

State News for NSPE Members

State Licensing Board Warns of Fake Emails

Please be aware of spam emails being sent to professional engineers and engineering firms that appear to have been sent from the Florida Board of Professional Engineers. These emails, including ones with “a secure document” or a scam GoFundMe link, were not sent by FBPE, and should be deleted immediately, [FBPE advises in a news alert](#).

The body of the email has a link to view a document or a link to a cloud document server, such as Dropbox. Do not click any links or open attached documents. If you did click on a link or open a document, contact your technical support desk or run an anti-virus check.

Like previous fake emails, this email you received was likely a phishing attempt aimed at getting your personal information or an attempt to load malicious software on your computer. These types of emails will often appear to be sent from a familiar email address, but with a slight variation, such as fbpee.org, rather than our actual domain, fbpe.org.

FBPE does not send out emails with invoices or emails that ask for personal or professional information, or for you to verify your information. [Learn more](#).

Brightline Completes Rail Line Construction Between Orlando and South Florida

A major milestone in Brightline’s connection from Orlando to South Florida. Today, they’ve announced the completion of the long-anticipated rail line, [wesh.com reports](#).

The 170-mile stretch of rail now connects Central and South Florida, and Brightline is gearing up to finally begin running routes on the new line.

The project broke ground in 2019, about a year after services opened between Miami, to West Palm Beach. Service will include 16 daily round trips with hourly departures between Miami and Orlando.

Brightline says this work generated more than \$10,000 jobs and had an economic impact of more than \$6 billion dollars for the State of Florida.

The next phase is now all about high-speed testing in that corridor between West Palm Beach and Orlando, mainly going through Brevard County. The testing will go up to 110 miles and hours, and that'll continue through July. [Read more.](#)

USF Researchers Work to Prepare Florida for Hurricane Season

The 2023 hurricane season has officially begun, and the [University of South Florida reports](#) that its researchers are exploring ways to increase safety and preparedness across the state.

Assistant Professor Zachary Haber in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering is exploring novel, sustainable structural engineering solutions that can better withstand the powerful effects of natural disasters, including hurricanes. His goal is to develop design and construction guidance that can be used by bridge engineers. His focus is on ultra-high-performance concrete, an innovative fiber-reinforced, cement-based material that is five times stronger and 10 times more durable than conventional concrete.

Inside USF's Smart Grid Power Systems Laboratory, electrical engineering Professor Lingling Fan helps electric companies across the nation evaluate the vulnerability of a power grid during extreme power grid events, such as a hurricane. Fan says when preparing for a hurricane, power plants usually proactively shut down certain areas ahead of the storm to increase safety, avoid serious damage and shorten restoration time post-storm. This can lead to uncontrolled blackouts for large demographic areas.

Through real-time digital simulators with powerful computing capabilities, Fan is able to evaluate how many people are impacted by shut-downs, develop detailed restoration plans and test various techniques to avoid blackouts, damage to equipment and delays in restoration of power – providing information of great value to power grid operators. [Read more.](#)

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

Connect with Your Colleagues at #NSPECon23

ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE FROM A WHOLE NEW PERSPECTIVE NSPECON²³ REGISTER NOW

AUGUST 2-4 | LOUISVILLE, KY | NSPECON.ORG | #NSPECON23

Register now for NSPECon23 and connect with your colleagues in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2-4. The conference [features multiple education tracks](#) in leadership, trends in the industry, and career development with the opportunity to earn up to 10 PDHs. Also stay tuned for information on engineering-related tours. **Register by June 29 to take advantage of discounted rates.**

[Register Now!](#)

Keynote Speakers

Bill Samuels, Jr., Chairman Emeritus of Maker's Mark Distillery, will open the NSPECon 23 meeting. Samuels, who helped design both the Gemini and Polaris missiles and became friends with the founding administrator of NASA, will talk about the, "[Trials and Tribulations of a Failed Aerospace Engineer.](#)"



Megan Bendtzen, the CEO and founder of TheDoctorofFun.com, will give a keynote presentation on - [Beyond the Blueprint: Mastering the Most Important Project of Your Life](#) . In this clever and entertaining presentation, Bendtzen will completely shift your perspective, debunking the myth of work-life balance and revealing the single biggest lie surrounding the pursuit of happiness.



Conference Session Highlights

- [Ethical Obligations and Engineering Through a DEI Lens](#)
- [The Engineer's Blueprint: Success Principles for Winning at Work and at Home](#)
- [Lithium: The Race for North American EV Dominance But at What Cost to the](#)

Industry?

- [Finding the Funds for Your Infrastructure Project](#)
- [Leaders Leading Leaders](#)
- [We Need YOU to Protect the License!](#)
- [Meeting the Challenges and Needs of The Engineering Workforce](#)
- [Speculative Technology and Exploratory Engineering for Designing the Future](#)

[Access the full conference program.](#)

Sponsor and Exhibitor Opportunities

NSPECon23 offers sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. Access the [Sponsor and Exhibitor Prospectus](#) for more information.



New Webinar: Racing Towards Excellence

A new webinar will get you ready for NSPECon23 — [Racing Towards Excellence: Enhancing Customer Experience and Improving Safety at Churchill Downs](#) .

Neil Crawford, P.E., an accomplished engineer and project manager at Qk4 Inc., offers insight into the history of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby and its economic impacts on Kentucky. Learn about recent improvement projects to enhance the customer experience and also projects to improve equine/horseman safety and expand the racing operations.

The webinar is FREE for members and offers 1 PDH. [Register and watch now](#) .

PE INSTITUTE
EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

**Racing Towards Excellence: Enhancing
Customer Experience and Improving Safety
at Churchill Downs**

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NEAL CRAWFORD, P.E.
QK4 INC. AND PRESIDENT, NSPE-KY

FREE TO NSPE MEMBERS - Part of the WORKability Wednesdays series

ARPL Offers New Advocacy Resources

ARPL has released two new advocacy resources. A video, [Universal Licensing: A Closer Look](#), (featuring Rebecca Bowman, Senior Director of Ethics and Professional Practice) and an advocacy document, [The Critical Role of Licensing in Business Success](#), based on recent research. As a sponsoring member of ARPL, NSPE has access to these resources and others on the [ARPL website](#).

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