Last Call for Nominations: HI Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year

The Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers is accepting nominations for Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year. These awards are intended to give recognition to the outstanding accomplishments, contributions, and achievements of individuals in the engineering field. The winners will be honored at the Engineers Week Banquet in February 2023.

Nomination forms can be accessed on the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies website or by contacting Kurt Kunimune, P.E., at kkunimune@bowersandkubota.com. Please submit nominations by Wednesday, December 28.

Year One of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

The Biden Administration recently updated state and territory fact sheets that highlight the nationwide impact of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the largest long-term investment in infrastructure and competitiveness in nearly a century. To date, $994 million in funding has been announced and is headed to Hawaii with approximately 35 specific projects identified for funding. Access information about Hawaii projects here.

Hawaii DOT Advocates Road Usage Tax for EVs

Hawaii transportation officials advocate a road usage tax starting with .8 cent per mile for electric vehicles to address shortfalls in traditional gas tax revenue arising from more green vehicles on roads, according to a Transport Topics report.

Hawaii’s Department of Transportation recommends "moving forward with a minimally disruptive transition to road usage charging" for passenger electric
vehicles without delay due to the pace of EV and hybrid vehicle adoption in the state.

This gradual transition from a gas tax to charging per mile driven on roads would provide HDOT with "time for further development and improvement of systems for collecting this new fee."

Instead of paying a flat $50 annual EV fee, residents would have their EV odometer mileage assessed under the state's current vehicle inspection program tied to vehicle registration. HDOT suggests the rate of .8 cent per mile be charged since that amount is equal to what the average gas vehicle in Hawaii pays through the gas tax. Initial EV annual usage rates would be no more than $70 average yearly rate for a gas vehicle. Read more.

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

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**Share Your PE Story #IAMNSPE**

NSPE is a society made up of dedicated individuals who each bring a unique story and perspective to the engineering profession. NSPE members are leaders. They are connected, inclusive, committed to ethical practice, and so much more. You have established your career as a PE, but what’s next? Learn how your peers have strengthened their professional toolkits and share your own story through social media. #IAMNSPE

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**NSPECon23 Heads to Louisville**

Mark your calendars to attend NSPECon23 in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2-4. NSPECon provides an opportunity to build your network of professional engineers and advance your career by learning new skills, expanding your expertise, and preparing for future developments in the industry. The conference presentation proposal submissions site is open (submission deadline: January 25). Stay tuned for more information on registration, session topics, sponsorship opportunities, and
additional conference activities!

If you want to reminisce about the fun, comradery, engagement experienced during this year’s NSPECOn (Philadelphia) in preparation for NSPECOn23, visit NSPE’s conference photo albums on Flickr.

Take Advantage of Professional Development Opportunities

It’s not too late for NSPE members to access the 2022 lineup of WORKability Wednesdays webinars. Access these free recorded webinars and earn PDHs before the end of the year.

The presentations address various topics of interest to professional engineers including the following:

- Amplifying the Current Infrastructure for the Imminent EV Transition
- Engineering: Addressing Unintended Consequences as a Professional
- What Separates Good Engineers From Great Engineers
- Ethical Case Insights: Lessons in Disclosure
• Setting and Verifying Corporate Sustainability Goals Across Environmental, Social, and Governance Topics

• Election Recap: How Can PEs Prepare for the 2023 Legislative Session