

AACE Atlanta Section Update

Dear Atlanta Section Members,

Hope you had a great holiday season and a happy new year. We are 2025 starting strong, with a Virtual Technical meeting by Compass International Owner John McConville. An invite has been sent which provides more information on the topic. You can read his bio in this issue.

This month we want to share information on two organizations that promote careers in construction and workforce development for middle school and high school students.

- [Chattanooga Engineers Club](#), established to promote the exchange of ideas and to learn about current developments/trends in science engineering and technology. Support the community by engaging students to consider engineering careers through STEM activities, offer members professional development hours through presentations, perform tours and other networking opportunities. Check out their upcoming E-Week, tours and other events.
- [Construction Ready](#), this organization elevates construction and skilled trades as a great career path. They train, recruit and place people who want to work in trades by connecting them with industry and community partners. At CareerEXPO two-day event you will find hands-on displays that allow students to engage with industry leaders, equipment, materials, and much more! Students also find opportunities to tap into their unique skills and interests. If you have young kids at home, I recommend attending!

Construction Market News

On the news this month, review of the industry data.

[December 2024 economic roundup](#)

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Upcoming Member Event



Join Us: Virtual Technical Meeting on **February 12, 2025**, at **noon ET**, as Compass International Mr. John G McConville presents Validating / Review of a Capital Cost Estimate [Join the Meeting Here](#)

Virtual Technical Meeting:

Compass International presents **VALIDATING / REVIEW OF A CAPITAL COST ESTIMATE**

Mr. John G McConville - Owner/CEO

John is the Operations Director of Compass International, a Cost Estimating / Procurement Consulting & Publishing firm, which is known around the world as “the experts” on US & International Construction Costs, Global EPC Procurement & Construction Productivity.

John has 40 years’ experience related to Cost Estimating, Estimating Reviews / Validation Services, Turnaround of Problem Projects, Independent Estimates for Owners & Value Engineering on a wide variety of major EPC projects, including: Chemical & Process, Petro-Chemicals, Manufacturing, Pharmaceuticals, Infrastructure Facilities, Hi-Rise Buildings / Hotels & Commercial Facilities located in more than 30 countries.

John’s four decades of executing & researching major Industrial, Infrastructure & Commercial projects at Compass International (25 + countries), Mobil Oil (USA, Norway & France), Bristol-Myers Squibb (USA & Ireland) & Linde Gas (USA, Canada, Germany, Argentina, Saudi Arabia & South Africa) has been the foundation of his expertise. He has analyzed the many issues that influence EPC projects in succeeding or failing to meet their stated cost & schedule goals.

He strongly believes that every Chemical & Process / Industrial Capital project can be successful. His goal has been to empower Engineering & Construction organizations to optimize the cost & schedule performance of their EPC projects.

John is the Author of (11) Cost & Procurement books on US / International Construction Cost & Global Procurement / Contracting Practices & in addition he has published many articles. He is a sought-after speaker at many industry conferences.

John has presented more than 150 Conceptual – Detailed Estimating, Project Management & Value Improvement training programs & webinars to more than 5,000 Construction Professionals employed by Government Agencies, Universities, Fortune 500 companies & EPC firms in the USA, Canada, Venezuela, Colombia, Norway, Netherlands, India, the UK, Saudi Arabia & Malaysia.

John is a Certified Cost Professional (CCP) with the Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering (AACEI) the leading Association for Cost Engineering & has a Degree in Construction Management.

He & his firm provides consulting advice to Owners on Cost Estimating, Estimate Validation, Construction Productivity & Estimating Procedures, many times leading into follow up roles in supporting the organization in improving their current & future Estimating / Project Control practices.

John most recently has presented more than (35) discussions & webinars to Owner companies & Professional Associations around the world on the negative productivity impact COVID-19 has had on Chemical & Process Capital Projects. John can be reached at the following

