SPAAN Tech’s Smita Shah to Receive National Community Service Award

WASHINGTON—Smita Shah, president of SPAAN Tech, in Chicago, Ill., will receive a 2011 Community Service Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) at the upcoming ACEC Fall Conference in Las Vegas on October 21.

The award recognizes a principal or manager of an ACEC member firm who has made a significant contribution to the quality of life in her community.

Shah currently serves on the Northwestern School of Engineering Advisory Council, which promotes more involvement of women in engineering. She is also vice chair of the Chicago Planning Commission, after being appointed by Mayor Richard Daly in 2007. In addition, She is a Term Member of the prestigious New York Council on Foreign Relations, and she serves on the President’s Council of the Museum of Science and Industry, where she works inspire to children to reach their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering.

Shah began her volunteerism 14 years ago, working the CARE and SHARE group to address the need for shelters for battered women. For the last nine years she has been a governor of the Steppenwolf Theater Auxiliary, which brings the performing arts to the less fortunate.

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is the business association of America’s engineering industry, representing more than 5,000 independent engineering companies throughout the United States engaged in the development of America’s transportation, environmental, industrial, and other infrastructure. Founded in 1909 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., ACEC is a national federation of 51 state and regional organizations.