come!

Pictured above at the January 19, 2011 program presented by the Future Leaders Forum (FLF), “Intro to Firm Financials: Where Does the Money Go?” are fellow FLF Committee members, from left: Jessica Kruczek, Landau Associates, Inc.; Diego Arguea, Kittelson & Associates, Inc.; Tony Roos, CardnoWRG (FLF Committee Chair); the speaker Jay Bower, Landau Associates, Inc.; Gerry Heslin, Cornforth Consultants, Inc.; and Scott Schlechter, GRI. The program was attended by more than 45 members and non-members. Thank you to David Evans and Associates, Inc. for providing meeting space.