



## CASE NEWS

### Edward W. Pence, Jr. Receives CASE Past Chairman's Award

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During the ACEC Fall Conference last month, the CASE Past Chairman's Award was presented to Edward W. Pence, Jr., of Stroud, Pence & Associates, Ltd., in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Ed had served as CASE Chairman for 2006-2007. In addition to his tireless service to CASE itself, he was a Board member of SERMAC, a founding member and former chairman of the Virginia Structural Engineers Council, and a co-author of several publications dealing with loss prevention and risk management.

The award was presented by CASE Past Chairman Chris Poland during a special awards luncheon held during the ACEC conference. Since 1997, the CASE Past Chairman's award is given each year to a structural engineer who has been an outstanding champion for the profession. CASE was formed over 20 years ago out of the need to control skyrocketing professional liability insurance premiums. Over that time CASE has expanded its agenda to feature a full risk management program including seminars, documents and convocations that are highly valued by structural engineering firms nationwide.



Pictured left to right: David Raymond, ACEC President & CEO, Edward Pence, Chris Poland, Past CASE Chairman, Timothy Psomas, ACEC Chairman

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## CASE Summer Meeting and Workshop Highlights

The CASE Summer Meeting and Workshop was held in Chicago, Illinois, Aug. 18-21st at the O'Hare Hyatt Regency. The event kicked-off Wednesday afternoon, August 19, with a special workshop on *How Can Structural Firms Benefit by Understanding Sustainable Design?* The presenters, Dirk Kestner, Walter P. Moore & Associates; Helen S. Torres, Thornton Tomasetti; Terry McDonnell, Halcrow Yolles, Don Allen, Steel Framing Alliance, Roy Wilson, GBA architects engineers, discussed the roles of the structural engineer in today's LEED buildings and how engineers can do more in sustainability efforts both for their clients and internally at their firms.

On Thursday, August 20, there was a CASE activities overview followed by breakout meetings of the CASE Committees: National Guidelines, Contracts, Programs & Communications, and Toolkit to continue work on their respective assignments.

The CASE Executive Committee met on Friday, August 21, where the approval of two position statements was granted:

- Supporting requiring a Bachelor's Degree plus a qualified Master's Degree or equivalent as the minimum education prerequisite for licensure as a Structural Engineer of Record.
- Supporting separate licensure for structural engineers, and encourages all appropriately qualified civil engineers practicing structural engineering to obtain a structural engineering license with the goal that all appropriately qualified civil engineers practicing structural engineering do so, if such a license is available in the state(s) in which they are practicing.

These position statements were emailed to all CASE members on October 5<sup>th</sup> for review and feedback. If you have any comments, please submit them on the CASE Member Forum which is located on the CASE homepage at [www.acec.org/CASE](http://www.acec.org/CASE).



## Mark Your Calendar—CASE Winter

The **CASE Winter Meeting** will take place on Thursday and Friday, January 28-29, 2010, at the Westin Galleria & Westin Oaks, Houston, Texas. A CASE roundtable on structural engineering issues will be held in conjunction with the SEA of Texas dinner/meeting on Wednesday evening, January 27<sup>th</sup>. All CASE committee members attending the CASE meeting should make plans to attend the CASE roundtable at the SEA of Texas meeting. Details will be provided in the near future.



## CASE Releases New Tool to Record and Document Phone Conversations to Reduce Risk

Remembering who you talked to, or what you talked about, is just about impossible for most of us. Last month, CASE released **Tool No. 4-4: Phone Conversation Log**, the 4<sup>th</sup> tool related to the Fourth Foundation of CASE's *Ten Foundations of Risk Management*, "Communication." The tool will help you keep track of all your phone conversations and track action items, right on your computer. Poor communication is frequently listed among the top reasons for lawsuits and claims. It is the intent of this tool to make it faster and easier to record and document phone conversations.

Tools related to the other CASE Foundation's can be downloaded from the CASE website at <http://www.acec.org/case/tools.cfm>. If you have any questions or suggestions for new tools, please contact the Toolkit Committee through the website and click on any of the committee member's e-mail addresses.

A few years ago, CASE set out to improve the practice of structural engineering by reducing the frequency and severity of claims. One of the ways CASE planned to accomplish this was through the production of software-based tools that are made available to CASE members through e-mail and on the CASE website at [www.acec.org/CASE](http://www.acec.org/CASE). A summary for each tool can be found at [www.acec.org/case/tools.cfm](http://www.acec.org/case/tools.cfm). To obtain a free copy of these tools, your firm must be a current member of CASE, or you can purchase them from ACEC's Bookstore.



## Portal for Education & Career Recordkeeping

Gone are the days when professionals kept paper files. With RCEP, everything needed to find courses from quality providers and maintain PDH history is available online at [www.rcep.net](http://www.rcep.net). The Registered Continuing Education Program (RCEP) is a nationwide portal for education and career recordkeeping. It is a merger of quality education providers and engineers, surveyors, and related Architecture/Engineering/Construction industry professionals into one comprehensive education management system. The first of its kind in the industry, RCEP is a one-stop solution for keeping up-to-date with continuing education requirements, finding courses from quality providers, and maintaining a complete education record that simplifies the licensure renewal process.

With RCEP, it's now possible to obtain and track all of your Professional Development Hours (PDHs) and licensing requirements in one, comprehensive, online system. Log into [www.rcep.net](http://www.rcep.net) to get started. Search the Master Calendar of educational courses offered by NCEES-approved Education Providers. Find state licensing and continuing education requirements or be ready in the event you're audited with RCEP's uniformly formatted, state-board-accepted transcripts. Let Registered Education Providers report your PDHs for you or simply self-report PDHs you've earned through other education providers to maintain a complete post-licensure record.

Professionals can register for a free, basic subscription at [www.rcep.net](http://www.rcep.net), and start managing their continuing education activities right away.

For more information, contact Maria Buscemi at 202-682-4323 or [mbuscemi@acec.org](mailto:mbuscemi@acec.org).

**RCEP** is a one-stop solution for keeping up-to-date with continuing education requirements, finding courses from quality providers, and maintaining a complete education record that simplifies the licensure renewal process."



## CASE Risk Management Convocation

### Coming to Orlando in 2010

Next spring, the CASE Risk Management Convocation will be held in conjunction with the first-ever combined Structures Congress/North American Steel Construction Conference at the Gaylord Palms Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, **May 12–15, 2010**. The following CASE Convocation sessions are scheduled to take place on **May 14**:

*6:45am - 8:00am*

#### **CASE Breakfast - Changes to AISC Code of Standard Practice - What SE's need to know**

Speaker: David B. Ratterman, Secretary and General Counsel, AISC

The AISC Code of Standard Practice has served as a specification guideline and statement of custom and usage in the fabricated structural steel industry since approximately 1921. The Code is regularly updated and maintained by a balanced committee of industry professionals; approximately one-third of the Code Committee is comprised of practicing structural engineers. Mr. Ratterman is a graduate engineer and counsel to the Code Committee. He will discuss the relationship of the Code to the practice of structural engineering.

*8:00am - 9:30am*

#### **Steel Fabricator Perspective on Quality of Engineering Documents or Change Orders**

Speaker: Carol Drucker, Drucker Zaidel; Other Speakers TBA

This session will be led by a licensed specialty structural engineer who can comment on the document quality as it relates to potential risk management issues for the structural engineer of record. The session will include discussion from a steel detailer and a steel fabricator related to the associated construction costs and/or change orders resulting from document quality and clarity.

*1:45pm - 3:15pm*

#### **A Day in the Life of a Project Manager**

Speakers: John Aniol, Walter P. Moore; Corey Matsuoka, SSFM International

Follow the day of a structural project manager as he struggles through a day filled with risk and discovers tools to help him mitigate those risks. Some of the tools he will discover will cover communication, corporate culture, planning and prevention, education, scope and contracts, construction documents and construction.

*3:30pm - 5:00pm*


#### **Managing Expectations and Risks During the Steel Detailing Process**

Speakers: Glenn Bishop, LBYD, Birmingham AL; Will Ikerd, RLG Engineers, Dallas, TX

The AISC Code of Standard Practice provides two options for structural steel connections, either fully detailed by the engineer or selected and completed by the detailer. After much discussion, AISC is considering adding a third option for connection: design by a specialty structural engineer retained by the fabricator. This session will explore the needs and expectations of both the engineer and the fabricator for each of these three options. Also discussed will be how these expectations might change in the BIM world.







## **COUNCIL OF AMERICAN STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS**



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The Council of American Structural Engineers (CASE) is a national association of structural engineering firms that provides a forum for the action to improve the quality of structural engineering through enhancement of business practices, reduced professional liability exposure and increased profitability.

Our mission is to improve the practice of structural engineering by providing business practice resources, improving quality, enhancing management practices and reducing the frequency and severity of claims.

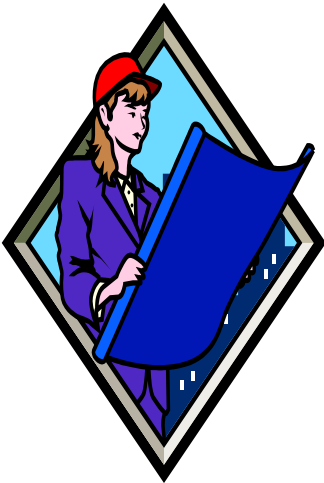
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### Calendar of Events

**Jan. 27-29:** CASE Winter Meeting  
Houston, Texas

**April 25-28:** ACEC Annual Convention  
Washington, DC

**May 14:** CASE Spring Convocation (w/SEI Structures Congress)  
Orlando, FL



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## **CASE Executive Committee**

The following CASE Executive Committee members are here to serve your needs. Please feel free to contact any of the members at their email addresses shown below.

### **Chair:**

**Doug Ashcraft**, Walter P Moore, [dashcraft@walterpmoore.com](mailto:dashcraft@walterpmoore.com)

### **Secretary-Treasurer:**

**James Parker**, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, [jcparker@sgh.com](mailto:jcparker@sgh.com)

### **Past Chairman:**

**Chris Poland**, Degenkolb Engineers, [cpoland@degenkolb.com](mailto:cpoland@degenkolb.com)

### **Committee Members:**

**Brian Schmidt (Contracts Cmte. Chair)**, G. C. Wallace, [bschmidt@gcwallace.com](mailto:bschmidt@gcwallace.com)

**Corey Matsuoka (Toolkit Cmte. Chair)**, SSFM International,  
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**Michael Planer (Programs & Communications Cmte. Chair)**, Pruitt Eberly Stone,  
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**Andy Rauch (Guidelines Cmte. Chair)**, BKBM Engineers, Inc., [arauch@bkbm.com](mailto:arauch@bkbm.com)

### **Executive Director:**

**David Bixby**, ACEC, [dbixby@acec.org](mailto:dbixby@acec.org)