

## State News for NSPE Members

### RI Ready Poised to Bring Jobs to State with Pre-Engineered Sites

RI Ready, based upon the successful model of the Quonset Business Park, is a \$40 million initiative to bring jobs and revenue to Rhode Island. The program has at least six applications so far, [nerej.com](http://nerej.com) reports. Five of these will be considered this month.

The RI Ready program provides pre-permitted, pre-engineered sites that are “shovel-ready.”

That model has generated more than 3,500 jobs and \$664 million in private investment at Quonset. RI Ready will help to cut through red tape in the development process to help business development move quickly.

Sites will be considered eligible if they:

- Allow for upgraded or improved infrastructure in support of an industrial use; or
- Allow an existing industrial use or facility to expand significantly; or
- Are approximately 10 acres in size (or are capable of supporting an approximately 100,000 s/f building);
- Are zoned for industrial or offshore wind support uses, and;
- Are within one mile of a roadway designated by the state to support industrial traffic.

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### New ‘Hearing’ Textile Could Have Medical Uses

Researchers at MIT and the Rhode Island School of Design have successfully created a fabric that “hears” and sends electric signals in response to sound, similar to how the human ear hears. The tech, called piezoelectric material, has many possible applications to products for collaborators like the health care field and hospitals, according to [bizjournals.com](http://bizjournals.com).

The research was supported in part by the US Army Research Office through the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies, National Science Foundation and Sea Grant NOAA.

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

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## Take the 2022 Engineering Outlook Survey

Share your opinions on current issues affecting the practice of engineering by completing the 2022 *Engineering Outlook Survey*. The survey should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. Once completed, you will have the option to enter our drawing for one of four \$50 Amazon gift cards.

All responses will be kept anonymous and only used in aggregated results unless you give us permission to contact you regarding your responses. The results of the survey will be shared in an upcoming article in *PE* magazine, as well as other NSPE publications (website, newsletters, social media, etc.).

[Start the survey.](#)

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## NSPE Endorses Sustainability and Resilience Statement

NSPE believes licensed professional engineers should be good stewards of the environment in order to preserve and protect our world for future generations. The NSPE Board of Directors recently endorsed “[The Role of the Engineering Community in Addressing Climate Change](#),” a statement intended to unite, energize, and motivate people within and across organizations, and to fulfill their desires for meaning and purpose in their professional lives. Facilitated by Engineering Change Lab-USA, the statement was prepared with input from a working group of sixteen organizations including NSPE.

[Read more about NSPE’s position on the environment, sustainability, and resilience.](#)

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## New Live Webinar Series: Workability Wednesdays

Would colleagues consider you workable?  
How easy is it for you to mold, flow, and bend in today’s work environment? Is your knowledge up-to-date and relevant? Please join us for this [new webinar series](#) to learn more about topics impacting the industry



and to enhance your competencies in the profession.

These live and interactive webinars are **free** to NSPE members and will be held at 2:00 pm EDT on the first and third Wednesday of the months of April, May, and June. The next webinar on April 20 will focus on [The Future of Wichita's Water - The Northwest Water Treatment Facility](#).

[Learn more about the upcoming webinars and register.](#)

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