

State News for NSPE Members

Save the Date: 2024 Engineers Week Banquet

Mark your calendar for the [Engineers Week Banquet](#) on **Friday, February 23**, at the Delta Hotel (1117 Williston Road, South Burlington, VT 05403). The event will celebrate the engineering community, outstanding engineers, and accomplishments in Vermont. The event will also include the usual award ceremonies and other announcements, followed by a keynote presentation by BETA Technologies. Please feel free to invite family, coworkers, and friends to the banquet! Stay tuned for more event details.

Vermont is Racing to Meet its Own Electric Vehicle Targets

State transportation officials recently told legislators this week that Vermont's electric vehicle transition still has a long way to go to meet its goals, the [VT Digger reports](#).

Vermont currently leads the country in efforts toward electrification of the transportation sector, according to data shared by officials based on a study conducted by the Natural Resources Defense Council, which compared states based on their charging infrastructure, incentives, and emissions requirements. Still, the Green Mountain State is lagging behind its targets.

As of October 2023, there were just under 11,000 plug-in EVs registered in the state, David Roberts, a consultant for the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation, told the House Transportation Committee. But meeting state emissions goals for the transportation sector would require that there be about 27,000 plug-in EVs registered in Vermont by 2025 and 126,000 by 2030.

Roughly 10% of new vehicle registrations in the state each year come from EVs, he said. But that needs to pass 15% by 2025 and 68% by 2030 for Vermont to meet its stated targets. "There's a lot of opportunity to advance toward those goals," Roberts told legislators, "but they're going to be challenging to hit, and we certainly can't rest on our laurels." [Read more.](#)

STARBASE Expands STEM Among Vermont Youth

[DVIDS reports](#) that since 1994, the Department of Defense youth program, known as STARBASE, has been increasing fifth graders' exposure to the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math.

Originally called Project STARS, the DoD program began in Detroit, Michigan in 1991 and was focused on exposing at-risk youth to hands-on activities related to the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). In 1993 the US Congress appropriated funds for the program, and it has since expanded to 81 locations throughout the country – including two in Vermont.

"STARBASE Vermont is a youth program for fifth graders," said Paige Clark, STARBASE Vermont site supervisor. "We have a site in South Burlington on the Vermont Air National Guard Base, and a site in Rutland at the Armed Forces Reserve Center. Each site serves 800 to 1200 students annually, and our mission is to raise the interest and improve students' knowledge in STEM." The 5-day program allows fifth graders from schools across the state to travel to one of the two Vermont locations and experience team-based activities and lessons.

"Specifically, students focus on the fields of physics, chemistry, technology, robotics, computer aided design, and the engineering design process," said Clark.

[Read more.](#)


Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Help Guide the Future of NICET's SSI Program

The National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET), a division of the NSPE, is developing a certification program for the Systems Software Integrator (SSI) certification program. NICET invites you to [participate in the SSI Job Task Analysis survey](#) to provide vital feedback needed to develop the program.

The SSI certification program seeks to reduce risk, improve quality, and ensure public safety from new emerging technologies as software and information technology increasingly converges with the operation of physical processes and machinery affecting our lives.

We highly value the insight you can provide and would greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey by February 5. After completing the survey, participants can enter into a drawing for a \$100 Amazon gift card.



Nominations Open: 2024 Excellence Awards

Please consider nominating a colleague for an NSPE Excellence Award.

NSPE Award : The NSPE Award is the highest award given to an individual by the Society. It is presented to an engineer who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession, the public welfare, and humankind. The nomination deadline is March 1.

New Professional Award : This award recognizes a young NSPE member who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and the community during the early years of one's career. The nomination deadline is March 1.

Engineering Education Excellence Award : This award recognizes engineering faculty who have demonstrated the ability to link engineering education with professional practice. The recipients must be licensed and have a faculty appointment in an ABET-accredited engineering program. The nomination deadline is March 31.

Call for NSPE Fellow Membership Nominees

Nominations for the **NSPE Fellow Membership Grade** are **due by March 1**. This prestigious national program aims to recognize dedicated professional engineers who have demonstrated outstanding and sustained service at the chapter, state, and national levels of NSPE. [Access more information about the nomination process](#).

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