

State News for NSPE Members

The Threat to Louisiana's Industrial Plants

Leaders in Louisiana's chemical industry are working together to handle drone threats, cyberattacks, and corporate espionage, according to the latest issue of the *10/12 Industry Report*. "We continue to see malicious, unauthorized activity in regard to drones" plus there's concern about unmanned land-based vehicles and submersibles, says Ed Flynn of the Louisiana Chemical Association. LCA's Security Committee meets monthly with federal and local law enforcement to share information and make preparations before the next attack or hurricane strike. [Read more.](#)

Deepwater Horizon and Engineering Ethics

April 20 marked the 10th anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon disaster. LSU Petroleum Engineering Professional-in-Residence Wesley Williams teaches students who plan on entering the oil and gas industry and made this point about ethics: "You may think you're powerless because you're not an executive, but you're not. If you say this is how things are done, eventually you'll move up and be the one to make those decisions. You'll have the right toolset and mindset. If you work hard and have a sharp toolset, which LSU Engineering will give you, then you'll understand the limitations. You can defend your arguments. That's the ethics of practicing engineering. You will run into ethical dilemmas that you must stand up against." [Read more.](#)

Louisiana Job Openings

[Vice President, Development](#)
Port of New Orleans

[Aviation Engineer](#)
G.E.C., Inc.

View other [opportunities](#).

Get Ready for *Virtual* PE Conference 2020 (#NSPEVirtual)

To protect the health, safety, and welfare of our members, while continuing to provide meaningful and valuable education and engagement opportunities, NSPE leadership has decided to postpone this year's Professional Engineers Conference (**PECon**) in Philadelphia until summer 2021. In its place, the Society will host an online Virtual PE Conference in August. Events will be centered around the annual celebration of PE Day, August 5.



The new virtual program will make it easier for attendees to participate according to their schedules. Sessions can be experienced in a live virtual environment or by accessing recordings at a more convenient time. Virtual **PECon** will be easily accessible and affordable due to the elimination of travel costs and reduction in registration fees. PDH credits will be available for education sessions comparable to the amount you could earn at a regular **PECon**. The virtual conference will also provide networking and social connection with colleagues in addition to professional development opportunities.

Current plans include:

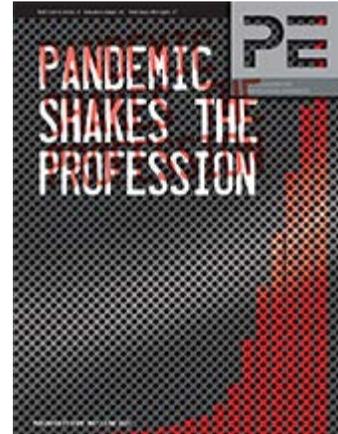
- Education tracks and sessions, featuring many of the sessions already planned for **PECon** 2020;
- Tracks spread throughout the week at various times of day, empowering attendees to take in more of the content they desire;
- Recording all sessions to make them available for on-demand viewing;
- Hosting keynote speakers and senior leaders allowing for interactive Q&A with attendees; and
- Networking/roundtable topic discussions with peers by region and areas of practice, geared to increase dialogue and member engagement.

Stay tuned for more information on content and registration to come.

Pandemic Forces Profession to Adjust

NSPE and its certification division [NICET](#), as well as state societies and individual members, are all adapting to a changed world.

Our latest [PE cover story](#) highlights how organizations and individual PEs are meeting the challenges with courage, compassion, and innovation. NSPE and its state societies are continuing to provide information, advocacy, and continuing education as staffers are sheltering at home. PEs are running companies from their bedrooms or dining rooms and working to ensure employee well-being while keeping businesses afloat.



No one knows what the future holds. But professional engineers will be among those helping to create that future—as always, prioritizing the public health, safety, and welfare.

[Read more from May/June PE magazine.](#)

Update: NICET's certification testing for engineering technicians has started to return but on a reduced schedule. Pearson VUE, the company that manages testing centers for NICET exams as well as NCEES exams and those in many other professions, began reopening on May 1. Centers will be operating at 50% capacity and for limited hours. The reopening of testing centers in Pennsylvania and Alaska has not been scheduled, due to locally imposed restrictions. For the latest information, visit [NICET's COVID-19 response web page](#).

[Read the latest on NCEES's FE and PE exams.](#)

Don't Miss These Upcoming Webinars



NSPE is increasing the number of its webinars to serve members during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay current in the profession, earn PDHs, and advance your career by tuning in.

- [Engineering Exemptions and Education: Diminish the First and Enhance the Second - May 20](#)
- [Negotiate It! How to Crush Your Fears, Develop Your Negotiation Muscle, and Gain Power in the Workplace - May 27](#)
- [Fire Protection Engineering in Property Risk Management - June 3](#)
- [Ethics in our Changing World - June 10](#)
- [Engineers, Building Water Systems and Legionella: What You Need to Know - June 24](#)

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