Introducing the Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year

The Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers is proud to announce that Edmund Chang, P.E., and Brandon Uejo, P.E., have been selected as the 2022 Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year (respectively).

Edmund Chang and Brandon Uejo will be recognized at the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies' Engineers Week banquet in February. The Student Engineer of the Year (selected by the University of Hawaii) and a Lifetime Achievement award (selected by HCES) recipients will also be honored during this event. Access information about 2022 Engineers Week events.

Engineer of the Year—Edmund Chang

When Edmund Chang decided to pursue mechanical engineering at the University of Hawaii, he saw himself as "just an average guy who was following what other students around me were doing." But soon after graduating from the Manoa campus, he showed a propensity for independent action that pushed him way beyond the "just average" bracket.
Edmund Chang started his career as a design engineer for the McDonnell Douglas F-15 Fighter in St. Louis, Missouri. Returning to Hawaii a year later, he became a project engineer for a company doing pipeline construction at a refinery in Campbell Industrial Park (CIP). He parlayed the job into a 15-year construction assignment with his family in 11 different cities across the US and in the Middle East. They returned to Hawaii where he helped to build the H-Power plant in CIP before going to Hawaiian Electric Company Inc. (HECO).

Chang is currently a consulting engineer (piping, welding and NDE) at HECO. During Chang's 30-plus years at HECO, he spearheaded the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors (NB) programs. In 1998, he developed the NB "R" Certificate program which permits HECO to perform its own welded repairs to its pressure retaining components. In 2003, Chang developed the NB "VR" Certificate program which permits HECO to repair its own pressure relief valves. With the "R" certificate program came the need for ASME, National Board Inspection Code, and Hawaii Boiler Law codes training in addition to upgrading the welding program, and initiating an NDE program and post weld heat treatment program. He created and conducts training courses for these programs.

**Young Engineer of the Year—Brandon Uejo**

Brandon Uejo was raised in Pearl City on Oahu and is a proud graduate of the Kamehameha Schools (Kapalama Campus). In 2012, he earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Uejo is currently a senior project engineer at Park Engineering. He has over 9 years of design experience in the industry working with clients such as the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Design & Construction and Department of Facilities Maintenance, as well as private sector clients. His project experience is diverse ranging from the technical design of storm water quality and drainage facilities to site development and utilities to erosion control, as well as roadway design.

Uejo is active with professional organizations such as the ASCE's Younger
Member Forum and the Hawaii Water Environment Association. He is also active in the community. He has served as a junior varsity soccer coach for Kamehameha Schools and has volunteered for community service activities for the Hawaii Food Bank, Girl Scouts, MATHCOUNTS, and AYSO.

2022 HSPE Maui Chapter Scholarships

The Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers–Maui Chapter is offering up to three $1,500 academic scholarships this year. Maui County high school seniors entering into an accredited college of engineering and current University of Hawaii at Maui College students who are planning to transfer to an accredited college of engineering are eligible to apply.

The applicants are judged on their well-rounded application from academic achievements to their involvement in school and community activities. Scholarship applications must be submitted electronically (hspemaui@gmail.com) or postmarked by 4p.m. on Monday, January 24. Applications can be mailed to Audrey Cabrera at the following address: Brown and Caldwell, 2261 Aupuni St. Suite 201, Wailuku HI 96793.

For more information, please contact Audrey Cabrera, the HSPE-Maui Chapter Scholarship Chair, via email at acabrera@brwncald.com or at 808-442-3307.

Hawaii Working Toward 100% Renewable Energy Using New Model

Regulators in Hawaii are putting together incentives and taking a new approach to getting the state’s power company off fossil fuels. Penalties are also being implemented to work toward 100% renewable energy, Weekend Edition on NPR reported.

One measure taken was putting Hawaiian Electric on a five-year budget; if they spend less than is budgeted, they keep some of that money as profit. Another incentive is moving toward solar energy more quickly. Still another is engaging in pilot projects for electric vehicle infrastructure. The company also reportedly agreed to reduce customer bills.

This comprehensive utility reform could prove successful if regulators motivate energy companies to move toward renewable options. Currently, about 77% of Hawaii’s energy comes from fossil fuels, according to the federal Energy Information Administration. The state aims to be 100% renewable by 2045.
Biden's Infrastructure Plan Allocates Millions for Bridge Repairs in Hawaii

Under President Biden's infrastructure plan that infuses $26.5 billion into bridge repair across the US, Hawaii will receive $339 million. The funds will come over five years via the Federal Highway Administration. Aside from making much-needed repairs, a major goal of the funding is to help bridges withstand the effects of climate change by modernizing them, FHWA Administrator Stephanie Pollack said.

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

Meet the Top 10 FEYA Nominees

NSPE is pleased to announce the 10 finalists for the 2022 Federal Engineer of the Year Award, honoring engineers employed by a federal agency with at least 50 engineers worldwide. All have made extensive contributions to their organizations and also to the public that PEs ultimately serve.

The winner of this year’s award will be announced February 24 and will be selected from the following finalists.

**MAJ John M. Kulikowski, P.E.**
*US Department of the Air Force, Pacific Air Forces*
Position: Engineering Flight Commander (Director, Engineering Design & Construction) 51st Civil Engineer Squadron, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea

**LCDR Joshua M. Lewis, P.E.**
*US Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command*
Position: Operations Officer for Officer In Charge of Construction, Marine Corps Base Marianas, Guam

**Eric Marshall, P.E.**
*US Department of the Army, US Army Corps of Engineers*
Position: District Commander, Honolulu District, US Army Corps of Engineers

**LCDR Chaolong Qi, Ph.D., P.E.**
*US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*
Position: Senior Research Engineer

**LCDR Gary J. Riley, P.E.**
*US Department of Interior, National Park Service*
Position: Environmental Engineer and Program Manager
Christopher L. Saucier, P.E.  
*Tennessee Valley Authority*  
Position: Principal Project Manager

**Davood (Dave) Tashakkori, P.E.**  
*US Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Construction & Facilities Management*  
Position: Senior Mechanical Engineer

**LCDR Michael Wandersee, P.E.**  
*US Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service*  
Position: Project Engineer

**James V. Works, P.E.**  
*US Department of the Air Force, Air Force Civil Engineer Center*  

**Robert F. Zueck Ph.D., P.E.**  
*US Department of the Navy, Naval Engineering Systems Command*  
Position: Structural Engineer

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**Engineers Week 2022: Reimagining the Possible!**

*Engineers Week* (February 20–26) is a time to recognize the critical work of engineers, technicians, and technologists. Engineers Week was founded by NSPE in 1951. This year’s theme—*Reimagining the Possible!*—pays tribute to engineers for the new possibilities they create all the time. From green buildings to fuel-efficient cars to life-saving vaccines, engineers work together to develop new technologies, products and opportunities that change how we live.

Here’s how you can celebrate and inspire the next generation to become the engineers who turn dreams into reality.

**Join the social media parade #Eweek2022 #WhatEngineersDo.**  
Post photos of your team, engineering projects, and even selfies! Share a message about engineering’s vital role in innovating solutions to global challenges, the value of engineers, or engaging students in engineering.

**Host an Engineers Week event.**  
It can be as simple as coffee or lunch with a few colleagues to hosting an
organization-wide celebration. Recognize individuals to honor their achievements—in person, online, or by nominating them for an award. Invite an inspiring speaker to deliver a virtual or live talk during Engineers Week.

**Advocate for the field.**
Ask your mayor, governor, or congressional representative to issue a proclamation recognizing the contributions of engineers. Work with your corporation, society, or college communications team to post a message from leadership.

**Lead STEM activities.**
Leading open-ended STEM activities is a great way to engage students in the engineering design process. Students at Engineers Week and Girl Day events say activities are their favorite thing (they like the snacks too!) and they want to do more.

On January 20, DiscoverE will host an outreach webinar to help plan in-person and virtual events for Engineers Week and Girl Day 2022. Register here.

Get More Ideas to Celebrate Engineers Week.

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**New 15 Free Webinars for Members**

To help members meet their continuing education requirements, NSPE issued a new slate of 15 free webinars on January 15.

1. Climate Action for Engineers Series: ACC Overview*
2. Climate Action for Engineers Series: Categories of Action*
3. Cyber Security Essentials*
4. Emotional Intelligence at Work
5. Engineering Ethics – Objectivity and Truthfulness, Public Health and Safety, Signing and Sealing of Engineering Drawings and Misrepresentation*
6. Engineering Ethics – Conflicts of Interest, Licensure, Confidentiality and
Public Criticism*

7. Engineering Ethics – Disclosure, Payment, Expert Testimony and Conflicts of Interest*

8. Engineering Leadership Success by Design

9. Ethics in our Changing World*

10. Fire Protection Engineering in Property Risk Management*

11. Negotiate It! How to Crush Your Fears, Develop Your Negotiation Muscle, and Gain Power in the Workplace

12. The Physics of the Yellow Traffic Signal*

13. Too Many Crashes at Your Roundabout? Learn Design Technique*

14. Tools to Ensure Effective Litigation Preparation

15. Turn Your Ideas Into Gold

* Approved for continuing education credit in New York by the Practicing Institute of Engineering

NSPE’s 15 free webinars for 2022 are posted here.