

# Queens Chapter

New York State Society of Professional Engineers

## The Drawingboard

November 2011

Volume 11, Number 11

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### President's Message

*By George Tavoulaareas, P.E.*  
*President*  
[gltp@msn.com](mailto:gltp@msn.com)

Several weeks ago a NSPE chapter was born at City College. An Inauguration Ceremony and luncheon at the college to celebrate the establishment of their student chapter was hosted by the college. The event was well attended by faculty, students, and NYSSPE Leadership. Past President **Louise Doyle, PE** gave a presentation on licensure and presented their certificate. Other attendees included NYSSPE members **Al Brand, PE, Rudi Sherbansky, PE, Salvatore Galletta, PE** and **Gee Eng, PE**. The Dean of Engineering **Joseph Barba** and **Deborah Hartnett**, Chief of Staff at City College addressed the group and expressed great interest in the potential of the collaboration between the College and NYSSPE. I want to thank past President Sal Galletta, PE and City College senior **Zahid Kahn** who put the Chapter together. Photos of the ceremony can be seen at:

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.236325369759488.56898.229623893762969&type=1>

On October 28, 2011 I attended the DOB seminar on special inspections at Brooklyn Poly Tech. The seminar was well attended with more than 125 engineers attending. According to DOB Director **Alan Price**, the DOB does not have a deadline set for the new regulations and registration period. The contentious issue of IAS and accreditation was discussed and many engineers question why they need to be accredited by an entity that does not practice engineering. One Engineer in the crowd pointed out that he has more than 40 years of experience while IAS has only been in the business for 20 years. Furthermore, the Engineer offered to train IAS.

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I look forward to seeing you at this Thursday's meeting at Ft.Totten.

## LECTURE INFORMATION

\$20 p/person \$25- non NSPE members

November 17, 2011 7:00PM

Queens Professional Design Center,  
422 Weaver Avenue, Ft. Totten, Bayside, Queens, NY

### Alfred Trinidad,

Supervisor of the Rooftop Unit for the NYC Fire Department

Mr Trinidad will discuss the NYC Fire Code, FC504 which was enacted on July 1, 2008. In summary, this section requires that rooftops of buildings 100 feet or less in height be provided with six foot wide roof access points along sides of the building that are accessible to fire apparatus access, and a six foot wide clear path that runs from the front of the building to the rear, and from side to side. Rooftop arrangements existing on July 1, 2008 that were not in compliance with these requirements were not required to be brought into compliance. Design requirements for roof top access will be discussed.

## NYC RULES PAGE

DOB Sprinkler changes; Fire Department connections to 1 and 2 family homes:

The original standard, as modified and adopted, requires fire department sprinkler systems designed for Group R-2 and R-3 occupancies in accordance with the standard. This rule proposes to remove the requirement for Group F family dwellings as such connections are not used under standard operation of the Fire Department of New York City. The removal of this requirement will reduce an unnecessary cost burden on one- and two-family homeowners.

Go to the website to read more about the proposed rule.  
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycrules/html/proposed/proposed.shtml>

## Volunteers Needed

### **NCEES Seeks Volunteers for Fundamentals of Engineering Exam Content Review**

NCEES is currently seeking engineering professionals to participate in a content review for the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam. The results of this survey will be used to update the test specifications for the exam. NCEES requires a cross section of professionals—including licensed professional engineers, academics teaching engineering courses, and engineer interns—from all engineering disciplines to complete an online survey about the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary for an engineer intern to work in a manner that safeguards the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

The survey can be completed in 30–45 minutes. Responses must be received no later than December 5, 2011. For more information, e-mail [FEcontentreview@ncees.org](mailto:FEcontentreview@ncees.org).

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## Award Nominations

### **Help Us Reward Engineering Excellence!**

The NYSSPE Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for our 2012 Awards, which will be presented at the NYSSPE Annual Meeting, NYSSPE Annual Meeting, June 8, 2012 at the Holiday Inn, 232 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866; A complete description of each award can be found here: <http://www.nysspe.org/awardnominations.php>

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## NYS Legislative Update

### **New Professional Design Corporation**

On September 23, 2011 Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed into law A4581/S2987. This law creates a new type of design professional service corporation in New York State. Under current NYS law, a professional corporation practicing engineering in New York State must be owned 100% by professional engineers unless you are one of the grandfathered Incs. Under this change in the law, non licensed professionals can own a stake in the corporation provided that greater than 75% of the voting shares of the corporation shall be owned by design professionals and greater than 75% of the directors and officers shall be design professionals. This law also affects the architects, land surveyors and landscape architects. You can read this law by going to: <http://open.nysenate.gov/legislation/bill/S2987-2011>

## Public Comment Sought

### **Tappan Zee Hudson River Crossing Project**

The US Department of Transportation – Federal Highway Administration, The NYS Department of Transportation and the NYS Thruway Authority announced that the scoping process has begun for the Tappan Zee Hudson River Crossing Project and will remain open until November 15, 2011. The public is invited to view and comment on:

- Description of the project area
- Purpose & need
- Project goals & objectives
- Alternatives to be studied
- Public coordination plan
- Scope of environmental studies

[Scoping Information Packet](#) (4 MB) Comments on the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement may be submitted by 5:00 pm on November 15, 2011.

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## Link of the Month

<http://www.gizmowatch.com/entry/20-marvels-of-modern-engineering/>

# City College Inauguration Ceremony



PROFESSIONAL DESIGN CENTER OF NEW YORK, INC  
422 Weaver Ave  
Fort Totten, Bayside, NY 11356

American Institute of Architects

Queens Chapter

NYS Society of Professional Engineers

2011

P D C Lecture Series

4-11

# Lecture

Date: Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011

Time: 7:30PM to 8:30PM- Lecture; see below

At

**422 Weaver Ave. Fort Totten, Bayside, Queens**

## 1 Continuing Education Credits

Admission fee is \$20 NYSSPE members; \$25 for non-members.

Please RSVP to: George Tavoulaareas, e-mail [GLTPE@MSN.COM](mailto:GLTPE@MSN.COM)

### PRESENTED BY:

Alfred Trinidad, Supervisor of the Rooftop Unit for the NYC Fire Department

Mr Trinidad will discuss the NYC Fire Code, FC504 which was enacted on July 1, 2008. In summary, this section requires that rooftops of buildings 100 feet or less in height be provided with six foot wide roof access points along sides of the building that are accessible to fire apparatus access, and a six foot wide clear path that runs from the front of the building to the rear, and from side to side. Rooftop arrangements existing on July 1, 2008 that were not in compliance with these requirements were not required to be brought into compliance. Design requirements for roof top access will be discussed.

**Pizza and refreshments will be served from 6:00 pm-7:00pm**

**Queens Chapter meeting from 7pm-7:30pm**

**Lecture 7:30am-8:30pm**

**Contact George Tavoulaareas, PE at 347-387-1649 for further information**



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