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Upcoming Meetings:

- [MN Climate Adaptation Conference](#), Nov. 14th
- [MN Association of Floodplain Managers Conference](#), Nov. 14-16th
- SAME-MSP December Meeting and Technical Presentation, Dec. 19th
- SAME-MSP January Meeting and Presentation, Jan. 23rd

Frequently Used Links:

- National website: www.same.org
- Post website: www.same-msp.org
- [Post Leadership](#)
- [Post Sustaining Members](#)
- [SAME-MSP Facebook Page](#)

Next Meeting Presentation

Wednesday, November 28th, 2018

Minnesota Department of Transportation Bridge Inspection Program

0.5 PDH

Tim Anderson, Federal Highway Administration
Ed Lutgen, Minnesota Department of Transportation

Presentation Synopsis:

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) bridge inspection program regulations were developed as a result of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1968. This act required the Secretary of Transportation to establish the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) to ensure the safety of the traveling public. The NBIS requires that all public road bridges longer than 20 feet be inspected at least every 24-months.

Tim Anderson and Ed Lutgen will provide an update on implementation of the National Bridge Inspection Standards in Minnesota.

Speaker Biographies:



Tim Anderson works for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as the Minnesota Division Office Bridge Engineer. Tim has worked for the federal government for 28 years, with 12 of those years with the U.S. Department of Defense and the last 16 years with the Federal Highway Administration.



Ed Lutgen has been working with bridges for last 24 years with 18 at MnDOT Bridge Office. Ed currently serves as the Bridge Construction and Maintenance Engineer managing load ratings, structural metals, fabrication methods, scoping, construction, data management, inspection and operations support units. Ed is the Minnesota Program Manager which makes him responsible for approximately 20,000 bridge inspections within the state.

Meeting Location and Details:

Grumpy's Bar & Grill: 2801 Snelling Avenue, Roseville, MN

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM: Optional social time and lunch

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM: Technical presentation

The optional lunch is available for \$20 and includes a deli sandwich buffet, chips, salad, and a beverage.

Please **RSVP** by no later than **Wednesday, November 21, 2018** with your intent to either partake in the lunch or to come for the presentation only.

To RSVP please use the following Eventbrite link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/november-professional-development-meeting-tickets-52265404231>

Invite a Friend to November's Luncheon!

Help promote the our SAME Post! Where else can engineering professionals network, listen to interesting technical presentations, and earn PDHs? Invite a friend to the November luncheon to show them what they are missing!

October Meeting Highlights

Last month's meeting was the MSP Post's 5th Small Business Panel on the topic of **How to be Successful in Government Work and Updates**. Highlights included the following advice from the panelists:

Tips to be successful in government work:

- Stick with your market niche! Be intentional and plan company growth and addition of new services.
- Chasing RFPs is time-consuming and may not result in work. Research which government entities are best for your company to market and respond to RFPs. Get out ahead of projects so that you can assemble your team before the RFP comes out. Know where the money is coming from and going.
- Work in Federal government is not for the faint of heart – it takes persistence and hard work, but once you're in, the work is interesting, challenging and the process runs smoothly. Go into Federal work for the long run. If you're not working for the Federal government yet, start by being a subcontractor to other companies and research which entities would be best for your company to pursue.
- The [Minnesota Procurement Technical Assistance Center](#) (MnPTAC) helps both large and small businesses and understands local, regional, state, and federal government and small and large business requirements.

The panel also offered the following insight for the future of Federal and State contracting work:

- Department of Defense will continue to increase cybersecurity controls for DOD work, including the requirement for document control encryption
- Federal Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) is likely to move from self-certifying to full certification
- Federal credit card charges are increasing from \$3,000 to \$10,000
- MnDOT Prequalification rules are changing to make it easier for small businesses to qualify. There is more emphasis to hire small business at MnDOT.
- Big project coming up at MnDOT is the Twin Ports Interchange in Duluth—lots of opportunity. Also see consultant services <\$100,000 – check their website routinely!

RFP and Business Development Information:

- [FedBizOpps](#) for Federal business opportunities
- MnDOT Office of Civil Rights [Small Business Development Program](#) and [Contracting Opportunities](#)
- MnDOT offers classes on a variety of topics for small businesses, including Bidding/Estimating, Accounting/Finances, Contract/Legal, Marketing, and Operation/Management
- [Small and Disadvantaged Business Opportunity Council](#) (SADBOC) Conference
- U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) [Small Business Resource Guide](#)
- Procurement Forecast at [USAspending.gov](#)
- [Minnesota United Certification Program](#) (MNUCP) includes information on certification and finding DBEs
- "Doing Business With" links on potential client websites
- People are great sources of information – go out for coffee and connect with people, networking is key – it's who you know!

Feel free to contact any of our panelists for more information, contact information was in last month's newsletter.

Sherry Van Duyn from Landmark Environmental on left moderated the panel discussion. The panelists, shown in the photo, from left to right are: George Costilla (MnDOT), Mark Cooper (MN PTAC), Mike Hommer (Mortenson), Della Schall Young (Young Environmental Consulting), and Shaun McClary (US SBA, MN District Office).



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SAME-MSP Post Membership Survey

Post Membership Survey is Live! Tell us how our post is doing and what we can do better.



This survey will assist to identify gaps and opportunities for our Post programs and activities. Our goal is to ensure that our Post benefits our members with technical programs and networking opportunities, and continually strives to provide these values and opportunities to our members. The survey will be emailed to all Post members in November and can also be accessed here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/1fesCSRgsay2LRGj2>

Comments can also be provided directly to Dave Ausdemore at dave@hsscience.com.

SAME National and MFESTS Awards

The Post is looking for recommendations or nominations for upcoming awards. For a full listing of SAME National Awards, see the following link: <https://www.same.org/awards>. We are also looking for recommendations for the [Minnesota Federation of Engineering, Science, and Technology Societies](#) (MFESTS). Please email Sherry Van Duyn at svanduy@landmarkenv.com.

A Look into the Future: Volunteers Needed for Future City Competition

This will be the 17th year that teams from Minnesota have participated in the national [Future Cities Competition](#) and will be the 11th year that the SAME-MSP Post will be sponsoring a special award category at the Regional Finals for the team that best addresses "Readiness for Natural and Man-made Disasters."

The Post needs the assistance of at least four volunteers on the morning of **Saturday, January 19, 2018 at Dakota County Technical College** to help select the team to receive our special award.



This year's competition theme is **Powering Our Future** - teams will design a resilient power grid for their future city that can withstand and quickly recover from the impacts of a natural disaster. This theme fits well with our special award, so there should be some very creative and well thought out ideas. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Peter Allen at peter.allen@stantec.com or 651-604-4801.

SAME Centennial Celebration

SAME is approaching our centennial year! If you are interested in assisting with our centennial celebration planning, please contact Rachel Pichelmann at rpichelmann@sehinc.com.

Sustaining Member Presentations at Future SAME-MSP Post Meetings

The SAME MSP Post is looking for our sustaining members to give a brief 5 minute presentation about your company prior to the monthly presentations. This is a great networking opportunity to tell others about your company's services, small business information, etc. Please email Sherry Van Duyn at svanduy@landmarkenv.com or Dave Ausdemore at dave@hsscience.com if you would like to present.

Have an idea for future meeting topics or tours?

Please contact Matt Redington with your ideas at matthew.redington@hdrinc.com or 763-591-5487!