

**AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**2011  
ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

**ENTRY FORM**

Return your entry form and entry fee no later than June 10, 2011, to:  
ACEC/SD, PO Box 398, Rapid City, SD 57709.

Name of Project
Project Submittal Category (See pages 4, 5, and 6 for categories)
Company
Principal
Address
City
Contact Email

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

June 10, 2011	Deadline for entry form and entry fee
September 30, 2011	Deadline for project submittals Mail to: ACEC/SD, 501 E. St. Joseph Street, Rapid City, SD 57701
October 4, 2011	Judging begins
November 12, 2011	6th Annual Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet Minnehaha Country Club, Sioux Falls, SD
January 2012	ACEC Deadline for National Entries (For eligible entries)
April 17, 2012	National EEA Gala, Washington, DC



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
*of South Dakota*

TO: South Dakota Engineering Firms

FROM: Daryl Englund, PE, President  
American Council of Engineering Companies  
*of South Dakota (ACEC/SD)*

DATE: May 9, 2011

SUBJECT: Call for Entries  
ACEC/SD 2011 Engineering Excellence Awards

It is a pleasure to announce the American Council of Engineering Companies *of South Dakota (ACEC/SD)* 6th Annual Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) program. The Engineering Excellence Awards program celebrates the outstanding achievements of the engineering profession.

The ACEC/SD Engineering Excellence Awards will be presented at a special program on November 12, 2011, at the Minnehaha Country Club in Sioux Falls, SD. Watch for additional information regarding this event this summer. In the meantime, start making your plans to select that special project that deserves recognition for your engineering achievements.

The Entry Form (Page 8), that indicates your intent to submit a project for consideration, and entry fee are due in the ACEC/SD headquarters by June 10, 2011.

We hope your firm will participate in this excellent marketing opportunity. Whether your firm's project is big or small, special engineering accomplishments deserve recognition.

Please contact Gail Boddicker (gail.boddicker@sdsmt.edu) at 605-394-6674 if you have questions.

**2011  
ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS COMPETITION**

**ELIGIBILITY**

Any South Dakota engineering firm is eligible to enter the awards program, whether or not the firm is a member of ACEC/SD. Projects entered in the competition may have been executed anywhere in the world but your firm's South Dakota office must have had responsible charge of the work. Research and Studies (Category A) or Surveying and Mapping projects (Category D) must have been publicly disclosed by the client between November 1, 2009, and October 31, 2011. Construction of projects (Categories B through L—with the exception of D) must have been substantially completed and ready for use between November 1, 2009, and October 31, 2011.

**GENERAL CRITERIA**

Entries in ACEC/SD competition must be placed in any one of the twelve categories listed on pages 4, 5, and 6. The entering firm must select the one category which is most appropriate. A project may be entered only once in any category.

**ACEC-SD Entry Requirements (Due no later than 09-30-2011)**

Six copies of Official Entry Notebook (black, 3-ring 1/2" binder) that contains :

**1. Copy of Entry Form** (Original plus entry fee due to ACEC/SD by June 10, 2011.)

**2. Signed Letter from Client/Owner**

A one-page signed client/owner letter, addressed to ACEC, describing the relationship the client/owner had with the entrant in the development of the project and how it exceeded the client/owner needs.

**3. Executive Summary**

One page, 8.5" x 11" with 1" margins, double-spaced (minimum of 12 pt. type) – describing the problem and solution. Project title and entry category must appear at the top of the page.

**4. Project Description**

8.5" x 11" with 1" margins, not to exceed six pages addressing items a, b, c, d, and e as listed below. Project title, category, and page number must appear at the top of each page. Entrant may use text (minimum of 12 pt. type) photos, graphs, etc.

a) Role of entrant's firm in the project,

b) Role of other consultants participating in project,

c) Brief description of the entrant's contribution to the project addressing each of the following rating guidelines:

- ◆ Original or innovative application of new or existing techniques
- ◆ Future value to the engineering profession and perception by the public
- ◆ Social, economic, and sustainable design considerations
- ◆ Complexity
- ◆ Exceeding owner/client needs.

d) Describe in layman's terms why this project is worthy of special recognition (word count between 100-500 words). Explain all factors that comprise the project's uniqueness such as innovative engineering, challenges faced, and overall social impact.

e) Provide a list of the key participants on the project. Provide firm name, address, phone number, website and email address of each participant. Key participants should include contractors, subcontractors, other engineers, architects and designers involved in the project.

**5. Project Photographs or Graphics**

Maximum of six high-quality representative color photographs or graphic representations. Every photograph or graphic must include the project name, category, firm name, and caption on the back.

**THE FINE PRINT AND DETAILS**

1. Each entry form must be accompanied by a check for \$150.00 for ACEC/SD members and \$250.00 for non-ACEC/SD members payable to American Council of Engineering Companies of South Dakota.

2. Mail all entry forms no later than June 10, 2011, to:  
ACEC/SD, PO Box 398, Rapid City, SD 57709.

3. Honor and Grand Award winners are eligible to enter their project at the ACEC 2012 Engineering Excellence Awards. All Honor and Grand Award winners must prepare all materials needed – which differs slightly from the state entry – to enter the national competition.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS INFO**

Include one CD that contains the following information:

**Press Release (PR)**

The PR should be no more than two pages, double-spaced, clearly and concisely describing the project and the entrant's participation in the project. In addition, point out the value of the project to the community, identify the number of people served, cost savings, etc. There should be no mention of winning other awards. Remember to include any sub-consultant that completed intricate parts of the project.

**Plaque Information**

Include a Microsoft Word document with the name of project, firm, and client. Each line is limited to 35 characters, not including spaces. If limit is exceeded, plaque font size will be adjusted.

**Photos**

The CD should contain the photos and descriptions of the project, preferably in JPEG format. You may also submit extra photos and descriptions if you wish. These will be used in the PowerPoint presentation at the banquet.

The notebook should not exceed thirteen pages (excluding the entry form, and the signed letter from the Client/Owner). If the submission does not meet the requirements listed, it may be disqualified. ACEC/SD will not be responsible for any damage or loss to entrant's notebook.

### **CATEGORY I: Special Projects**

- Safety and security
- Corrosion protection/cathodic protection
- Program and construction management
- Land development
- Trenchless technologies
- Recreational facilities
- Subsurface engineering

### **CATEGORY J: Small Projects**

- Total project construction budget does not exceed \$2.5 million  
(At the entrant's discretion, except for entries in Category A, projects under \$2.5 million are not limited to this category.)

### **Category K: Energy**

- Transmission and distribution
- Power generation
- Renewable energy
- Cogeneration
- Energy storage technologies
- Energy usage reduction programs
- Demand side management

### **Category L: Industrial and Manufacturing Processes and Facilities**

- Petrochemical
- Biotech
- Manufacturing
- Heavy industry
- Industrial waste
- Materials handling
- Mining, metallurgy, mineralogy

### **JUDGING**

Entries will be judged on the basis of overall engineering excellence in each of the 12 categories; on the basis of the work performed by the entering firm only; and according to the rating guidelines listed.

#### **GUIDELINES FOR JUDGING:**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Original or innovative application of new or existing techniques        | 20% |
| 2. Future value to the engineering profession and perception by the public | 20% |
| 3. Social, economic, and sustainable design considerations                 | 20% |
| 4. Complexity  | 20% |
| 5. Exceeding client/owner needs  | 20% |

#### **AWARDS:**

Entries are reviewed by a panel of judges from outside the association membership. Projects are judged on the above Guidelines. Awards include Merit Awards, Honor Awards and the Grand Award. A Grand Award will be given to the Honor Award project judged to be the most outstanding. ACEC/SD reserves the right to award two Grand Awards should there be a tie.

The winners will be announced at the Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet on November 12, 2011, at the Minnehaha Country Club in Sioux Falls, SD.

#### **RATING GUIDELINE DEFINITIONS**

##### **1. Original or Innovative Application of New or Existing Techniques:**

- Does the entry demonstrate the use of a new science or a breakthrough in the general knowledge of engineering?
- Does the entry represent a unique application of new or existing technology, techniques, materials, or equipment?

##### **2. Future Value to the Engineering Profession:**

- Will the entry redefine current engineering thinking?
- Does the entry advance a positive public image of engineering excellence?

##### **3. Social, Economic, and Sustainable Design Considerations:**

- Do the solutions identified produce secondary benefits of value to the community environment?
- Does the entrant's approach provide society with social, economic, or sustainable development benefits?
- Does the entrant's contribution to the project improve the health, safety or welfare of the public or affected environment?

##### **4. Complexity:**

- Did the entry successfully address very complex criteria or unique problems?
- Were extraordinary problems of site, location, hazardous conditions, project requirements or similar elements present?
- Did the entry require the use of out-of-the-ordinary technology or ingenuity for achievement of the project's goals?

##### **5. Exceeding Client/Owner Needs:**

- Did the engineer or entrant successfully engage the client/owner in the overall project development process?
- Is it an economical and cost-effective solution?
- How did the final cost relate to the original budget estimate?
- How closely does the entrant's solution meet the total goals of the client/owner?
- Did the entrant meet the client's time schedule?

## CALL FOR ENTRIES—CATEGORIES

### **CATEGORY A: Studies, Research and Consulting**

Non-design services, projects not involving the preparation of construction documents:

- New products, materials and technologies
- Expert testimony
- Basic research and studies
- Computer/software technology
- Technical papers
- Public outreach/involvement
- Water conservation
- Security plans
- Project feasibility, economic, or risk studies
- Value engineering

### **CATEGORY B: Building/Technology Systems**

- Mechanical/electrical/plumbing
- Computer/technology
- Communications
- Acoustics
- Software systems
- Sustainability or carbon neutrality
- Efficiency certification standards, e.g. LEED
- Energy efficiency – new and retrofit
- Secure facilities (military, research, correctional)

### **CATEGORY C: Structural Systems**

- Foundations
- Tunnels
- Buildings
- Seismic design
- Towers
- Bridges
- Stadiums

### **CATEGORY D: Surveying and Mapping Technology**

- Geometrics, ALTA, land title and rights surveys
- Control, GPS, monitoring or construction surveying
- Survey mapping, GIS/LIS, photogrammetry

### **CATEGORY E: Environmental**

- Hazardous waste
- Solid waste
- Restoration/reclamation/remediation
- Air quality
- Noise
- Recycling
- Waste pond management
- Carbon sequestration and trading
- Mitigation

### **CATEGORY F: Water and Storm Water**

- Wastewater collection/treatment and disposal
- Residuals management and reuse
- Graywater systems
- CSO's
- Mine tailings
- Agricultural
- Storm water management
- Erosion control

### **CATEGORY G: Water Resources**

- Hydraulics, hydrology
- Surface and groundwater supply development
- Treatment
- Transmission, distribution & storage
- Watershed management
- Water use reduction
- Flood risk management
- Climate adaptation
- Coastal and eco-system restoration
- Locks/dams/water control structures
- Irrigation

### **CATEGORY H: Transportation**

- Highways
- Rails
- Airports
- Marine/ports
- Public transit
- Intermodal facilities