

## State News for NSPE Members

### Governor Awards for \$10M+ Infrastructure Projects in Plant City, Umatilla

Governor DeSantis announced a major influx of infrastructure spending to two Florida cities while recently speaking in Umatilla, [wfla.com reports](#).

DeSantis awarded \$5.5 million to Plant City for the construction of a 2.75-mile loop extension of Henderson Way, allowing access to approximately 310 acres of commercial and light industrial development sites. The project is expected to bring more than 2,600 new jobs to the Plant City area and support the retention of nearly 1,000 existing jobs, the governor said.

The governor also awarded \$4.8 million to Umatilla for infrastructure improvements and increased water and sewer capacity at Lake Ferns Industrial Park. The governor's office said the project is expected to create 300 new high-wage jobs in the advanced manufacturing and construction material industries. [Read more](#).

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### New Boeing Location in Daytona Beach to Bring 400 Jobs

[WKMG reports](#) that Boeing has announced the opening of a new location at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, bringing 400 new jobs. The company's new engineering center, named Boeing Daytona Beach, is set to open in the fall 2024. It will be located in the Cici and Hyatt Brown Center for Aerospace Technology, which has been under construction for the past two years, on Embry-Riddle's main campus in Daytona Beach.

The opening of the Boeing Daytona Beach facility is expected to have a large impact on Florida's economy and increase relevant career opportunities, according to a news release. The company has pledged to employ 200 workers at its new facility by the end of the year, and an additional 200 throughout the years of 2025-26.

“Graduates get to come enter our workforce. Hopefully, we’re also going to recruit talent from the area as well,” said Steve Nordlund, Boeing vice president. “They’ll be working on everything from space and satellites to military equipment,” he added. The new engineering center is also predicted to expand the potential for the future of both aviation and aerospace. Those hired at this “state-of-the-art” facility will engage in engineering and research for Boeing’s Defense, Space and Security aircraft programs and advanced technology capabilities, according to the release. [Read more.](#)

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

## Get Enlightened and Inspired at NSPECon24



NSPECon24 (Raleigh, North Carolina, August 7-9) is the prime national event for professional engineers – [Register by June 27 for early bird discount rates, a](#)

savings of \$100 .

The conference will feature keynote speakers to provide inspiration and guidance to help elevate your career in addition to putting a spotlight on emerging issues within the industry.



**Richie Parker, MBA, cofounder of Optimech Solutions, chief of staff of the University of Virginia football program, and former manager of government projects at Hendrick Motorsports,** will open the conference with the session **“Drive to Innovate.”** He has been profiled by ESPN and often speaks to organizations about overcoming obstacles and facing adversity.



**Paul Doherty, chairman and CEO of The Digit Group,** will present the session **“Unlocking the Metaverse: AI, Engineering the Future of Our Industry”** to provide insight on emerging technologies and explore real-world solutions and projects that are challenging our industry.



**Dan Heath, author and senior fellow, The Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship (CASE), Duke University**, will present the session **“RESET: How to Change What’s Not Working”** to explore a framework for getting unstuck and making the changes that matter. Stay tuned for details on the opening keynote speaker.

Access the [NSPECon24 program](#) for more details on the keynote speakers and session topics.

**Interested in supporting through sponsorship or exhibiting?** 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. Learn more about these opportunities in the [Sponsor and Exhibitor section of the conference website](#) .

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**NSPE's Focus on Fostering Inclusivity and Professionalism**

## **Inaugural Leadership Institute for Women PEs**

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. [Access more information and register.](#)

## **DEI or 'die'—a Noteworthy Discussion**

On June 12, NSPE's Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Advisory Committee hosted a live webinar on the important topic of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in the engineering profession. The presenters explored perspectives from engineers with diverse life experiences and discussed how including these voices can impact engineering practices and public safety. This thought-provoking webinar will challenge the notion of 'best and brightest' and underscore the importance of diverse viewpoints in engineering solutions. [Members can access a recording free of charge](#).

## **New Resource to Attract and Retain Engineering Talent**

A talent focused environment where the most skilled engineers succeed is crucial for driving creativity and problem-solving. NSPE has released the [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion \(DEI\) Glossary of Terms](#), a valuable resource designed to provide a common understanding of essential workforce inclusivity terms, facilitating more effective and respectful discussions about talent acquisition, development, and collaboration across the engineering community. This glossary is the culmination of the dedicated work by the 2023-2024 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee to provide a tool for respectful communication, reinforcing NSPE's core value of "Unity." Access more information and resources [here](#).

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## **Spring Webinar Series On-Demand**

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members—"Workability Wednesdays"—to support members with their professional development goals. Did you miss any of our spring webinars? No worries! The following sessions are now available on-demand:

- NSPE's Board of Ethic Review



Presents: The Duty to Act

- Second Best Protection Against Risk
- Enhancing Building Safety: Mitigating Risks of Slips, Trips, and Falls Access
- Lidar Illuminated: Revolutionizing Engineering Design and Building Analysis
- Designing Fire Protection Systems - The Role of the Engineer and Engineering Technician
- DEI or 'die'—a Noteworthy Discussion.

[Access the webinars at NSPE's PE Institute.](#)

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