

July 2022 | Issue 24



ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of North Carolina

The latest news & upcoming events
for engineering excellence in
North Carolina

What's in this month's newsletter?

- A message from Executive Director James Smith
- 2022 ACEC/NC Summer Conference
- Announcing the 2022 ACEC/NC Young Professional of the Year
- ADVOCACY UPDATE: Transportation Funding included in State Budget
- Introducing the 2022-2023 Junior Board of Directors
- Join an ACEC/NC Committee or Forum
- Featured Member Spotlight: Durisol

Upcoming Events:

July

7.26.22

Business Practices
Committee Meeting

[Read More](#)

August

8.4.22-8.6.22

ACEC/NC Annual
Summer Conference

[Read More](#)

8.15.22

Transportation
Committee Meeting

[Read More](#)

8.17.22

Bridge Workshop
(1PDH)

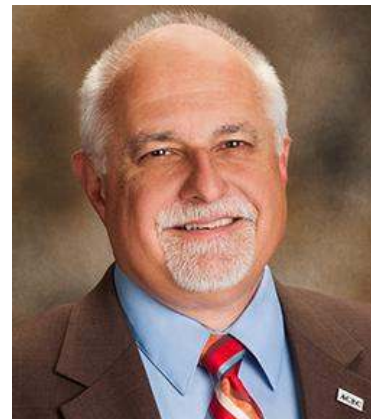
[Read More](#)

8.18.22

A message from Executive Director James Smith

Another exciting and especially challenging year has come and gone for ACEC of North Carolina. Even with the return to a more normal environment after the COVID pandemic, we continued our ongoing evaluation of benefits and services to increase our value to you and make ACEC/NC an essential part of your business.

Read Jim's full letter [here](#).



Environmental &
Energy Committee

[Read More](#)

8.23.22

Business Practices
Committee Meeting

[Read More](#)

Follow us on
social media
for the latest
ACEC/NC
news!



This year's ACEC/NC Summer Conference takes us back to the mountains and the gorgeous Grove Park Inn in Asheville. Check out the [agenda](#). And don't miss out!

We are SOLD OUT!
We look forward to seeing everyone in August.

[Session Preview](#)

Check out Daniel Wilson with Southern Corrosion Engineering Tank Care's introduction to his session



ACEC/NC Young Professional of the Year

Annually, ACEC/NC recognizes a young professional with the ACEC/NC Young Professional of the Year Award. The award strives to promote the accomplishments of young engineers by highlighting their engineering contributions and the resulting impact on society.

Like it is every year, this year's selection was challenging due to the great list of young professionals making an impact across our state and profession. But without further adieu, the 2022 ACEC/NC Young Professional of the Year is...

Stephanie Pluta, PE from Freese and Nichols, Inc.

"I am proud that ACEC/NC has the platform to recognize young professionals in our industry for their hard work," said Jim Smith, PE, ACEC/NC Executive Director. "The future of the engineering industry is in their

hands, and based on these applicants, it has a bright future ahead. Congratulations to Stephanie on this deserved recognition."

Stephanie Pluta, PE is the Project Manager and 1110 Southeast Operations Manager at Freese and Nichols, Inc. Ms. Pluta is a graduate of Virginia Tech University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and is a licensed professional engineer in North Carolina and Georgia. Ms. Pluta has taken on several key roles that are integral to Freese and Nichol's southeast US dams and levees team and is regularly selected to serve as the technical lead over site civil aspects of the dam design project.



ADVOCACY UPDATE

Transportation Funding included in State Budget

In a huge WIN for the transportation industry, the General Assembly has included the provisions of SB 793- Transfer of Sales Tax Revenue from General Fund to Highway Fund in the [2022 Appropriations Act](#), approved July 1. Beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23, starting in July 2022, the 2% transfer is estimated at \$192M), and by FY 2024-25, the 6% is estimated to be \$628.3M based on 2022 projections. The Appropriations Act was approved by both chambers by bipartisan votes and **was signed by Governor Cooper on July 11!**



A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Legislative Day and advocated for this to happen for months, as did our related industry partners. Our friends in the legislature worked tirelessly on this, so please thank them. This is a great first step in the program to transition transportation funding from the Motor Fuels Tax to other long-term sustainable revenue streams.

Check out some of the [media coverage](#) of the bill.

Junior Board of Directors

The [2022-2023 ACEC/NC Junior Board](#) consists of diverse individuals representing the broad range of demographics, disciplines, and geography within the engineering community to promote the consulting engineering industry, increase diversity in ACEC/NC programs, events, and membership, provide feedback and fresh perspective to the ACEC/NC Board on the execution of the ACEC/NC strategic plan and develop the next generation of industry leaders.



Congratulations to the 2022-2023 ACEC/NC Junior Board Members!

Jon Ford, PE, Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc.
Trey Hendrick, PE, ECS Southeast, LLP

Will Larsen, PE, The Wooten Company
Katharine Mather, AICP, WSP
Farrell Nicholson, PE, LJB, Inc.
Sarah Nifong, PE, HDR
Seth Poole, Stantec
Lauren Triebert, PE, VHB Engineering, NC, P.C.
Jay Watson, PE, Finch & Associates



Join an ACEC/NC Committee or Forum

It's that time of year - time to get involved! You'll find a list of the ACEC/NC 2022-2023 Committees and Forums below and we want **YOU** to be a part of them. Pick one, two, or more from the list below - and be sure to pass this on to others in your office who may not be on our email list (remember EVERY employee is a member!). Please

email [Tammy Bromley](mailto:Tammy.Bromley) to get your name on the list for your chosen committee by **July 29, 2022**.

You can learn more about each of these committees' work and see this year's committee leadership at acecnc.org/committees-forums/.

Committees & Forums

Buildings & Infrastructure Committee
Business Practices Committee
Environmental/Energy Committee
Legislative Committee
Transportation Committee
Executive Leaders Forum (formerly Senior Leaders)

Featured Member Spotlight



An innovative leader in noise mitigation and retaining wall systems, Durisol is your trusted service partner, providing solutions for transportation, building, and energy sectors across North America.

Durisol specializes in noise control solutions for building applications, and we know how important turnkey service and comprehensive solutions are to every stage of a construction project. As the pioneer of precast absorptive noise walls, we are in continuous pursuit of long-term, cost-effective solutions that promote a better quality of life. Our noise barrier product offering ranges from crash-tested, fire-rated absorptive precast walls to lightweight aluminum and PVC panel systems that are designed for elevated structures and building applications.

Durisol has provided and is currently supplying ground-mounted, double-sided absorptive walls for projects across North Carolina, including work along I-40 in Raleigh, NC 42 in Johnston County, I-485 in Charlotte, I-95 in Fayetteville, the I-74 Northern Loop in Winston-Salem, and the Jamestown Parkway in Greensboro.

In-house engineers will design a tailored solution that best fit any customer needs and support your project from design right through to the supply, coordination, and successful execution.

To learn more about Durisol, visit durisol.com.

[Click here to read more ACEC/NC & member news!](#)

ACEC/NC is the premier organization that represents the business interests of the engineering industry in our state. ACEC/NC's mission is to promote the business interests of engineering companies by providing legislative advocacy and business services.

