

State News for NSPE Members

Road and Bridge Improvements are Underway

Thanks to nearly \$37 million recently allocated by the Department of Transportation and Public Works, repairs to roadways and bridges that had already begun with \$729 million from FEMA will continue with renewed momentum.

Work made possible by the added funding will include road reconstruction projects such as asphaltting, stabilizing retaining walls, and replacing guardrails, [the Weekly Journal](#) reports. Utuado is the municipality with the most projects, totaling 256 approved for \$53.6 million.

Biotech Firms Opening Manufacturing Plants

Two biotech firms are investing a total of \$228 million to open manufacturing facilities in Puerto Rico, [NimB reports](#). This will create 400 jobs on the island. The plants will produce various biotech products, including a COVID-19 vaccine. Puerto Rico has 20,000 jobs in medical device manufacturing and has a concentration of expertise in this area at [5.5 times the national rate](#).

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

FAA safety engineer goes public to slam the agency's oversight of Boeing's 737 MAX

Haunted by the two deadly crashes of Boeing 737 MAX jets and his agency's role in approving the plane, veteran Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) safety engineer Joe Jacobsen is stepping forward publicly to give the victims' families "a firsthand account of what the truth is." In a detailed letter sent last month to a family that lost their daughter in the second MAX crash in Ethiopia two years ago this week, and in [interviews with The Seattle Times](#), Jacobsen gave the first personal account by an insider of the federal safety agency's response to the MAX crashes.

Jacobsen should have been among the FAA specialists who reviewed the MAX's critical new flight control software during its original certification, which was largely controlled by Boeing. He's confident that he and other FAA engineers would have flagged its serious design flaws.

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Wanted: 2021 NSPE Emerging Leaders



NSPE is fostering a new generation of engineers who can think strategically, build effective teams, and lead successfully through its [Emerging Leaders Program](#). This intensive seven-month, professionally facilitated, virtual program is now accepting applications until **May 31**.

Early-career professionals with 5-8 years of experience who are just beginning to lead and think strategically in the profession are encouraged to apply. The program graduated its [first class of diverse, super achieving professionals](#) in February.

Between August 2021 and February 2022 participants will learn how to be successful at higher levels of leadership responsibility. Participants will engage in 90-minute leadership training sessions each month with learning discussions and mentoring on topics such as ownership, team development, communication skills, giving/receiving feedback, and presentation skills. There will also be ample networking opportunities with peers and national NSPE national leaders.

[Learn more and apply.](#)

Ethics Webinars for PEs and Those on the Licensure Path

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EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Don't miss NSPE's upcoming ethics webinars on truthfulness and fidelity to employers and clients, with insight from Rebecca Bowman, P.E., Esq., NSPE's senior director for ethics and professional practice and NAFE executive director, and other NSPE ethics experts.

April 7

[Engineering Ethics—Canon III—Truthfulness](#)

Learn from a variety of situations in which circumstances can tempt (and even encourage) engineers to dance around the edges of Canon III.

Presenters: Hugh Veit, P.E., Susan Sprague, P.E., F.NSPE, and Rebecca Bowman, P.E., Esq.

May 5

[Engineering Ethics—Canon IV—Fidelity to Employers/Clients](#)

Examine the duties to employers and clients, and circumstances under which those duties can be pre-empted by higher duties, especially to the public health, safety, and welfare.

Presenters: David Kish, Ph.D., P.E., Jeff Greenfield, Ph.D., P.E., F.NSPE, and Rebecca Bowman, P.E., Esq.

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