

MDOT to Release Documentary on 20th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina

After Hurricane Katrina devastated the Mississippi Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005, the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) was faced with the monumental task of rebuilding or repairing nearly every major route along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Now, 20 years later, MDOT is releasing a documentary that chronicles the restoration of infrastructure through the stories of those at the forefront of recovery efforts.

Titled “MDOT Remembers Hurricane Katrina: 20 Years Later,” the documentary includes first-hand accounts of the devastation and recovery of vital infrastructure in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Former Governor Haley Barbour, Southern Transportation District Commissioner Charles Busby, MDOT Executive Director Brad White, Former MDOT Executive Director Melinda McGrath, and a host of former MDOT professional engineers are featured in the documentary.

In the nearly 30-minute video, the narrative that emerges is not simply a retelling of how bridges were rebuilt, it’s a behind-the-scenes look at the major infrastructure recovery that took place and the men and women behind the contracts, cranes and bulldozers. It will serve as a time capsule for anyone curious about how connectivity was restored along the Mississippi Gulf Coast following a storm of epic proportions. [Read more.](#)

Mississippi Schools Save \$350K Using Energy Efficiency Programs

As students from kindergarten to college-aged return to the classroom, some schools are welcoming them back with more energy-efficient technologies, like upgraded HVAC systems, lighting and commercial cooking equipment, [Entergy reports.](#)

So far this year, Entergy Mississippi is proud to have helped several schools in its

service area save more than \$350,000 on upgrades like these through its Entergy Solutions for Business Program.

Entergy Mississippi offers services specifically designed to help customers manage their energy and ultimately lower their monthly bill at www.entergymississippi.com/energyefficiency.

As a customer, eligible schools of all levels can visit the business section of the webpage and take advantage of financial incentives and technical assistance when they replace old and inefficient equipment and systems with energy-efficient technologies.

“These programs can go a long way to help cover the cost of upgrades and provide long term savings on utility bills. Moreover, saving money on utility bills can allow schools to redirect funds to other needs,” said Tison Reno Entergy Mississippi’s manager of product and services deployment. [Read more](#).

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

Texas PE Takes the Lead of NSPE



Julia M. Harrod, P.E., F.NSPE, was installed as NSPE’s 2025-2026 president during a ceremony at NSPECon25 on August 7. With over two decades of leadership and engineering experience, she brings a unique interdisciplinary perspective to the role—combining backgrounds in architecture, civil engineering, and business strategy.

“It’s a tremendous honor to lead NSPE and help advance the mission of fostering

licensed professional engineers in service to society,” Harrod said. “We have an opportunity to expand our reach in advancing ethical leadership, innovation, and inclusion in engineering – and that starts with engaging and supporting the next generation of PEs.”

Harrod leads MWM DesignGroup as its president and CEO. The Texas-based firm provides integrated services in architecture, landscape architecture, civil engineering, land surveying, and permitting. She holds a degree in architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master’s degree in engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

After earning her PE license in Texas, Harrod quickly emerged as a dedicated leader and passionate advocate for the profession. She began her service with NSPE and the Texas Society of Professional Engineers in 2001 as a volunteer with the Travis Chapter in Austin. Since then, she has held numerous leadership roles, championing ethical standards and professional excellence across the engineering community.

The 2025-2026 NSPE Board of Directors (BOD) were installed during NSPECon25. [Get acquainted with the members of the BOD](#).

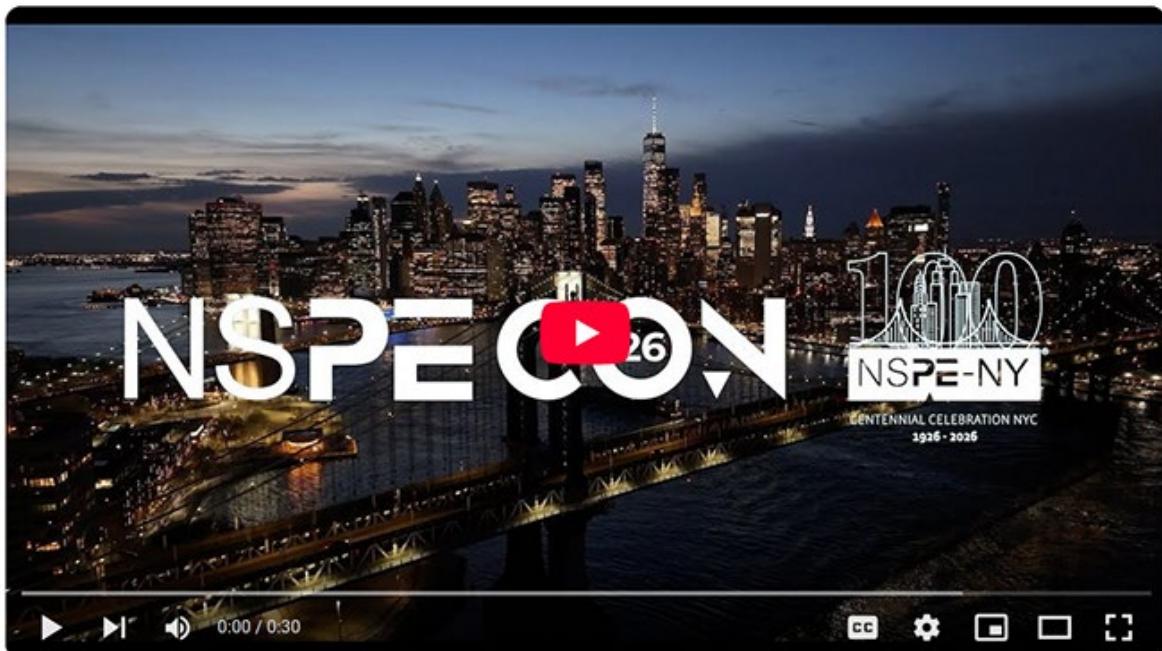


Save the Date: NSPECon26

We enjoyed seeing the NSPE community come together in Kansas City for NSPECon25 to celebrate PE Day, participate in sessions covering timely topics and engage in impactful conversations. Stay tuned for information on how to access photos from the event on the conference website.



Next year will be about bright lights and big opportunities, so add NSPECon26 to your calendar, because we're going to New York City, August 5-7. Help us celebrate NYSSPE's centennial anniversary in The Big Apple.



Thank You to Our NSPECon25 Sponsors

DIAMOND LEVEL SPONSOR



GOLD LEVEL SPONSOR



SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS



BRONZE LEVEL SPONSORS



BRASS LEVEL SPONSORS



Registration Open: 2025 Fall WORKability Webinars

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members —“WORKability Wednesdays”— to support members with their professional development goals through [NSPE's PE Institute](#) . The first webinar of the fall season will kick off on September 10 (2:00

p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET). Registration is open for the September webinars. Stay tuned for notifications to register for the additional webinars.



- September 10: [Decarbonizing Concrete: Overcoming Challenges, Unlocking Opportunities](#)
- September 24: [The Case for AI in Forensic Engineering: Enhancing Expert Testimony and Avoiding Obsolescence](#)
- October 8: **Marketing & Sales Best Practices for Engineering Firms**
- October 22: **Board of Ethical Review – Discussion of New Ethics Cases**
- November 5: **Winning More Business: Using Forensic Engineering Expertise as a Competitive Differentiator**
- November 12: **The Ethics of Sustainability in the Water, Food, and Energy Nexus**

You received this e-mail because you are subscribed to *PE Matters* e-newsletter.

To update your e-mail address, visit www.nspe.org and login to manage your account.

If you do not wish to receive any more issues of *PE Matters*, [click here to unsubscribe](#) .

Share with your network



**National Society of Professional Engineers | 1420 King Street | Alexandria, VA
22314**