Manufacturing Facility Expansion Will Bring Jobs to Jackson Region

Menasha Packaging, a retail-focused packaging design, manufacturing, and merchandising solutions provider, is expanding operations in Pelahatchie. The project is a $79 million corporate investment, mississippi.org reports.

Menasha’s products include high-graphic displays, boxes, and other shipping containers used primarily by consumer product companies. Menasha’s investment includes the expansion of its present manufacturing facility in Pelahatchie Industrial Park and the purchase of additional machinery and equipment.

The Mississippi Development Authority will help with construction. Rankin County and the city of Pelahatchie also are assisting with the project.

Bollinger Shipyards Acquires Space, Combines Workforces

Bollinger Shipyards has acquired VT Halter Marine, Inc. and ST Engineering Halter Marine Offshore, combining its workforces in Louisiana and Mississippi.

The acquisition includes 378 acres comprising two shipyards in Pascagoula and two dormant yards north of Pascagoula. The newly acquired yards have been renamed Bollinger Mississippi Shipbuilding and Bollinger Mississippi Repair. The Pascagoula facilities are strategically located with direct, deep-water access to the Gulf of Mexico and house corporate office space, engineering, fabrication, warehousing, and a foreign trade zone.

“The addition of the newly acquired yards in Pascagoula, Mississippi is strategic as it further strengthens Bollinger’s position in the industry and US defense industrial base by increasing capacity and footprint, improving efficiencies, enhancing economies of scale, and building a larger skilled workforce, including increased engineering capacity,” the company said in a news release.
NSPE Stays Focused on Sustainability and Resilience

The United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) kicked off in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt last week. As the conference takes place, NSPE will provide conference highlights of interest to professional engineers.

NSPE believes licensed PEs should be good stewards of the environment to preserve and protect our world for future generations. The Society recognizes that attention to sustainable and resilient design practices is critical to the health of the planet and is an integral part of the practice of engineering. PEs are uniquely positioned to be a positive and driving influence in creating, maintaining, and renewing sustainable communities.

In early 2022, the NSPE Board of Directors endorsed “The Role of the Engineering Community in Addressing Climate Change.” The statement was prepared with input from a working group of 16 organizations, including NSPE, and facilitated by ECL-USA. It is intended to unite, energize, and motivate people within and across organizations, and to fulfill their desires for meaning and purpose in their professional lives.

The Role of the Engineering Community in Addressing Climate Change:
Climate change is real – the impacts are serious, and they are accelerating. There is an urgent imperative for the Engineering Community to take informed and intentional actions now to both reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate. It is our duty and purpose to contribute our skills and knowledge of human-centered technologies and of the natural world to lead humanity out of the climate crisis with a focus on sustainable, resilient, equitable, and innovative approaches. Learn more.

Honor Awards Open for Nominations

The NSPE Honor Awards promote the professional engineer’s contributions to society and recognize the achievements of the profession’s very best. The deadline for award submissions is January 31, 2023.

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. **Howard (Skip) Harclerode II, P.E., F.NSPE, F.AIChE**, received the award in 2022. He is the founder and president of KBD Engineering Company Inc., based in Phoenix, Maryland, and has been a tireless advocate for the engineering profession.

**New Professional of the Year 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. **Holly Ahumada, P.E., CFM**, and **Dylan Ward, P.E., MPA**, received the award in 2022. Holly Ahumada specializes in stormwater and floodplain management at Freese and Nichols in Fort Worth, Texas. Dylan Ward is a project manager for the City of Henderson in Kentucky.

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**Upcoming Webinar: Election Recap**

Join your colleagues for the next Workability Wednesdays webinar: **Election Recap: How Can PEs Prepare for the 2023 Legislative Session** (November 30).

Register now for these FREE webinars for NSPE members and earn PDHs before the end of the year. If you missed any recent webinars? No problem.... check out the recordings .