

Mark Your Calendar

Section Meetings

September 27, 2012
 October 25, 2012
 November 29, 2012
 January 24, 2013
 February 28, 2013
 March 28, 2013
 April 25, 2013
 May 23, 2013

Workshops/Exams

October 5 & 12, 2012
 (Tentative)
 CCC/CCE Workshop
 December 8, 2012
 Certification Exam

Community Events

TBA
 Future City Competition

Social Events

October 25, 2012
 Membership Drive
 November 29, 2012
 Annual Member Appreciation

Member Spotlight



This month, we spotlight one of our SRNS members. Meet Tom Huston, who works in Business, Integration, Policy, and Planning.



this issue

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Back to School Blues....

The October Dinner Meeting will be a Membership Drive Kick-off. If you are not a current AACE Member, this is a great time to think about joining and get 3 months for free. Annual dues cover January through December and those joining in October will not pay dues again for 15-months. The benefits of AACE membership are many including networking opportunities with other cost engineering professionals, access to new and leading edge information, discounted fees for AACE certification exams, and an easy way to claim recertification points for both AACE and PMI certifications.

Have you done something noteworthy? If so, share your success with your colleagues by sending a brief description to Sarah Mazul (sarah.mazul@srs.gov) for inclusion in the monthly newsletter.

Beginning January 2013, all AACE certification exams will be computer based. These exams will be administered by an outside testing company and AACE certified individuals will no longer be needed to proctor certification exams.

The Section will be offering AACE CCE / CCC exam workshops in the month of October. If you don't currently hold an AACE certification, but have thought about sitting for the exam, then this might be the time to do so. Professional certifications offer you an opportunity to enhance your professional credibility, validate your knowledge of cost engineering, verify that you are dedicated to improving your cost engineering skills, and distinguish yourself as a cost engineering professional. The workshops will help to prepare you to sit for and pass the certification exams. If you currently hold an EVP, PSP, and/or CCC/CCE certification, the Section is looking for volunteers interested in presenting during these workshops. This is an easy way to collect recertification points and offers you a chance to sharpen your skills while giving back to the Cost Engineering profession.

Recap: Laney-Walker / Bethlehem Revitalization Project

During our last dinner meeting, we got to hear from Mrs. Chivers and Mr. Smith, working on the Laney-Walker/Bethlehem Revitalization Project. Members from last year will recall that Mr. Hawthorne was also working on this project and we were happy to hear that they have made significant progress since then.

Mrs. Chivers works for Mehlholm Realty and has been selling the newly restored homes in the area. She is bringing forth a broad customer base and new investors to the project. She allowed us to view some of the new home models and gave us a virtual tour of one of the houses.

Mr. Smith works in conjunction with Mrs. Chivers to help potential buyers obtain finances in order to purchase these new homes. He works with banks and government agencies to make sure the finances are obtained with the lowest possible impact to the client.

The Laney-Walker/Bethlehem Project is quickly growing and slowly gaining state wide attention. They are planning to increase their revitalization area soon to cover more houses and areas to bring life and culture back into the area.

Look to hear more about them in the local news and see more of their progress. We wish them luck and look forward to another update down the road.



NNSA's MOX Fuel Facility and U.S. Plutonium Disposition Program

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On August 1, 2007, the National Nuclear Security Administration's Office of Fissile Materials Disposition broke ground on the Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility at the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site near Aiken, South Carolina. One of the largest construction projects in the Southeastern United States, the MOX facility currently employs more than 1,800 construction workers, designers and engineers. In addition to its economic impact, the MOX facility will play an important role in U.S. national security and energy policy.

SUPPORTING NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

During the April 2010 Nuclear Security Summit, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov signed a protocol amending the 2000 Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement (PMDA), which commits each country to dispose of no less than 34 metric tons (MT) of excess weapon-grade plutonium and envisions disposition of more weapon-grade plutonium over time. The combined amount, 68 metric tons, represents enough material for approximately 17,000 nuclear weapons. The Protocol reaffirms both countries' commitment to nuclear disarmament and the goal of a world free of nuclear danger by ensuring that excess weapon-grade plutonium is never again used for nuclear weapons or any other military purpose; by ensuring it is disposed of in a safe, secure, transparent and effective manner; and by strengthening barriers against accumulating newly separated weapon-grade plutonium.

To implement this agreement in the United States, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), under the Office of Fissile Materials Disposition, is building a Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility, a capability to disassemble nuclear weapons pits and convert the resulting plutonium into a form suitable to be made into MOX fuel, and a Waste Solidification Building to handle the waste resulting from pit disassembly and MOX operations at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

HOW IT WORKS: CONVERTING SWORDS TO PLOWSHARES

The MOX facility will blend surplus weapon-grade plutonium with depleted uranium oxide to make mixed oxide fuel for use in existing nuclear power plants. Once the MOX fuel assemblies have been irradiated in commercial power reactors, the plutonium can no longer be readily used for nuclear weapons. It will take approximately 15 years for the MOX facility to process the 34 MT of plutonium.

(Please see MOX (cont.) on the next page)

General Meeting Information

Location:

North Augusta Community Center
495 Brookside Drive
North Augusta, SC

Cost:

\$15 per member
\$20 per non-member
Guests & Spouses are welcome!

Time:

Registration & Networking 5:30p
Dinner & Speaker 6:30p

RSVP:

No later than **September 24, 2012** to
Tambra Craven (tambra.craven@srs.gov)
Kathy Roberson (kathlene.roberson@srs.gov)

PDU:

2 PDUs earned

MOX (cont.)

The facility is an important part of the United States' efforts to make sure that plutonium can no longer be readily used for nuclear weapons purposes while simultaneously generating electricity for utility customers.

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STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION

Construction at the MOX facility began in August 2007 and significant progress has been made in the three years since construction began. Eleven of the sixteen auxiliary buildings needed to support construction and operation of the MOX facility have been finished, including a new electrical substation which was completed in September 2010. At the MOX Process Building, more than 88,000 cubic yards of reinforced concrete, 51,000 cubic yards of unreinforced concrete, and 16,000 tons of rebar have been installed.

Operations are set to begin at the MOX facility in 2016. The MOX facility will help provide a pathway out of South Carolina for the surplus plutonium brought to SRS for disposition.

BASED ON PROVEN TECHNOLOGY

MOX fuel fabrication technology is well established and mature, and MOX fuel is used in more than 30 commercial reactors worldwide. The design of the U.S. MOX facility is based on proven French technology currently in use at the MELOX and LaHague facilities in France. The facility at SRS is being designed and built to meet U.S. conventions, codes, standards, and regulatory requirements, and will be licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC authorized construction of the facility in 2005 and is currently reviewing the contractor's application for an operating license.

BENEFITS OF MOX STRATEGY

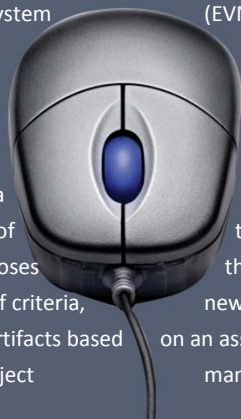
Disposing of excess fissile materials has been a U.S. national security and nonproliferation objective since 1994 and has been endorsed by every President and Congress since that time. Under the 2000 Agreement, the United States and Russia will dispose of 68 metric tons of surplus plutonium.

The MOX facility will help to reduce security and storage costs of surplus plutonium which are estimated to be hundreds of millions of dollars annually. In addition to its critical nonproliferation benefits, the U.S. MOX strategy supports additional NNSA and DOE missions by: (1) Facilitating Complex Transformation efforts to reduce the size of the NNSA nuclear security enterprise by consolidating materials to SRS from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Pantex Plant, the Hanford Site, and the Rocky Flats Site; (2) Establishing the capability to dispose of additional plutonium from future weapons dismantlement; and (3) Disposing of surplus U.S. weapon-grade plutonium demonstrates that the United States is living up to its nonproliferation commitments by drawing down its nuclear arsenal in a transparent and irreversible manner.

This Month's Journal Spotlight

Designing a Tailored Earned Value Management System, Vicki L. Frahm, ECP, Sandia Corporation, 2012 AACE International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, USA.

Abstract: Earned value management (EVM) is an effective performance measurement methodology that integrates project scope, schedule, and cost. Since 2006, the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) has required the use of an ANSI/EIA-748 compliant EVM system (EVMS) on government contracts exceeding agency thresholds - typically \$10 - 20 million. Industry, however, has recognized the value of implementing EVM on smaller contracts but struggles to find a value added methodology that meets the intent of the perceived burden of a fully compliant system. Some have recommended an EV-Lite that implements only selected criteria without consensus as to which criteria should be excluded. Others argue that none of the criteria can be eliminated but may be tailored for smaller projects. This paper proposes development of an abridged or tailored set of criteria, on an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the organization's current project management methodologies.



Obtained via the AACE International Virtual Library.

AWARDS

Section Award

AACEI-CSRA is proud to announce that we have been awarded the Gold Award for 2011-2012.



This is only possible thanks to our wonderful members. Please continue to let us know how we can better serve you.

AACEI-HQ Kindle Winner



Congratulations to our very own **Steven Gross**

winner of the Amazon Kindle Fire! AACEI-HQ issued a survey in February 2012 focused on future Annual Meeting sites. Location appeared to be an important determining factor to the Individuals responding to the survey with 59.6% indicating that location was either An Important or Significant Factor in determining whether to attend the Annual Meeting. At the completion of the survey, members were entered into the drawing and a winner was selected at random.

Membership Drive

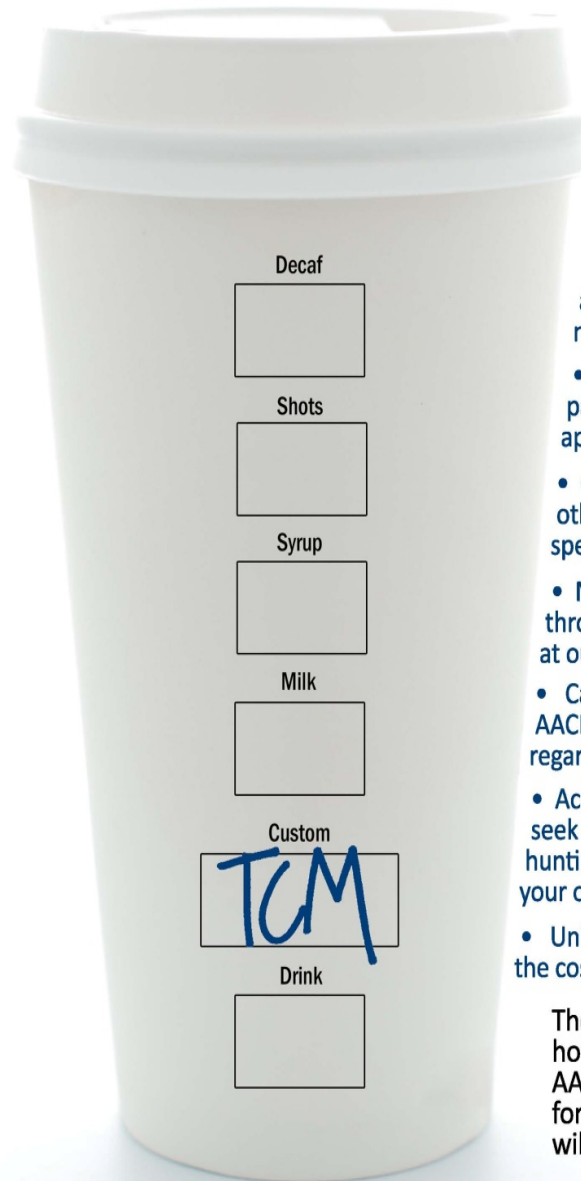
Our Vision is to be the recognized authority in cost and schedule management for programs, projects, products, assets, and services. Join the dynamic network of professionals who make up AACE International and have proven solutions and technical expertise at your fingertips. You can harness the collective expertise, experience, and wisdom of thousands of the best total cost management practitioners willing to share their best ideas with you and others, sharing the passion to make this profession the best it can be.

October is a great time to join AACE International! **Join us for the Annual Membership Dinner on October 25, 2012, and bring a guest** who would be interested in the following membership benefits:

- Visual Total Cost Management Framework – demonstrates the integration of the strategic asset management and project controls process maps
- Mentoring – take advantage of Boxwood Technology for the mentor/mentee matching process
- International Total Cost Management Conference – November 14-15, 2012 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Cost Engineering Journal – editorial emphasis on practical, transferable ideas and techniques
- Source – electronic magazine
- AACE Presents – online webinar regarded technical presentations
- Online Forums – allow members to discuss areas of interest
- AACE International Website – includes industry news from a variety of global sources
- Career Center – members can post their resumes and to find employers offering new career options
- Expanded Virtual Library – now boasts more than 4,700 articles and technical
- Professional Development – online education and training, and local certification workshops
- 15 Months of Membership – pay 2013 dues with new membership after October 1, 2012, and receive 15 months of membership benefits before making first renewal decision

AACE

Think of it as caffeine for your career!



For less than a latte per week at most coffee houses*, you can take advantage of a wide range resources and networking opportunities to advance your career. As an AACE International member, you receive the following:

- An annual subscription to the highly acclaimed Cost Engineering journal, a monthly publication
- Instant access to more than 4,000 technical papers through our Virtual Library on topics applicable to your work
- Online networking with more than 7,500 other professionals through our forums and special interest groups
- Networking opportunities online, locally through section meetings and internationally at our Annual Meeting
- Career development opportunities by taking AACE International courses leading to our highly regarded certification programs
- Access to our Career Center that allows you to seek new career opportunities, sharpen your job hunting skills or help find the best talent for your organization's future.
- Unique online summaries of news impacting the cost engineering profession

The benefit from your latte may last a few hours. The benefit of your investment in AACE International can last a lifetime in the form of improved knowledge and skills that will "rev up" your career.

Think of it as caffeine for your career!

For more information, come to www.aacei.org or call (304)-296-8444.

*\$2.75 per week, based upon \$143 annual dues

Join AACE International (CSRA) Today!

Calling All Papers! (Deadline Extended)

Individuals interested in presenting a technical paper for consideration at the 2013 Annual Meeting, June 30-July 3, 2013 at the Marriott Wardman Park, must submit their abstract by **September 21, 2012** as outlined on the AACE International website. Papers for the technical program are selected by the Technical Associate Board based on the submitted abstract, and, in the case of previous speakers, also on evaluations of prior presentations. In 2012, more than 330 abstracts were received by the Technical Board for approximately 100 presentations.

Certification and Exams

CCC/CCE Workshop

October 5 & 12, 2012

Augusta State University

Contact Jim Hammond for more information.

This course will enable attendees to be better prepared to take the Certification Examination beyond what they would likely achieve on their own. Professionals who attend this 2-day Certification Review Course are expected to be fairly well prepared to sit for the examination before arrival. This course is not intended to prepare a professional who routinely works in only one sub-element of cost engineering to pass the challenging Certification Examination, if they have done little study before the seminar. Attendees should have read and worked some problems in *Skills and Knowledge of Cost Engineering, 5th Ed* and *Certification Study Guide, 3rd Ed*, to become relatively comfortable with the contents of these books. They should also reacquaint themselves with college algebra, such as logarithms and exponents. Ideally, attendees would have completed, at some time in the past, a baccalaureate course in business or engineering statistics, as well as engineering economy or finance.



Mentorship Program

The structured, self-guided mentoring program promises to be a great opportunity for AACE International to accelerate the growth of the next generation of Association leaders while increasing the diversity of our profession and membership. AACE International has structured the mentoring program based upon best practices within the association community but also customized selected resources to be more accessible and relevant to members and the total cost management profession. Please visit www.aacei.org/career/mentor/ for more information.

2012-2013 Board of Directors



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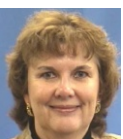
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