



Structural Connection

February 2009 E-Newsletter

In This Issue

- Call For Speakers
- Winter Institute Wrap Up
- Trademark Issue Resolved
- New Webinar Series
- Call For Abstracts
- Student Correspondent
- New Website Features

NCSEA Links

[Calendar of Events](#)

Online Education

[February 19 Webinar](#)
Allowable Stress Design of Masonry

[March 5 Webinar](#)
Strength Design of Masonry

[March 10 Webinar](#)
Wind Load Examples
Don't miss the NCSEA/SEAOC Structural Design Manual webinar series finale!

[May 5 Webinar](#)
Code Requirements for Structural Integrity with speaker Ron Hamburger

New Website Features

[2009 Conference Materials](#)

[Code of Ethics](#)

Call For Speakers



SEAOA is now accepting applications for presentations at the 2009 Annual NCSEA Conference. This year's theme is "Learning from Experience." Presentations will be focused on preferred detailing and analysis methods for various structural materials and components, including examples of unsatisfactory results when less-than-preferred methods are employed. Presentations need not focus solely on failures, but they should educate young and experienced engineers alike, based on specific incidents. 1-1.5 hours of technical material is requested.

Download a Call for Speakers form plus other details, including presentation schedule and deadlines, at SEAOA's website www.seaoa.org. The Call for Speakers form must be submitted to SEAOA / NCSEA by June 1, 2009. On July 1, 2009, SEAOA will notify selected speakers. Final outline and materials will be due July 31st. NCSEA Annual Conference will be held October 16-17, 2009 in Scottsdale, AZ.

Benefits include complimentary access to the conference presentations during the day of the presentation, plus breakfast and lunch, as well as free Diamond Review of presentation.

Winter Institute Wrap-up

This year's Winter Institute emphasis on wind engineering was a huge success. Attendees at this two day seminar had the opportunity to learn from experts about the new wind provisions proposed for the 2010 issue of the ASCE 7-10 Standard. On Friday, they listened to lectures, then toured RWDI's state-of-the-art wind tunnel. Saturday offered more classroom instruction, for a total of 15 hours of continuing education, accepted in every state.

Sukumar Patel, PE, SECB, attended both days and said, "The event was organized superbly and I will be looking forward to the next seminar sponsored by NCSEA."

Next year's NCSEA Winter Institute, in the planning stages now, will be held in the latter part of February or during March, in San Diego.



Is your continuing education acceptable in all 50 states? Look for the Diamond Reviewed logo the next time you register for professional development hours!

State Conferences

[March 4-5 ISEA Spring Conference](#)

The Devil is in the Details: Structural Analysis, Structural Collapse and Structural Integrity

[April 16-17 SEAKM Bi-Sate Meeting and Conference](#)

Emphasis on earthquake engineering in the Midwest, the New Madrid Zone and the Mount Carmel, IL earthquake.

Contact Us

<http://www.ncsea.com>

Melissa@ncsea.com

Structural Connections Masthead

Jeanne Vogelzang, JD, CAE
Chief Executive Officer
312-649-4600 x201
execdir@ncsea.com

Melissa Matarrese
Meeting and Marketing Director
312-649-4600 x203
Melissa@ncsea.com

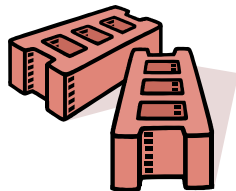
Trademark Issue Resolved

Our name is not their name, anymore.

In December and again in January, you may have received an unrelated emailed newsletter called "Structural Connection", from the publisher of Structural Engineer, not NCSEA. No need to be confused. The name of that newsletter has been changed.

NCSEA notified the Structural Engineer newsletter publisher that (1) NCSEA had filed for trademark protection of the name, and (2) NCSEA has been using the "Structural Connection" name for its emailed newsletter since February of 2007. NCSEA asked that Structural Engineer's publisher discontinue use of the "Structural Connection" name for their newsletter, based on NCSEA's prior use and filing; and they have complied. If your SEA has a name or mark that it would like to protect and you would like to know more about how to do that, you can email NCSEA's Executive Director at execdir@ncsea.com.

NCSEA teams up with The Masonry Society



Enhancing continuing education available online, NCSEA is presenting six webinars in conjunction with The Masonry Society (TMS). The series started February 5, 2009 and takes place on alternate Tuesdays through April 16. Sign up now for the remaining 5 webinars!

NCSEA/TMS Joint Webinar schedule:

February 19 ♦ Allowable Stress Design of Masonry

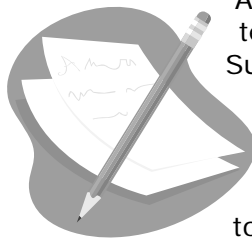
March 5 ♦ Strength Design of Masonry

March 19 ♦ Masonry Tallwalls

April 2 ♦ Reinforced Masonry Shear Wall Design

April 16 ♦ Ensuring your Masonry is Constructed as Designed

SEAOC Call For Abstracts



Abstracts are requested for papers to be presented at the technical sessions of the 2009 SEAOC Convention. Submissions on recent projects, best design practices, new seismic systems and components, next generation codes, advanced analysis techniques, high performance materials, sustainable design, and results of recent experimental testing, are all encouraged; but any paper topic will be considered.

Abstracts of not more than 250 words are due by 5 p.m., March 9, 2009, and should be sent via e-mail to the 2009 SEAOC Convention Technical Program Committee at mbraund@degenkolb.com. Authors will be notified of abstract acceptance by April 3, 2009. Papers must be submitted for publication in the proceedings by 5 p.m., June 8, 2009. Authors will be

If you would like to submit material or present your views on any Structural Connection content, you may do so by contacting one of the above persons.

provided with required guidelines regarding paper format after acceptance of abstract. 2009 SEAOC Convention will be held on September 23-26 in San Diego, CA.

Student Correspondent



Why Not Wood?

Considering that wood is the primary structural material in the majority of buildings, why aren't wood design courses incorporated into more undergraduate programs? The answer, of course, is time. An undergraduate ABET accredited program is intended to last for only eight semesters; therefore, the subject of wood design typically gets pushed to the graduate level. However, a large percentage of young practicing engineers have not completed a graduate program, meaning they are likely to be designing with a material for which they have had no formal education.

Although design practices in wood are not overly complicated and can be self-taught, there are many nuances in the practice that must be understood and that would be easier to grasp if introduced to the designer via a formal course. For example, wood design is still performed by ASD. The ASD method is not covered in most undergraduate programs that only teach steel and concrete design courses. As a result, young engineers who would like to design with wood materials must rely on more experienced engineers at their firm to ensure they understand the subject matter. In some cases, this works out; but, in other cases, the young engineer is left without understanding.

I know that civil engineering programs are tightly packed with essential course work and have little flexibility. However, I feel that it would be greatly beneficial to practicing engineers for universities to evaluate the necessity of other courses in hopes of including a wood design course at the undergraduate level. Whether as a required course or as a highly encouraged elective, most students would enjoy the practicality and direct usefulness of a course in wood design.

~ Steven J. Fulmer, EIT, a NC State Graduate Student (sjfulmer@ncsu.edu)

New Features on the NCSEA Website

New Conference Materials: For downloadable information about the 2009 Annual Conference, visit www.ncsea.com.

Code of Ethics Update: The NCSEA Model Code of Ethics was approved on July 29, 2008 and has recently been moved to the far left column on the website, www.ncsea.com, under the NCSEA heading. The NCSEA Board hopes that your MO will adopt the NCSEA Model Code of Ethics, in whole or in part. (Your MO By-Laws should prescribe what measures must be taken by your organization to adopt such a document.)

Assuming that your MO agrees upon language and approves a Code for adoption, please be sure to send an editable version to Jeanne Vogelzang at the NCSEA office (execdir@ncsea.com), with any changes to the Model Code highlighted. NCSEA will then post the Code of Ethics that is adopted by your MO, for review and use by other MO's, if they so choose.

NCSEA Call For Entries

NCSEA announces the Call for Entries for the 2009 NCSEA Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards Program. The purpose of the program is to recognize creative achievement and innovation in structural engineering.

Eligibility

Entry must be submitted by a licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) or Structural Engineer (S.E.) whose practice or activity is primarily in the field of structural engineering.

Projects must have been completed between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2008, or must be sufficiently complete such that they clearly show the basic design of the structural system. The submittals will be judged based on the quality of the structural "design" portion of the project. Within the context of this awards program, "design" refers to the overall concept of any structure or structural system within a project. New projects, renovations, rehabilitation, structural upgrades and adaptive reuse of buildings, other structures, and bridges are eligible. Projects may be located anywhere in the world.

Categories of Awards

Awards will be presented in five project categories:

- New buildings under \$30 Million
- New buildings \$30 Million to \$100 Million
- New buildings over \$100 Million
- New bridge and transportation structures
- Other structural design projects

Up to three entries in each category will be chosen to receive the NCSEA Excellence in Structural Engineering Award. From those three winners, one will be chosen as an "Outstanding Project". Non-winning projects from last year's program may be re-submitted as long as they are still eligible based on completion date.

Deadline for Entries

All entries must be received at the NCSEA office by 4:00 p.m. CDT on Friday, July 17, 2009.

Entries should be sent to:

NCSEA Awards Program
645 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 540
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Presentation of Awards

The awards will be presented at the NCSEA Annual Conference Awards Banquet in Scottsdale, AZ on October 17, 2009.

Please contact Carrie Johnson, 2009 Award Committee Chair person and NCSEA Director at cjohnson@wallacesc.com.