

## *State News for NSPE Members*

### **Florida PE Honored as FEYA Finalist**

**James Works, P.E.**, was recently honored as a top 10 finalist for NSPE's [Federal Engineer of the Year Award](#). He works in the US Department of the Air Force's Air Force Civil Engineer Center at the Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida.

Works and the other finalists were recognized prior to the announcement of a winner during a [virtual awards](#) event on February 24. Robert Zueck, Ph.D., P.E., was named the 2022 FEYA winner.

The Federal Engineer of the Year Award, sponsored by the Professional Engineers in Government, honors engineers employed by a federal agency that employs at least 50 engineers worldwide. These nominees have made extensive contributions to their organizations and also to the public that PEs ultimately serve.



### **Air Force Engineer Oversees Fuels Infrastructure Systems, Facilities**

A recognized expert on fuels infrastructure, **James Works, P.E.**, chairs the Tri-Service Fuels Discipline Working Group. This technical body develops, writes, and maintains US Department of Defense (DoD) design, construction, and maintenance criteria for all petroleum storage and distribution systems. Also

notable, Works heads the US delegation to NATO's Petroleum Handling Equipment Working Group, which facilitated publication or revision of five Unified Facilities Criteria and more than 25 Unified Facilities Guide Specifications for architectural/engineering and construction firm use.

Works also developed a new management framework to ensure that all Air Force fuels facilities are properly assessed and maintained, planned, designed, and constructed to maximize effective use of funding. In a different capacity, he helped craft health and mechanical engineering policy for Air Force facilities responding to COVID outbreaks, and he drafted updates for mold identification and remediation policies. Additionally, Works was handpicked to give technical support to an audit of the DoD Inspector General's life, health, and safety deficiencies at Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar and preliminary assessment of Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait. In response, he recommended multiple improvements to construction and maintenance processes.

---

## Clean Energy Advocates Urge Governor to Veto Net Metering Bill

A bill to phase out solar net metering has been passed by the Florida House and Senate. Critics of the bill assert that if it becomes law, it could cripple the success of solar energy in the state.

They are calling on Governor Ron DeSantis to veto the bill. Under the legislation (S.B. 1024/H.B. 741), the amount paid to utilities and customers would start to decrease in 2024 and would eventually disappear. Clean energy groups believe this would essentially kill the future of the energy source in the state.

After a hearing in January, the Florida Senate Committee on Regulated Industries concluded that redesigning the state's net metering rate structure would have "[an indeterminate impact](#)" on solar installation and manufacturing.

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

---

## Meet the 2022 Federal Engineer of the Year

Robert Zueck, Ph.D., P.E., was named NSPE's [Federal Engineer of the Year](#) during a [virtual awards event](#) on February 24 for his discoveries and contributions in the engineering field. The Federal Engineer of the Year Award, sponsored by the Professional Engineers in Government, honors engineers employed by a federal agency that employs at least 50 engineers worldwide.



Zueck works in the US Department of the Navy's Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC), Expeditionary Warfare Center at Port Hueneme, California. He is heralded for applying his vibration research to military defense projects for which engineers can now design beyond the speed, agility, and stealth limitations of many military sensors, weapons, and platforms.

"Every success for me has come out of the hard teamwork of many fellow engineers and scientists," Zueck stated. "I thank them all—particularly those who provided valuable constructive criticism of my rather unique research results."

In a basic research project conducted several years ago, Zueck discovered how geometrically complex vibrations initiate, grow, and sustain themselves, often limiting higher performance for many combat systems. He used this new vibration knowledge to improve the Expeditionary Warfare Center's modeling capability for designing, analyzing, and deploying towed sensors, ship moorings, sub-sea arrays, and other slender naval structures.

"This basic science discovery could be very useful for modeling, simulating, and testing in many other fields of engineering and science," he said.

[Read more.](#)

---

## Mark Your Calendars: 2022 Professional Engineers Conference



August  
**1-3**  
2022  
Philadelphia, PA  
Sheraton Philadelphia  
Downtown

The 2022 NSPE [Professional Engineers Conference](#) will bring together professional engineers across disciplines from August 1–3, in Philadelphia at the

Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown. Registration for the conference opens in April.

PECON attendees can access specialized content from experts as they discuss issues and trends impacting the profession, develop power skills and life skills not taught in school, and advance their careers by expanding their expertise and preparing for future developments in the industry.

The seventh annual [PE Day](#) will coincide with the conference's culmination on August 3. These two events allow PEs to join their peers in celebration of the profession and advocacy for licensure.

NSPE will continue to monitor health and safety guidelines while we proceed toward hosting this in-person event.

---

## 2022 NSPE Student Scholarships Available

Students can apply for the 2022 NSPE Education Foundation scholarships through a new [online submission platform](#). The following scholarships have an **April 1** application deadline:

The [Maureen L. and Howard N. Blitman, P.E., Scholarship to Promote Diversity in Engineering](#) is awarded annually to a high school senior from an ethnic minority who has been accepted into an ABET-accredited engineering program at a four-year college or university.

The [Auxiliary Legacy Scholarship](#) is awarded annually to a female undergraduate entering or continuing their junior year of a four-year ABET-accredited engineering program.

The [Steinman Scholarship](#) is awarded annually to undergraduates entering or continuing their junior year in a four-year ABET-accredited engineering program.

The [George B. Hightower, P.E. Fellowship](#) is awarded annually to a current engineering undergraduate or graduate student who is enrolled in, or graduated from, an ABET-accredited engineering program.

**Coming soon!** The [Swadesh and Om P. Popli, P.E., P.L.S. Scholarship](#) will be a multi-year scholarship, providing \$5,000 each year for the recipient's four-year education. Applicants must be a female high school senior from an ethnic minority pursuing a degree in engineering at an ABET-accredited program.

You received this e-mail because you are subscribed to *PE Matters* e-newsletter.

To update your e-mail address, visit [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org) and login to manage your account.

If you do not wish to receive any more issues of *PE Matters*, [click here to unsubscribe](#) .

## Share with your network



**National Society of Professional Engineers | 1420 King Street | Alexandria, VA  
22314**