

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
*of South Carolina*

2012 Engineering  
Excellence Award

PALMETTO AWARD

Rewarding Excellence in Engineering

*2012  
Call for Entries*

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ENGINEERING  
EXCELLENCE  
AWARDS



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of South Carolina

# 2012 Engineering Excellence Awards

Dear Engineering Colleague,

The American Council of Engineering Companies' of South Carolina is proud to announce the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Engineering Excellence Awards competition, which recognizes engineering firms for projects that demonstrate a high degree of achievement, value and innovation.

The Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) competition offers engineering firms the opportunity to showcase their work to an audience of peers, current and potential clients, and decision-makers at all levels. In addition, the public relations and marketing value of participating in the Engineering Excellence Awards competition is considerable. Panels will be displayed in various public spaces throughout the year including the ACEC-SC/SCDOT Annual Meeting, ACEC-SC/SCSPE/ASCE-SC Legislative Reception, ACEC-SC/SCSPE Winter Meeting and the Engineering Schools in South Carolina. These activities enhance direct business development benefits for all participants. Further benefit can be gained through feature stories in firm brochures, newsletters or other publications.

It is time to consider which projects you want to enter in this year's competitions. To be eligible, projects must have been designed in South Carolina and be substantially completed (ready for use) between November 1, 2009 and October 31, 2011. To enter a project in the South Carolina competition, a Notice of Intent must be submitted by Friday, November 18, 2011. Project entries are due at ACEC-SC headquarters by Friday, December 9, 2011.

The state competition requirements remain correlated to national requirements but simplified. Notebook requirements are minimal, and the multiple copies of the notebook pages are eliminated. Four copies of a CD-ROM are required on the state level. A copy of the National ACEC's 2012 *Call for Entries* is available at [http://www.acec.org/getinvolved/2012\\_Call\\_For\\_Entries.pdf](http://www.acec.org/getinvolved/2012_Call_For_Entries.pdf)

The ACEC-SC Palmetto Award (top overall project) and five other projects with the highest rated overall score are eligible to enter their projects in the national competition. All national participants will be recognized at a special awards ceremony in Washington, DC. ACEC will select twenty four award winning projects-eight Grand Awards and 16 Honor Awards. One of the Grand award winners will receive the "Grand Conceptor" Award. Each winner will be honored during the EEA Gala Evening, Tuesday, April 17, 2012.

Plan now to participate in the 2012 Engineering Excellence Awards competition by submitting the Notice of Intent by November 18, 2011. Please call ACEC-SC Headquarters if you have any questions. Upon request, guidance may be provided to firms considering entering Engineering Excellence Awards for the first time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles T. Dwyer".

Chair, ACEC-SC EEA Committee

# Eligibility & General Criteria

## Eligibility

Any firm engaged in the practice of consulting engineering is eligible to enter the 2012 ACEC-SC Engineering Excellence Awards competition regardless of whether the firm is an ACEC-SC member. Any firm may submit multiple entries.

## General Criteria

- 1 Projects entered in the competition must have been prepared in South Carolina. Regional, national and international firms are encouraged to enter projects, executed anywhere in the world, from designs prepared locally.
- 2 Construction of projects must have been substantially completed and been ready for use between November 1, 2009 and October 31, 2011. Research and Studies or Surveying and Mapping entries must have been publicly disclosed by the client within the same time frame.
- 3 Entries may be placed in any one of twelve categories listed below. The entering firm must select the one category that is most appropriate. The only project that could be entered in more than one category would be one that has been entered in Category A - Studies and research. Such a project may be entered in a different category after it has been constructed and in the year in which it is eligible. The ACEC-SC Engineering Excellence Awards Committee reserves the right to determine ineligibility and/ or category classification of all entries.
- 4 An entry fee of \$395 for ACEC-SC members and \$750 for non-ACEC-SC members must accompany the Notice of Intent to be submitted by Friday, November 18, 2011. The entry fee is nonrefundable and required for each project submitted.
- 5 Official entries consist of a **notebook, photographic display panel, 4 CD-ROMs and Official Entry Form**. Entries are due at ACEC-SC headquarters by 5 p.m., Friday, December 9, 2011.

## Judging

Judging will take place in December. A panel of judges - professionals representing academics, industry, military and/or government - will convene to critique the projects on the basis of work performed by the entering firm only and according to ACEC rating guidelines shown below. The judges' decision on all awards is final.

## Awards

The Palmetto Award, recognizing the overall highest rated project, may come from any of the categories. An additional award will be presented for the highest rated project submitted by a small firm, defined as less than 30 South Carolina employees. The highest rated projects will qualify for national competition through ACEC. The ACEC-SC Public Service Award will be presented at the Gala. This year ACEC-SC started the Future Leaders Program, a series of seminars on issues important to the business of consulting engineers. Attendees completing this program will be presented their completion certificate during the ceremony. The ACEC-SC Engineering Excellence Awards Gala will be held February 7, 2012 at the Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia.

## Call For Entries Categories *of Engineering Excellence*

- A. Studies, Research, and Consulting
- B. Building/Technology Systems
- C. Structural Systems
- D. Surveying and Mapping Technology
- E. Environmental
- F. Water and Storm Water
- G. Water Resources
- H. Transportation
- I. Special Projects
- J. Small Projects
  - Total project construction budget does not exceed \$2.5 Million
- K. Energy
- L. Industrial and Manufacturing Processes and Facilities

## Rating Guidelines *for judging*

- 1. Original or Innovative Application of New or Existing Techniques.....20%
- 2. Future Value to the Engineering Profession and Perception by the Public .....20%
- 3. Social, Economic, and Sustainable Design Considerations .....20%
- 4. Complexity .....20%
- 5. Exceeding Client/Owner Needs .....20%
- Total .....100%

2012 Engineering Excellence Awards

## CATEGORY A

### Studies, Research and Consulting

Non-design services, projects not involving the preparation of construction documents

- New products, materials and technologies
- Expert testimony
- Basic research and studies
- Computer/software technology
- Technical papers
- Public outreach/ involvement
- Water conservation
- Security plans
- Project feasibility studies/economic/risk
- Value engineering

## CATEGORY B

### Building/Technology Systems

- Mechanical/electrical/plumbing
- Computer/technology
- Communications
- Acoustics
- Software systems
- Sustainability or carbon neutrality
- Efficiency certification standards, e.g. LEED
- Energy efficiency – new and retrofit
- Secure facilities (military, research, correctional)

## CATEGORY C

### Structural Systems

- Foundations
- Tunnels
- Buildings
- Seismic design
- Towers
- Bridges
- Stadiums

## CATEGORY D

### Surveying and Mapping Technology

- Geometrics, ALTA, land title and rights surveys
- Control, GPS, monitoring or construction surveying
- Survey mapping, GIS/LIS, photogrammetry

## CATEGORY E

### Environmental

- Hazardous waste
- Solid waste
- Restoration/reclamation/remediation
- Air quality
- Noise
- Recycling
- Waste pond management
- Carbon sequestration and trading
- Mitigation

## CATEGORY F

### Water and Storm Water

- Wastewater collection/treatment and disposal
- Residuals management and reuse
- Graywater systems
- CSO's
- Mine tailings
- Agricultural
- Storm water management
- Erosion control

# Call for Entries -Categories

## CATEGORY G

### Water Resources

- Hydraulics, hydrology
- Surface and groundwater supply development
- Treatment
- Transmission, distribution & storage
- Watershed management
- Water use reduction
- Flood risk management
- Climate adaptation
- Coastal and eco-system restoration
- Locks/dams/water control structures
- Irrigation

## CATEGORY H

### Transportation

- Highways
- Rail
- Airports
- Marine/ports
- Public transit
- Intermodal facilities

## CATEGORY I

### Special Projects

- Safety and security
- Corrosion protection/cathodic protection
- Program and construction management
- Land development
- Trenchless technologies
- Recreational facilities
- Subsurface engineering

## CATEGORY J

### Small Projects

- Total project construction budget does not exceed \$2.5 million. At the entrant's discretion, except for entries in Category A, projects under \$2.5 million are not limited to this category.

## CATEGORY K

### Energy

- Transmission and distribution
- Power generation
- Renewable energy
- Cogeneration
- Energy storage technologies
- Energy usage reduction programs
- Demand side management

## CATEGORY L

### Industrial and Manufacturing Processes and Facilities

- Petrochemical
- Biotech
- Manufacturing
- Heavy industry
- Industrial waste
- Materials handling
- Mining, metallurgy, mineralogy

# Entry Requirements

The following are requirements of each entry in the 2012 ACEC-SC Engineering Excellence Awards competition. If the submission does not meet these requirements, it will be disqualified. Do not mention the project winning other awards on the panel or in the press release, project description or executive summary. Please send project notebook, panel and 4 CD-ROM to ACEC-SC, 826 Assembly St., Columbia, SC 29201 by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 9, 2011.

## Notebook requirements

Entry materials must be submitted in a black, 3-ring, 1/2" binder with individual pages in sheet protectors.

- 1 Official Entry Form is included with this brochure. The engineer, client and owner all must sign the original Official Entry Form stating that the submitted project was substantially completed and ready for use between November 1, 2009 and October 31, 2011 (include on CD-ROM).
- 2 One-page signed Client/Owner Letter, addressed to ACEC, describing the relationship the client/owner had with the entrant in the development of the project and how it exceeded the client/owner needs (include on CD-ROM).
- 3 Executive Summary – one page; 8.5" x 11" with 1" side margins; double-spaced (minimum 12 pt. type) – describing the problem and solution. Project title and entry category must appear at the top of the page (include on CD-ROM).
- 4 Project Description, not to exceed five pages – 8.5" x 11", 1" side margins – addressing items a, b, c, and d as listed below. Each page should be in a separate sheet protector, and project title, category, and page number must appear at the top of each page. Entrant may utilize text (minimum 12 pt.), photos, graphs, etc.
  - a) Role of entrant's firm in the project,
  - b) Role of other consultants participating in project,
  - c) Brief description of the entrant's contribution to the project addressing each of the following rating guidelines:
    - Original or Innovative Application of New or Existing Techniques
    - Future Value to the Engineering Profession and perception by the public
    - Social, Economic, and Sustainable Design Considerations
    - Complexity
    - Exceeding Client/Owner Needs. Include total project budgeted cost, total project actual cost, entrant's portion of the budgeted cost, entrant's portion of the actual cost, scheduled and actual date of completion information from the **Official Entry Form**.
  - d) Describe in layman's terms, why this project is worthy of special recognition (word count between 100-500 words). Explain all factors that comprise the project's uniqueness such as innovative engineering, challenges faced, and overall social impact. **Note: This description will provide the basis for all ACEC-SC publicity on the project.**
- 5 Provide list of key participants on the project. Provide firm name, address, phone number, website and email address of each participant. Key participants should include contractors, subcontractors, other engineers, architects and other designers involved in the project.
- 6 Six different photos or graphics of high quality 8.5" x 11" unmounted from digital files. All photographs or graphics must have captions (describe what the photo or graph illustrates) on the back and labeled: Photo 1, Photo 2, etc. (include on CD-ROM: the required photos or graphics must be prepared as JPEGs, RGB, 300 dpi, sized to 8.5" x 11"; captions do not need to be included on the CD-ROM). Individual photos should be in separate sheet protectors. Photographs will be projected on a large screen during the EEA Gala. Therefore, it is extremely important to submit high-quality, high-resolution images. Three of the photographs must be of the completed project and provide the highest level of visual impact for publicity. Three of the photographs should display the planning, start-up, and/or construction phases of the project.
- 7 Copy of the Photographic Display Panel (guidelines below) – sized to 8.5 x 11" high quality color laser prints (include on CD-ROM as Adobe PDF, 600 dpi, sized to 8.5" x 11").
- 8 E-mail addresses of hometown newspapers, TV stations, and radio stations in Excel format. If the entrant intends to handle all local and national publicity for the project, include a statement to this effect (include on CD-ROM).
- 9 A press release (up to two pages, double-spaced) clearly and concisely describing the project and the entrant's participation, reflecting on factors listed in Item #4. In addition, point out the value of the project to the community, identify the number of people served, cost savings, etc. (Include on CD-ROM). No reference to other awards should be included in the submitted materials.

- 10 PowerPoint File with a total of eight slides including a title slide with the name of the project followed by Photos 1 - 6 and the small version of the photographic display panel. This PowerPoint file will support the presentation of your project to the judges. No sound or animation is permitted. No preset timing or slide show sequencing should be embedded. A sample PowerPoint presentation is downloadable from the ACEC/EEA website.
- 11 Entries in Category A – Studies and Research must be accompanied by a Supplementary Report containing findings portrayed with graphs, drawings, etc. (This report is mandatory for Category A entries only).

## Photographic Display Panel

Panel text and photos should demonstrate the challenges, solutions, and innovative uniqueness of key project elements. The panel should be prepared with **high-quality photos and graphics, with minimal text (250 words maximum)**. The panel should include:

- 1 **South Carolina Requirements**

One photographic panel, 30" x 30" square display material with 5 mil matte laminate over the front and mounted on 3/16 Gator Board. Panel requirements differ from national due to the panels being displayed at various ACEC-SC events and the engineering schools throughout the year.
- ACEC National Requirements**

(Print only if your project is selected and submitted to national.)  
One photographic panel, 30" x 30" square display material, which has a matte finish and laminated over the front and back as follows:
  - a) front lamination is 5 mil;
  - b) back lamination is 5 mil; and
  - c) panel is no more than 5-6 mil for a total of 15-16 mil in thickness. **Framed or mounted panels will NOT be accepted.**
- 2 **Four, 9-inch long strips of Velcro** (the hook side only) must be placed on the back of panel, at the top and bottom near each corner of the panel.
- 3 **Maximum of six photos and/or graphics** shall be used on the panel. Each image shall be a minimum of 7" x 5" or 35 sq. in. A background photo is not considered a photograph.
- 4 **Minimum 32 pt. type** for text or descriptions and **minimum 28 pt. type** for captions and graphics indicated on the front of the panel.
- 5 ACEC Logo (download from the ACEC website), title and location of the study or project, client/owner's name and location, and entering firm's name and location (**minimum 32 pt. type**) shall be indicated on the front of the panel.
- 6 Leave a 2"x 2" space in the upper right hand corner of the panel that is free of text or images but carries the panel's background scheme through this space. This blank space should not be left as a white square. This space will be used for the ACEC judging coding so any words or graphics in this area will be hidden once the panel is coded.
- 7 The firm name, the firm address, the project name, and the category shall be indicated on the **back of the panel**. *Note: If facilities for production of the photographic display panel are not available in your area, contact Ginger Booker at ACEC-SC for sources.*

## CD-ROM Requirements

Four copies of the CD-ROM are required for SC only. Disks must be properly labeled to indicate the firm name, the project name, and the category. Be sure to test your CDs on different computers to ensure they are not machine dependent. The CD-ROMs must be read-only (CD-R) and should include the following items in order and titled as shown: 1-Official Entry Form, 2-Client/Owner Letter, 3-Executive Summary, 4-Project Description, 5-Key Participants, 6-Six Photos or Graphics, 7-Photographic Display Panel (*small version*), 8-E-mail Addresses in Excel format, 9-Press Release, 10-PowerPoint File, 11-Supplementary Report containing the findings portrayed with graphs, drawings, etc. (*mandatory for Category A Entries only*).



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of South Carolina

# Notice of Intent

**DEADLINE: November 18, 2011**

To submit an entry for the ACEC-SC 2012 Engineering Excellence Awards competition, please complete this form and return it to the ACEC-SC headquarters with your entry fee\* no later than Friday, November 18, 2011. Project entries will be due at ACEC-SC headquarters by 5 p.m. Friday, December 9, 2011.

Form available at [acecsc.org](http://acecsc.org)

Firm \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Project title (limited to 40 characters) \_\_\_\_\_

Project client/ owner \_\_\_\_\_

Project location \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description (include services involved) \_\_\_\_\_



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of South Carolina

Send to:  
ACEC-SC  
P.O. Box 11937  
Columbia, SC 29211  
(803) 771-4271 FAX (803) 771-4272

*\*Entry fees are \$395 for ACEC-SC members and \$750 for non-ACEC-SC member firms and are nonrefundable. Please make checks payable to ACEC-SC. Entry fees are required for each project submitted. To submit more than one entry, please make copies of the Notice of Intent and Official Registration forms and use separate forms for each project.*

## 2012 Engineering Excellence Awards



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of South Carolina

# Official Entry Form

**DEADLINE: December 9, 2011**

Please furnish all information requested below for each entry. Firm, project and owner's name should be typed or printed as they are to appear on the award. Project name is limited to 40 characters. Entries are due by 5 p.m. at ACEC-SC Headquarters, 826 Assembly St., Columbia, SC 29201. The phone number is (803) 771-4271. Form available at [acecsc.org](http://acecsc.org)

## About the project

Project Name \_\_\_\_\_

Judge this entry in the following category: (Check one)

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| A. Studies, Research, and Consulting | F. Water and Storm Water                               |
| B. Building/Technology Systems       | G. Water Resources                                     |
| C. Structural Systems                | H. Transportation                                      |
| D. Surveying/Mapping Technology      | I. Special Projects                                    |
| E. Environmental                     | J. Small Projects                                      |
|                                      | K. Energy  |
|                                      | L. Industrial & Manufacturing Processes and Facilities |

Project Location: City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Complete relative to Entrant's portion of the project:

*(Budgeted and/or actual costs may not apply to some studies in Category A)*

Completion/Use dates: Scheduled \_\_\_\_\_ Actual \_\_\_\_\_

Category A Costs: Budgeted \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Actual \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Construction Costs: Budgeted \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Actual \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If your firm was responsible for the entire project, then the Entrant's portion of the Total Project Construction Budget should equal the Total Project Construction Budget. If your firm was not responsible for the entire project, then the Entrant's Portion of the Total Project Construction Budget should be the amount of the project construction budget for which your firm was responsible. This information is about project costs, not firm fees.

## About firm(s) submitting project

Entering Firm(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address (no P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Marketing Director's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Names and locations of construction contractors

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Names, locations of other consultants, Architects, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Senior Executive Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize submission of this project in the American Council of Engineering Companies of South Carolina's 2011 Engineering Excellence Awards competition.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address (no P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## About the client/ owner(s) of project

Client/ Owner(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

I currently believe the work of the engineers meet the intended uses and expectations for the project, and hereby grant permission to enter this project in the ACEC-SC Engineering Excellence Awards competition and authorize publications of its outstanding features, unique aspects or innovations. I agree that the project was substantially completed and ready for use between November 1, 2009 and October 31, 2011.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address (no P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

If the project is a joint venture between two or more engineering firms, please list them all for award and recognition purposes. Give complete address information in project notebook under #2a and #2b.

Send this form along with all materials to:

ACEC-SC ♦ 826 Assembly St. ♦ Columbia, SC 29201

Form available at [acecsc.org](http://acecsc.org)