

State News for NSPE Members

Licensing Board Opens Online Registration

The Guam Board of Registration for Professional Engineers, Architects and Land Surveyors has opened a dashboard to allow individuals to submit registrations and COAs online. Access the portal [here](#).

Governor Announces H-2B Common Construction Prevailing Wage Rates

New H-2B prevailing wage rates for common construction occupations were recently approved by the US Citizenship and Immigration Services through a biennial process using Guam data gathered from the US Department of Labor Occupational Employment Statistics Survey.

The three most common H-2B occupations for which workers are imported saw significant increases in their wage rates, according to Governor Leon Guerrero's [news release](#). Carpenters had a 0.65% increase, while cement masons saw a 4.96% increase and reinforcing metalworkers realized a higher increase of 7.17%. All craft worker rates exceed \$15 per hour and range as high as \$19 per hour. The new wage rates are not expected to change until October 2023.

The new rates will only affect new applications for H-2B workers filed with the Guam Department of Labor on or after December 14, 2021. Rates for current approvals remain at the old wage rates until the employer's valid labor certification expires. The Common Construction Prevailing Wage Rates are published on the GDOL's [website](#).

Construction Company Wins Bid to Build Naval Weapons Training Facility

Guam company Black Construction Corp. has been awarded \$122 million by the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command to install a multipurpose machine gun range at Northwest Field on Andersen Air Force Base. Weapons training will be the facility's primary

purpose. Planned facilities include a multilane, multipurpose machine gun range, a range control tower, ammunition distribution point, and covered bleachers, according to [NAVFAC](#). The work is slated for completion in October 2024.

"Construction will follow strict environmental and safety requirements, address the potential for unexploded ordnance within the project site, and have mitigation measures in place to offset environmental impacts," said Keith Hayashi, NAVFAC Pacific Design and Construction design production director.

"The machine-gun range has been a contentious project on Guam, as it has a large surface danger zone area and will restrict access to the northern part of the Ritidian wildlife refuge when in use," [reports Pacific Daily News](#).

Solar Farm Project Back on Track

The Department of Public Works has lifted the stop-work order on the solar farm project in Mangilao, [reports The Guam Daily Post](#), although it appears completion will be delayed from December to March or April of next year.

The project is owned by a local subsidiary of the Korea Electric Power Co., South Korea's largest electric company. Samsung E&C America Inc. is the project contractor and had been cited by the Guam Environmental Protection Agency for failing to follow approved erosion mitigation plans.

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

Volunteer Leaders Make a Difference – Are You Ready?

Do you want to influence the future of the profession? Are you a young professional looking to advance your career? Have your professional achievements created a desire to give back and serve?

Join NSPE leaders Tricia Hatley, Megan Schultz, and Craig Sisco on **November 1** (4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET) as they explore the rewards, benefits, and requirements of volunteer service. NSPE President Rick Guerra will serve as the moderator during this **free webinar**.

Attendees will learn about the opportunities available and gain an understanding of the skills and abilities desired for these positions. The panelists will also share real-life stories of how volunteer service with NSPE has improved their careers and provided fulfillment of their goals and aspirations. [Register now](#).



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Megan J. Schultz,
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Craig S. Sisco,
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Rick J. Guerra,
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Delaware Improves Licensure Mobility for PEs

Legislation designed to expand licensure mobility for professional engineers in Delaware was signed by Governor John Carney on September 17. Members of the Delaware Engineering Society let state legislators know of their support for the bill through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#), a critical factor in gaining support for its passage.

The amendments to the state's PE law provide multiple licensing opportunities. Individuals with an NCEES Record or who qualify as a Model Law Engineer will now find it easier to obtain a PE license in Delaware. The law was also amended to recognize applicants who are graduates of an engineering educational program approved by an accrediting agency that is a signatory to the Washington Accord. The accord covers 21 countries, including Australia, Canada, China, India, Ireland, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

An applicant with a minimum of five years of continuous and verifiable experience as a professional engineer can also apply for comity licensure. These applicants must also submit five references, three of which must be from professional engineers licensed in the US, Canada, or an International Professional Engineer registrant under the International Engineering Alliance.

The law's new provisions also eliminate the requirement that licensees can use only an embossed seal, making way for use of a digital seal.

Challenges Facing the Profession

NSPE Immediate Past President Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, offers her advice on how engineers can get the most satisfaction from their careers in a four-part series featured in *Machine Design*.

In the first article installment, [Challenges Facing the Profession](#), Hatley discusses the value of professional engineering licensure and the challenges the profession faces—population growth and urbanization,



the recent pandemic and its short and long-term effects on society, the need for diversity to increase the ranks of engineers, and advances in technology.

Member Benefit: Build Your Financial Future with BHG

Did you know that NSPE has a member-benefit partner to support your financial needs? BHG offers members a variety of financial solutions including:

- Business loans to cover expenses such as debt consolidation, working capital, technology or equipment, business acquisition, or startup costs;
- Personal loan solutions to cover expenses such as debt consolidation, investments, life events, or major purchases;
- SBA 7(a) loans for business debt consolidation, or costs associated with startup or acquisition, real estate, renovation, or expansion; and
- Credit cards that offer low rates, cash back, and elite rewards, designed for professionals.

For more information or to get started, visit the BHG [website](#).

Not sure what financial solution is right for you but trying to improve your credit health? Learn four great ways to improve your credit health in BHG's recent webinar, [The Credit Gambit](#).

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