

# PE MATTERS

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NEWS

**NSPE-UT**™ UTAH SOCIETY OF  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

>>>> JUNE 2019

## 2019 USPE Continuing Education Conference Highlights



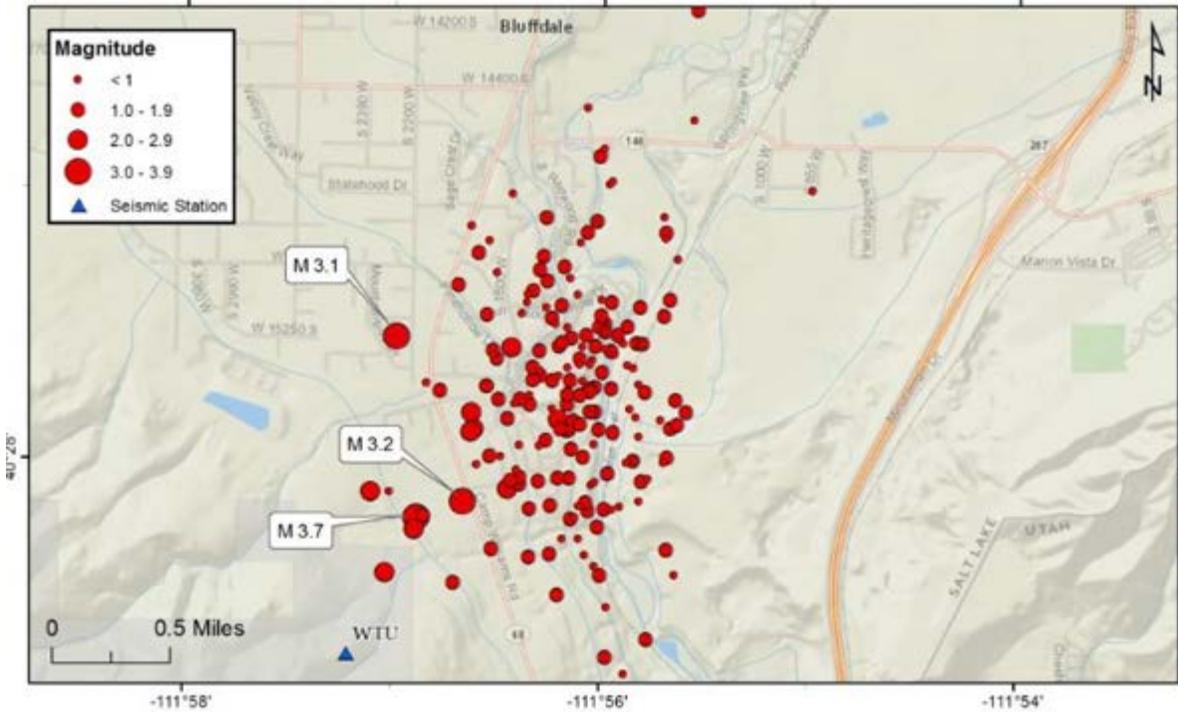
The Utah Society of Professional Engineers just wrapped up its annual continuing education conference last month. There were 113 participants at this year's event which included powerful topics such as solar powered airplanes, the Transcontinental Railroad, UAVs, renewable energy with non-profits, risk analysis, and project management. We are very grateful for our sponsors of the event including The University of Utah Engineering Alumni Association, Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, and GoEngineer.



During the event we also had a great discussion concerning our communities and how you as engineers and us as an organization can get more involved. Some suggestions are to get involved early in the education process. Also mentoring engineering students and recent graduates. You can likely remember leaving college with your degree thinking you knew everything, only to discover how much you didn't know. There were likely those couple engineers who took you under their wing to help you learn to ropes and keep you walking down the path of success. There are many opportunities out there, take the time to reach out, it will be more rewarding than you might think.

As mentioned in the conference, Utah is earthquake country and earlier this year Bluffdale City experience a large quantity of earthquakes within a 35-day time period. With that USPE is working with The Utah Division of Emergency Management about setting up a special session of their Post-Earthquake Building Evaluation Training for our Community of professional engineers to attend. When a disaster strikes, we as P.E.s need to be a core member of the team.

### Recent Seismicity near Bluffdale, Utah February 13 - April 20, 2019



<https://quake.utah.edu/special-events/2019-bluffdale-earthquake-sequence-faq>

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## Complete the Engineering Team With NICET Certification

In the late 1950s, as the US came to rely more heavily on machines and automation, technically skilled workers who could support the work of engineers were in high demand. In 1961, NSPE rose to the challenge by forming an organization to certify technicians and technologists.



But even though technicians have been an integral part of the engineering team and NSPE since then, that organization—the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies—is not always understood by PEs. A well-attended, NSPE-sponsored webinar on May 29 provided the full picture.

During the webinar, “[Quality and Safety Through a Qualified Engineering Team](#),” NICET Communications Director Chip Hollis detailed the institute’s operations and the technician’s role on the team. NICET was founded to recognize the qualifications of technicians. Its focus, Hollis explained, helps ensure a qualified engineering workforce, certifying both engineering technicians and technologists in areas such as construction materials testing, transportation construction inspection, electrical power, fire protection, and security systems.

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## Don't Miss This Upcoming Webinar



Stay current with essential professional development opportunities through NSPE webinars. Members receive a special rate on the upcoming live webinar:

On **June 26** at 2 p.m., the webinar [The Saint Joseph Water Crisis – Lessons Learned in the Age of Deteriorating Water Infrastructure](#) will focus on a water crisis in Saint Joseph, Louisiana, which lends many lessons related to the difficulties faced by small and large water systems in rural environments. In this session, David A. Martin, P.E., will present an overview of the state of the town’s water system prior to and after construction, as well as an overview of the new treatment process and applicability to other aquifer systems. Additionally, participants will be presented with the lessons learned during the crisis, including regulatory involvement, use of multiple funding sources, early owner procurement of long lead time equipment, and alternate project delivery.

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## Don't Miss...

- [Exemptions to Engineering Licensure Laws](#). NSPE has updated this report, with information current as of May 2019. It is free for members.
- [Take Action on Licensure Exemption Bills](#). It's imperative that lawmakers hear from their professional engineering constituents who [support bills](#) in the US House and Senate targeting licensure exemptions in public utility pipeline work.
- [PECON at a Glance](#). Take a look at the lineup of activities and educational sessions taking place at the 2019 Professional Engineers Conference in Kansas City.

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