

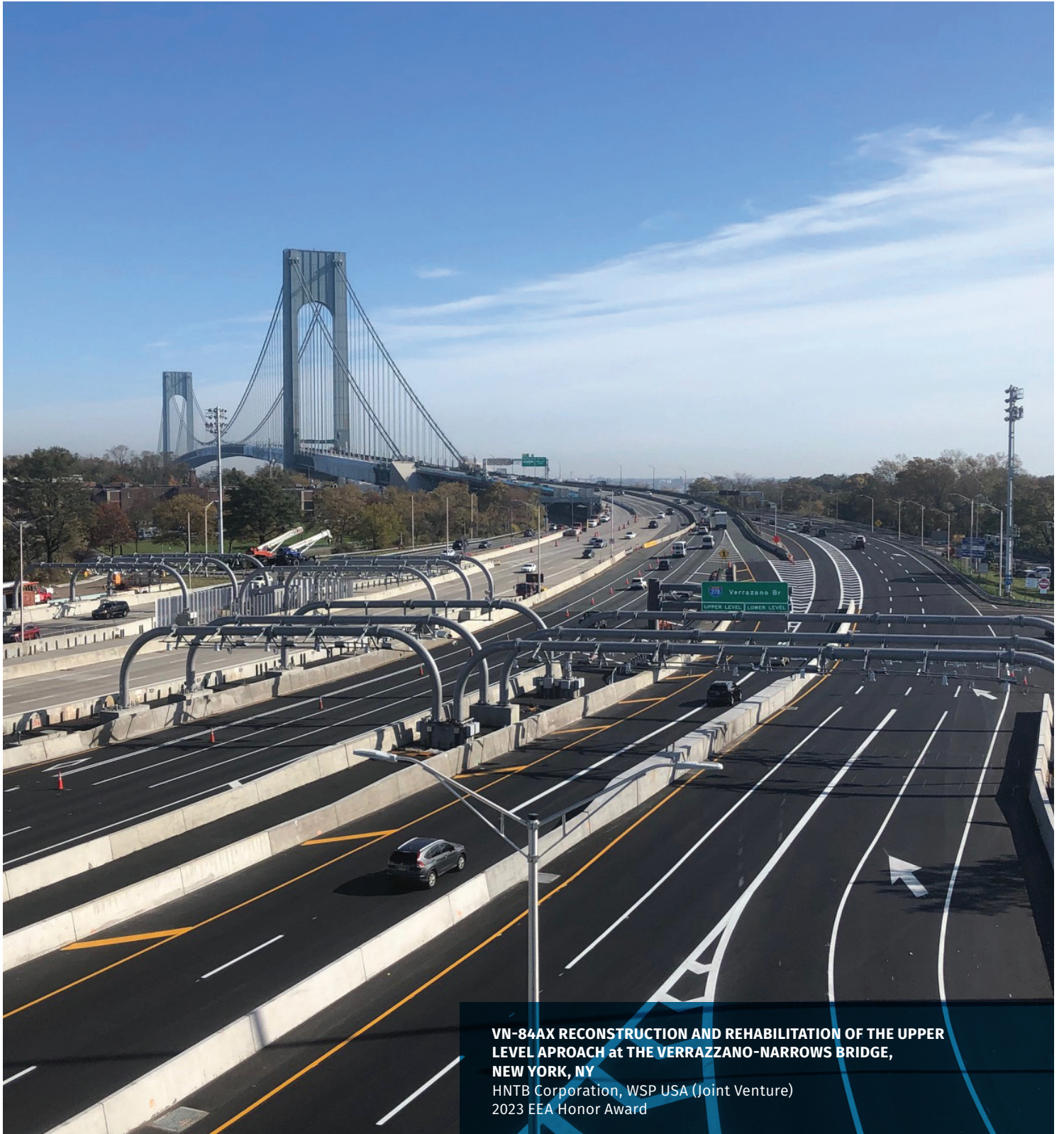
ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2023

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES



VN-84AX RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF THE UPPER LEVEL APPROACH at THE VERRAZZANO-NARROWS BRIDGE, NEW YORK, NY
HNTB Corporation, WSP USA (Joint Venture)
2023 EEA Honor Award

ENGINEERING AT A GLANCE

The American Council of Engineering Companies is the business voice of America's engineering industry. We represent nearly 6,000 firms employing more than 600,000 engineers, architects, land surveyors, and other highly trained specialists and licensed professionals who design and improve our world.

ACEC is a federation consisting of 51 state and regional Member Organizations, advocating for policies at the federal, state, and local level that promote economic growth, and improve the quality of life for every American.



The engineering and design industry directly employs 1.5 million workers plus another 3.2 million upstream and downstream workers - 3.8% of total U.S. employment.



\$558B to GDP: The engineering and design industry's contribution to GDP grew 11.2% in 2021, accounting for 2.7% GDP.



\$335B In Wages: Total engineering and design services wages grew 5.1% over 2020 with an average wage of \$100,200.



\$372B In Revenue: A 9.7% hike over 2020 revenue, this output represents 1% of all U.S. output.

FROM OUR CEO & CHAIR

When we say that ACEC is the business of America's engineering industry, we mean it.

Across the United States, we represent over 600,000 professionals employed by firms ranging from sole proprietorships to international enterprises consisting of tens of thousands of professionals engaged in the full spectrum of engineering services from structural, civil and mechanical electrical engineering, to surveying and mapping. Our member firms design and build the infrastructure we see and use daily, from the essential public works that empower us as a nation, to the soaring vertical projects that shape the American skyline.

But engineers do more than simply design in the built environment. They design solutions to the challenges facing our society. They keep people safe; they make the air we breathe and the water we drink cleaner; they provide buildings that shelter and roads that connect. In its highest form, engineering sustains and advances life.

That is why it is our honor to help represent this noble industry. It is also why the people of ACEC National, and our 51 affiliated State Member Organizations work tirelessly to advocate for policies that protect and improve the engineering industry.

America's engineering firms are ready to build a 21st century America, but their efforts require the support of Congress. That means:

- » Long-term, and sustainable infrastructure funding that addresses revenues and the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund.



LINDA BAUER DARR
President & CEO



W. ARTHUR BARRETT
Board Chair



DELTA'S NEW TERMINAL C at LaGUARDIA AIRPORT, NEW YORK, NY
STV, S&P, Burns & McDonnell, Corgan, Arup, & Genster (Joint Venture)
2023 Grand Award



JANE BYRNE INTERCHANGE, CHICAGO, IL
AECOM & TranSystems (Joint Venture)
2023 EEA Honor Award



- » Tax policies that encourage investment in innovation and sustainable construction.
- » Regulations that emphasize resilient design techniques that adapt to a changing climate and increasingly severe storms and disasters.
- » A workforce agenda that prioritizes STEM education and immigration policies that allow us to keep the best and the brightest.
- » Contracting and procurement rules that emphasize project success.
- » More investments in the nation's water systems, airports, ports and waterways.

ACEC's agenda is really about promoting America's quality of life, economic growth and long-term success.

On behalf of ACEC, we look forward to working with you to make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Linda Bauer Darr
President & CEO

W. Arthur Barrett
Board Chair



HUGH K. LEATHERMAN TERMINAL, PHASE 1 SITE DEVELOPMENT
NORTH CHARLESTON, SC
HDR, 2023 EEA Grand Award

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				ACEC-Wyoming Gary Grigsby Executive Director 5908 Yellowstone Rd. Cheyenne, WY 82007 (307) 632-5656

IIJA IMPLEMENTATION

Enactment of the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides a historic opportunity to upgrade our transportation, water, energy, and communications networks to improve the quality of life for all Americans. The programs and projects funded in the IIJA will facilitate the efficient movement of people and goods, improve safety, provide clean water, enhance environmental clean-up and mitigation, address the impacts of climate change, and provide new economic development opportunities for our communities. America's engineering industry is committed to delivering these promised benefits. Successful implementation of IIJA programs is going to require a strong partnership between federal, state, and local agencies and the private sector, and a commitment from policymakers to sustain the committed funds and make policy adjustments where necessary to respond to changing conditions.

As part of a national infrastructure strategy, ACEC advocates for:

- Raising revenues to restore solvency to the Highway Trust Fund and continuing to develop alternative funding mechanisms such as mileage-based user fees.
- Robust funding for the State Revolving Fund (SRF) and USDA water programs.
- Boosting annual Airport Improvement Program funding and lifting the cap on Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs).
- Incentivizing private investment in energy, water, and transportation through tax credits, and federal loans and loan guarantees such as TIFIA, WIFIA, RRIF, and Private Activity Bonds.
- Modernizing regulations for efficient project delivery while protecting the environment and the public interest.



I-74 CORRIDOR OVER THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, QUAD CITIES (IA and IL)
Benesch & Modjeski and Masters
2023 EEA Grand Award



RESILIENT, SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

America's engineering industry confronts the challenges of climate change daily, working with public and private sector clients to reduce their carbon footprint and adapt to the effects of sea level rise and extreme weather events. Engineering firms are designing innovative solutions to increase efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and enhance the resilience and sustainability of the nation's critical infrastructure and other structures from natural and man-made disasters.



Consistent with the industry's role, ACEC supports policies at the federal and state level to mitigate risk and encourage resiliency and sustainability:

- The retention of the Section 179D energy-efficient commercial buildings tax deduction and modifications that would allow allocation of the deduction to the designer by building owners in the nonprofit sector.
- The continued extension of the Production Tax Credits and other incentives to support the development of wind, solar, and other clean energy sources.
- Create tax incentives for rebuilding to resilient standards after natural disasters.
- Public and private insurance programs, as well as initiatives and funding to enhance the resilience of critical infrastructure against extreme weather events.
- Risk-based adaption and resilience strategies and policies to prioritize vulnerable critical infrastructure across jurisdictional boundaries to address geographic climate risks, such as flooding in riverine and coastal waters.

INNOVATION & COMPETITIVENESS



ACEC members are designing the future, and innovation is at the heart of the services America's engineering industry provides to their clients. ACEC supports a 21st-century innovation agenda that enables the industry to serve a growing economy, compete in the global marketplace and raise the bar of what is possible.

ACEC Supports:

- Tax and regulatory policies – such as the R&D tax credit – that promote innovation and incentivize growth.
- Ensuring that the tax code maintains balanced tax treatment for engineering firms of all business structures.
- The Export-Import Bank and its ability to approve project financing.
- Trade agreements that protect strong engineering licensure standards and intellectual property.
- Promoting and expanding the use of Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) in procuring engineering services to incentivize innovation, protect the taxpayer and ensure project success.
- Policies to foster the advancement of new and emerging technologies such as unmanned aircraft systems, connected and automated vehicles, energy storage, advanced nuclear, and clean fossil energy systems.



BRIDGING KENTUCKY, FRANKFORT, KY
Stantec, Ok4, and AECOM
2023 EEA Honor Award



CLIMATE CHANGE ARENA, SEATTLE, WA
Thornton Tomasetti
2023 EEA Grand Award



America’s engineering industry is engaged throughout the energy sector – from traditional oil and gas to nuclear and leading-edge renewable sources – to support and sustain a growing economy. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act included critical provisions and funding to enhance the resilience of the nation’s energy infrastructure and invest in clean energy technologies.

ACEC supports an “all of the above” national energy strategy to make full use of the nation’s diverse energy resources, including:

- Upgrading our energy infrastructure to protect against natural disasters and other threats -- the IJA includes funding for transmission, energy storage, and distribution demonstration projects to harden and enhance resilience in collaboration with electricity infrastructure operators.



- Utilization of IIJA programs and other incentives for operators and facilities to enhance investment in affordable, reliable, and resilient energy systems with high environmental performance.
- Modernizing the regulatory and permitting process to speed project construction.
- Implementation of IIJA provisions to plan for electric transmission needs and the \$65 billion authorized under the new law to promote the construction of new transmission capacity.
- Programs that help to finance innovative, leading edge energy technologies and infrastructure, including funding under IIJA to establish hydrogen hubs and clean hydrogen manufacturing, as well as carbon capture pilot and demonstration projects.



CLEAR CREEK CANYON PARK, GATEWAY
SEGMENT, GOLDEN COLORADO
Muller Engineering Company
2023 EEA Grand Award

WATER & ENVIRONMENT

America's water resources play an essential role in the nation's economy and sustained economic growth. ACEC was strongly supportive of the significant new investments in critical water infrastructure projects as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Going forward, sustained investment is essential for drinking water, wastewater and land and water remediation projects to protect human health and the environment. More investment is also needed in the nation's ports and critical water corridors, both to facilitate navigation and the flow of commerce as well as protect against devastating floods and sea-level rise.

**TOWERSIDE DISTRICT STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM,
MINNEAPOLIS, MN**
Barr Engineering Co.
2023 EEA Honor Award



ACEC supports an agenda to invest in America's water resources in the following areas:

- Increased appropriations for the water and wastewater State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs, USDA's rural water program, and innovative financing for water projects through WIFIA.
- Timely passage of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) and strong investment in Corps of Engineers water projects.
- Stable funding and efficient procurement for the Superfund, DOE Environmental Management and other remediation programs.



**HUGH K. LEATHERMAN TERMINAL, PHASE 1 SITE DEVELOPMENT
NORTH CHARLESTON, SC**
HDR
2023 EEA Grand Award

SUPPORTING FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

America's engineering industry is a trusted partner to federal, state, and local agencies, planning, designing and managing construction of innovative and sustainable solutions in the built environment, including infrastructure projects and public facilities such as courthouses, schools and military installations. By engaging local firms, public agencies benefit from the specialized experience, innovation, and on-budget and on-time performance that the private sector brings to the table to ensure project success.

ACEC Supports:

- Policies that promote a strong partnership between public agencies and the engineering industry.
- Funding and financing initiatives that invest in critical federal and state infrastructure programs and the development and improvement of public buildings.
- Maintaining and expanding public procurement rules that require the use of QBS to emphasize innovation and qualifications to facilitate successful project delivery.
- Requiring all federal agencies to include FAR compliance as a condition of receipt of funding by state and local governments for grant, loan, and aid programs.
- Policies to address cost and schedule growth resulting from ongoing supply chain challenges and inflation.
- Policies to foster the advancement of new and emerging technologies such as unmanned aircraft systems, connected and automated vehicles, energy storage, advanced nuclear, and clean fossil energy systems.



TOP: NASA LANGLEY MEASUREMENT SYSTEMS LABORATORY, HAMPTON, VA
BOTTOM: NASA LANGLEY MEASUREMENT SYSTEM LABORATORY CLEAN ROOM
AECOM
2023 EEA Honor Award



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

America's engineering industry serves clients representing a broad range of markets and needs more engineering graduates to support and sustain a growing economy.

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the engineering workforce is already at full employment, and future employment in engineering and design services occupations is projected to grow six percent from 2020 to 2030, which is insufficient to meet demand.

ACEC's analysis of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) finds that we will need an additional 82,000 engineers and other professionals to deliver the projects funded under the new program.

The National Science Foundation reports that a significant portion of the existing engineering workforce is nearing retirement age, and NSF research has also highlighted that existing STEM education programs are not sufficiently reaching women and underrepresented minorities to meet the needs of a growing economy.

ACEC supports a workforce agenda that seeks to expand the engineering talent pipeline by attracting more young people to the profession, make it easier for firms to assist recent graduates with student loan debt, and federal immigration policies that enable firms to attract and keep the best and brightest talent from around the world.

ACEC supports:

- State and federal programs that expand STEM education and grow the engineering talent pool over the long term.
- Loan forgiveness and other incentives for engineering graduates.
- Federal immigration policies to attract the best and brightest talent from abroad, including increasing the number of H-1B visas and recapturing unused employment-based green cards.



2022 ACEC YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF THE YEAR

GLOBAL LEADER SERV



America's engineering industry represents the gold standard in quality, safety and resiliency and it remains sought-after beyond our borders. American firms have a global footprint that brings clean water, modern transportation networks, safe schools and hospitals, and reliable energy systems to the world. This is achieved through coordination and partnerships with a variety of U.S. diplomatic and developmental missions abroad including USAID and the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), as well as USTDA and the Export-Import Bank. Each of these organizations play an important role in helping American engineering firms compete in the international marketplace.

IN ENGINEERING VICES



ACEC supports:

- Continued operations and funding for the Export-Import Bank and the critical role it plays in providing project financing to enable engineering firms to compete effectively for infrastructure projects around the world.
- Implementation of the United States, Mexico, Canada (USMCA) trade agreement.
- International development programs such as USAID and MCC and greater efforts to engage U.S. firms to ensure project success.
- The use of procurement rules internationally that are reliably implemented and enforced with transparency.



ACEC's annual Engineering Excellence Awards is the premier awards event for engineering, showcasing the year's best achievements in design.

In 2023, 195 projects were honored at the awards event, with 24 projects winning a coveted Grand or Honor award.

The year's most outstanding achievement is named the Grand Conceptor and is kept secret until announced at the black tie gala awards event.

The captioned photos featured throughout this booklet are a selection of the Grand and Honor Award-winning projects that were honored at the 2023 awards gala event in Washington, DC.

ACEC ENGINEERING *Excellence* AWARDS



BRIDGING KENTUCKY, FRANKFORT, KY
Stantec, Qk4, and AECOM
2023 EEA Honor Award



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I-579 URBAN OPEN SPACE CAP, PITTSBURGH, PA
HDR
2023 EEA Honor Award