HI Mathletes Get Ready for National Competition

Congratulations to the student team that will represent Hawaii during the 2024 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS Competition finals, May 11-14 in Washington, DC. The event is a celebration of the incredible mathletes, educators, volunteers, alumni, and education advocates who make MATHCOUNTS possible. The thrilling Countdown Round will take place on May 13 and is open to the public (registration required). Access information about the mathletes and competition events here.

Hawaii MATHCOUNTS Team
Evan Ho (8th grade) - Washington Middle School - Honolulu, HI
Alex Hudson (8th grade) - Iolani School - Honolulu, HI
Noah Shin (8th grade) - Punahou School - Honolulu, HI
Austin Uezu (7th grade) - Iolani School - Honolulu, HI
Joe Guillou (Coach) - Iolani School - Honolulu, HI

Reminder: Licensure Renewals

All engineer, architect, surveyor, and landscape architect licensees must renew their licenses with the Hawaii Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects by April 30, 2024, regardless of the date that the license was issued. Access more information here.

Hawaii to Get $5.2M+ to Make Kamehameha Highway 'More Resilient' 

Hawaii will receive over $5.2 million in federal grants to make transportation infrastructure more resilient to climate change, the Biden-Harris Administration recently announced, according to a Hawaii News Now report.

The federal funding was approved for two Hawaii Department of Transportation
projects focused on making Kamehameha Highway more resilient to coastal erosion and protected against rockfalls. This comes after frequent calls for action to address the worsening erosion on the key coastal highway. The state DOT will receive $2.4 million to install a coastal barrier to prevent erosion from destabilizing the northbound lane of Kamehameha Highway.

Officials say the project will ensure that the most threatened location of the highway road, that links the Koolauloa district and Honolulu metro area for 13,000 daily users, is protected from waves, erosion, and increasing impacts of climate change. In addition, the DOT will receive over $2.8 million to replace 1,000 feet of an existing rockfall impact fence to provide protection from rockfalls on a heavily travelled corridor of Kamehameha Highway. Read more.

AES Hawaii Launches First Solar Plus Storage Facility on O‘ahu

AES Hawaii recently celebrated the launch of its West O‘ahu solar-plus-storage project in Kapolei – the company's first facility to combine solar generation and battery energy storage on O‘ahu. The launch was commemorated with a blessing ceremony at the project site and reception at the nearby University of Hawaii-West O‘ahu campus, according to a news release.

Dignitaries joining AES Hawaii leadership at the commissioning of O‘ahu's newest utility-scale solar project included Governor Josh Green, Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi, and University of Hawaii-West O‘ahu Chancellor Maenette K. P. Ah Nee-Benham.

Located on 66 acres of open University of Hawaii land, the West O‘ahu solar-plus-storage facility is generating 12.5 MW of clean energy for O‘ah's power grid, supported by a 50 MWh battery energy storage system, under a 25-year power purchase agreement with Hawaiian Electric at a cost of $0.115 cents per kilowatt-hour. The energy produced will reduce O‘ahu's use of fossil fuels by 750,000 barrels of oil and the associated pollution and greenhouse gases emitted over the project's lifetime.

Bernerd Da Santos, AES Hawaii executive vice president and president, global renewables, said the West O‘ahu project epitomizes the company's commitment to collaborate with community partners for the benefit of Hawaii’s long-term energy future.

"This is a momentous day for AES Hawaii as it is our first solar and storage project on O‘ahu and one that is providing a multitude of benefits over many years that extends far beyond the low-cost, clean energy we are generating for the people of O‘ahu," said Da Santos. "We are partnering with a premier educational institution in
the University of Hawaii-West O'ahu, helping to reduce Hawaii's dependence on imported oil and utilizing the land to support the island's agricultural needs." Read more.

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the NSPE Advocacy Center.

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**Connect and Learn at NSPECon24**

Registration is open for NSPECon24 (Raleigh, North Carolina, August 7-9), the prime national event for professional engineers to engage and connect with their peers and to advance their careers. The early-bird discount rates are available until June 27. Access registration information and rates [here](#). Access the [preliminary conference program](#) for details on keynote speakers and session topics.

The deadline for [reserving a hotel room](#) at the Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley for the NSPECon24 rate is July 15. We encourage you to make your reservation early.
since there are a limited number of conference rate hotels rooms available.

NSPECon24 also offers a variety of sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. A special exhibitor discount is being offered to Research Triangle-based businesses.

Welcome to Our 2024 Sponsors!

NSPE’s Women Leadership Program is sponsoring the Leadership Institute for Women Professional Engineers, a three-day program designed to support mid-career women PEs in confidently navigating their career path and leveraging their leadership skills.

The institute agenda is interwoven into the NSPECon24 program with participants attending pre-conference opening sessions on Wednesday, August 7, and sessions the mornings of Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Attendees must register for NSPECon24 to attend the institute.
QBS Awards Program Accepting Nominations

NSPE is seeking nominations for the 2024 QBS Awards. The QBS Awards program promotes and recognizes the exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process in three categories: federal government sector, state governor sector (includes all governmental units under the state level), and nongovernment sector. The deadline for nominations is June 7 (close of business). Access the awards information and nomination form.

Read a PE magazine article about a longtime champion of QBS.

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