



Former CASE Chairman represents ACEC on the Construction Users Roundtable Productivity Committee

CEC has joined the Construction Users Roundtable's A/E Productivity Committee. This Committee is comprised of major corporate, university and government owners and officials, including those from the Public Buildings Service of the General Services Administration.

The move will allow direct representation of ACEC's initiatives on construction-related issues with those important major construction clients.

The Construction Users Roundtable

(CURT) was formed in the summer of 2000 by construction and engineering executives representing major corporations that are among the largest consumers in the construction industry. The objective in the new organization is to have broader owner representation and increased owner input on industry issues.

Raymond F. Messer, president of Walter P. Moore and Associates, and past chairman of CASE, will be the ACEC liaison on the CURT committee.



Raymond F. Messer, ACEC liaison

New ACEC Member Portal

Update Your Records in Real Time

ACEC and CASE members will find the ACEC website even easier to use with the new ACEC member portal. Now, employees of all member firms will be able to access and update their records online and in real time. Since these are real-time updates, this information is available to anyone searching for information via the new online membership directory.

The member portal also features secure, real time e-commerce applications. For example, ACEC's Fall Conference in Phoenix (October 8-11, 2003) was available for purchase via the portal's technology. And shortly, Institute for

Business Management educational offerings, publications, and products will be added.

Log-on usernames and passwords for the new member portal will be e-mailed to selected member firm principals. Others can request access by visiting the portal. Visit www.ACEC.org and click on the drop down box on the left that says "Membership" and select the word "Member Portal."

For more information, contact Patrick Brookover, Director – Membership, at pbrookover@acec.org

Latest Marketing Survey

Available From ACEC Publications

How can you make the most out of your marketing investment? See what's working—and what's not—for your competitors and other firms just like yours with ZweigWhite's *2003 Marketing Survey of A/E/P & Environmental Consulting Firms*.

Save time, money, and headaches by getting the most comprehensive report on marketing for design and environmental firms. 312 pages, \$275. Go to www.acec.org/publications to order.

Licensure Guide

Saves Time, Money

Stay current with the new ACEC State Licensure Guide, which saves firms time and money by detailing P.E. licensing board requirements for all 50 states.

This CD shows how to obtain a license through varying levels of education, professional development hours, work experience and testing –depending on each state's requirements. Also included are application forms for each state.



Members \$149

\$169 non-members.

To order, visit www.acec.org/publications and use the keyword "Licensure".



Case Works Well with AISC

CASE has been recently working very closely with the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) on several of our documents. We have found them to be easy to work with and the resultant publications a benefit to both organizations. Below is a note from Charlie Carter of AISC to CASE Chairman Joe Gehlen.

Joe,

In the past few months, I've had more interaction with CASE volunteers and staff than I've had in my previous 12 years here at AISC. The spirit of cooperation and positive improvements that have resulted seem to have significant benefit to all in such areas as the AISC Code of Standard practice, the CASE Commentary on it, and the CASE Guideline on Coordination and Completeness.

More recently, I am very appreciative that CASE has been so willing and able to help us with our efforts to survey decision makers in the structural design offices regarding fire protection and engineering issues. Thanks to you, the volunteers, and staff of CASE. I hope we can find ways to continue to expand our collaborative efforts.

Regards,
Charlie Carter

OSHA

Frequently Asked Questions

What is OSHA's budget, and how many inspectors does the agency have?

OSHA's budget for Fiscal Year 2003 is \$450 million. The agency has a staff of 2,303, including 1,327 compliance safety and health officers. Twenty-six states run their own OSHA State Programs with 2,960 state employees, including 1,327 compliance safety and health officers.

How many inspections does OSHA conduct each year?

OSHA inspected 37,493 workplaces during Fiscal Year 2002. The agency plans to conduct 37,700 inspections in FY 2003. The 26 states running their own OSHA programs conducted an additional 58,402 inspections in FY 2002.

What are OSHA's inspection priorities?

Top priority are reports of imminent dangers-accidents about to happen; second are fatalities or accidents serious enough to send three or more workers to the hospital. Third are employee complaints. Referrals from other government agencies are fourth. Fifth are targeted inspections-such as the Site Specific Targeting Program, which focuses on employers that report high injury and illness rates, and special emphasis programs that zero in on hazardous work such as trenching or equipment such as mechanical power presses. Follow-up inspections are the final priority.

What's the penalty for violating an OSHA standard?

OSHA penalties range from \$0 to \$70,000 depending upon how likely the violation is to result in serious harm to workers. Repeat and willful violations may have penalties as high as \$70,000. Penalties may be discounted if an employer has a small number of employees, has demonstrated good faith, or has few or no previous violations. For more information on OSHA penalties, see Section 17 of the OSH Act, or information on penalties in the OSHA Publication *All about OSHA*.

What if OSHA inspects my workplace and I disagree with the findings?

Employers have the right to contest OSHA citations and/or penalties before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission. Employers must file notices of contest within 15 working days of being issued citations.

How can I find out about OSHA inspections of my workplace or other companies?

OSHA maintains an inspection database on their website that you can use to search for companies by name or by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code.

Who must keep records of work-related injuries and illnesses?

About 1.3 million employers with 11 or more employees-20 percent of the establishments OSHA covers-must keep records of work-related injuries and illnesses. Workplaces in low-hazard industries such as retail, service, finance, insurance, and real estate are exempt from recordkeeping requirements.

Compliance Assistance

Do I need to put up an OSHA poster in my workplace? Where can I get a copy?

Yes, all employers must post the federal or a state OSHA poster to provide employees with information on their safety and health rights. You may order a printed copy from the OSHA Publications Office at (800) 321-OSHA, or download from the OSHA website in English or Spanish.

How can I get help from OSHA to fix hazards in my workplace?

If you are an employer, you may wish to contact the OSHA Consultation Program for your state for free on-site assistance in identifying and correcting hazards or setting up safety and health programs. You can also contact the OSHA Area Office nearest you to speak to the compliance assistance specialist about training and education in job safety and health issues. Another option is OSHA Advisors, interactive software that "walks" you through specific OSHA standards or helps identify potential hazards throughout your workplace. You can also find information on specific topics on the OSHA website *Alphabetical Subject Indexes, Advanced Search*.

If you are a worker, you can call the nearest OSHA Area Office, or you can file a complaint online through the *OSHA Workers' Page*.

How can I get workplace safety and health training from OSHA?

You can contact the nearest OSHA Area Office to speak to the compliance assistance specialist. You also can check out training available at the OSHA Training Institute in the Chicago area, or at one of the 20 education centers located at colleges and universities around the nation.

What cooperative programs does OSHA offer?

OSHA's Alliance Program enables trade or professional organizations, businesses, labor organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies that share an interest in workplace safety and health to collaborate with OSHA to prevent injuries and illnesses in the workplace.

The OSHA Strategic Partnership Program is for employers with varied backgrounds, experience and records in job safety and health.

Voluntary Protection Programs are OSHA's premier partnership programs designed to recognize workplaces with exemplary safety and health programs.