

Queens Chapter

New York State Society of Professional Engineers

THE DRAWINGBOARD

March 2012

Volume 12, Number 3

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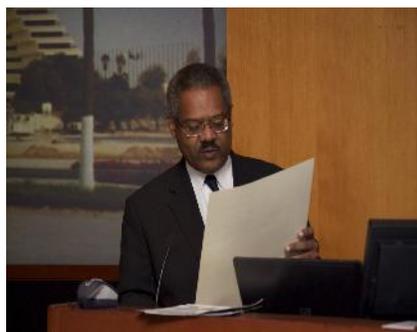
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[Tony DiRuggiero](#)



President's Message

*By George Tavoulaareas, P.E.
President*

Engineer's week was a success last month. With more than eighty engineers in attendance at the UBS Conference Center in Manhattan, we spent the day celebrating Engineer's Week listening to lectures on interesting projects such as the second avenue subway, the freedom tower, NYC water tunnel and structural collapses. Mayor Mike Bloomberg issued a Proclamation celebrating Engineer's Week to NYSSPE and it was read by NYC DDC Deputy Commissioner Eric MacFarlane. Letters commending engineers for their work in NY state were also issued by NY Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver.



NYC Dept. of Design and Construction Deputy Commissioner Eric MacFarlane, P.E. reads Mayoral Proclamation



Rudi Sherbanski, PE [L] President of Engineer's in Construction and Joseph Pasaturo, PE [R] MCPC President flank Commissioner MacFarlane

Immediate Past Presidents

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Joel Miele, Jr., P.E.	1996/1998 (718) 894-2222
Chris Sideris, P.E.	1994/1996 (718) 224-9091
Robert Lo Pinto, P.E.	1990/1992 (718) 746-7122

Our chapter wrote a letter to the NYC Counsel's office expressing our concerns regarding proposed rule 20111RG13

http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycrules/downloads/rules/P_OER_01_26_12_a.PDF

by the NYC Office of Environmental Remediation. The rule would allow non professional engineers to practice engineering without a license. I have called Director Walsh to set up a meeting to discuss this rule but he has not returned my calls. The society will follow this rule and take the appropriate action.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2012 at 6:15 pm in Ft. Totten. I look forward to seeing you at 6:15pm. Our general membership meeting will start at 7pm sharp.

Next General Membership Meeting

The next general membership meeting will be held on Thursday March 22, 2012 at 6:15pm

Admission is \$10 for members and \$25 for non-members

Ruma Som, Assoc. AIA, AHC, CSI, CDT; Architectural Relations & Door Opening Consultant

LEED and high performance Doors and Hardware- 1 AIA CREDIT

Objective: LEED and high performance Doors and Hardware

- Know the purpose and concepts behind LEED & USGBC.
- Understand the importance of high-performance door and hardware solutions in energy efficient and net zero buildings and their effects on the Energy & Atmosphere (EA) credits in LEED.
- Be able to describe how doors & hardware can help building owners gain Materials & Resources (MR) credits in LEED.
- Be able to describe how doors & hardware can help building owners gain Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) credits in LEED.
- Discuss how door and hardware specification should relate to Section 018113 Sustainable Design Requirement and Energy Model in Division 23.

Location:

[422 Weaver Ave., Fort Totten, New York](#)

Directors 2008-2010

Tom Campagna, PE	(718) 423-7924
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Directors 2008-2009

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Bernard Haber, P.E.	(718) 224 2146
Eliot Shapiro, P.E.	(516) 791-2300
Xenophon Cavaris, P.E.	(516) 752-1687
Peter Boudouvas, P.E.	(212) 594-4340
Robert Weiner, P.E.	

NYC RULES UPDATE

Proposed Rules Governing the City of New York can be viewed at:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycrules/html/proposed/proposed.shtml>

There is a proposed rule that pertains to energy audits and retrocommissioning. You can read more about this rule by going to the above website. Please email me your comments.

A rule pertaining to storefronts in historic districts can also be viewed at the above website.

DEP Stormwater Guidelines

As many of you are aware, DEP's stormwater performance standard was published on January 4, 2012. Additional information can be found [here](#) on DEP's website. At the same time, DEP published the [Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Stormwater Management Systems](#). Both the rule and companion guidelines were the result of an extensive collaborative effort and your invaluable input. These guidelines will be continually updated to reflect any future changes to stormwater rules and the latest technologies and best practices. These guidelines will also include a system calculator to assist developers and licensed professionals in determining space requirements for the most appropriate system when DEP's stormwater performance standard takes effect in July 2012.

Office of the Mayor

CITY OF NEW YORK



Proclamation

WHEREAS: NEW YORK CITY IS COMMITTED TO BEING A GLOBAL CAPITAL OF INNOVATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY. WE TOOK A BIG STEP TOWARD THAT GOAL RECENTLY BY FORMING A HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP WITH CORNELL UNIVERSITY AND THE TECHNION-ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TO BUILD A NEW SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CAMPUS ON ROOSEVELT ISLAND. TAKE IT FROM ME, THE PROUD HOLDER OF AN ENGINEERING DEGREE—WE WANT EVEN MORE ASPIRING ENGINEERS TO COME HERE, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, STAY HERE AFTER THEY GRADUATE, AND CREATE NEW COMPANIES AND JOBS IN THE FIVE BOROUGHES. THAT IS WHY WE ARE PROUD ONCE AGAIN TO JOIN THE NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS IN CELEBRATING ENGINEERS WEEK 2012.

WHEREAS: THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S ENGINEERS WEEK IS "ENGINEERS TURN DREAMS INTO REALITY." WITH THE WORLD'S POPULATION APPROACHING SEVEN BILLION, THIS WEEK'S PROGRAMS WILL FOCUS ON THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENGINEERS HAS TO DELIVER SOLUTIONS TO THE CHALLENGES THAT SOCIETIES ARE FACING. THE NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK FOUNDATION IS EXPANDING ITS "NEW FACES OF ENGINEERING" PROGRAM TO RECOGNIZE THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST COLLEGE STUDENTS. AND AS HALF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE NOW LIVE IN URBAN AREAS, THE "FUTURE CITY" COMPETITION IS A TERRIFIC WAY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO PRESENT THEIR MOST AMBITIOUS IDEAS AND LEARN FROM THE ENGINEERS WHO ARE SHAPING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE, BUILDINGS, AND TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS TODAY.

WHEREAS: WE WOULD NOT BE THE WORLD'S MOST DYNAMIC AND EXCITING CITY WITHOUT THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ENGINEERS WHO, BEHIND THE SCENES, MAKE US GO. ENGINEERS WILL CONTINUE TO DRIVE THE INNOVATION ECONOMY, AND WHETHER THEY DESIGN HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES OR WATER RESERVOIRS AND OUR RECYCLING SYSTEMS, THEY WILL CONTINUE TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY. TOGETHER WITH PROFESSIONALS AND COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY, WE CELEBRATE ENGINEERS' INTELLIGENCE AND CREATIVITY, AND LOOK FORWARD TO MORE STUDENTS ENTERING A FIELD THAT IS CRUCIAL TO AMERICA'S PROSPERITY AND FUTURE.

NOW THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 19TH—25TH, 2012 IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK AS:

"ENGINEERS WEEK"



Michael R. Bloomberg
MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG
MAYOR

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO
SET MY HAND AND USED THE SEAL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK TO BE AFFIXED.



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Treasurer

February 25, 2012

Dr. Daniel Walsh
Director of Environmental Remediation
253 Broadway
NY, NY 10007

**RE: NYC Progress rule amendment
Hazardous Materials, Air Quality, and Noise (E) Designations
Reference No. 2011 RG13**

Dr. Walsh:

The preparation of a Completion Confirmation constitutes the practice of Professional Engineering as defined in Article 145, "Professional Engineering and Land Surveying" of the New York State Education Law. Section 7201 "Definition of Practice of Engineering" states "The practice of Professional Engineering is defined as performing Professional Service such as Consultation, Investigation, Evaluation, Planning, Design, or Supervision of Construction or operation in connection with any Utilities, Structures, Buildings, Machines, Equipment, Processes, Works or Projects wherein the Safeguarding of Life, Health and Property is concerned when such Service or work requires the application of Engineering principles and data." Section 7202 Practice of Engineering and use of the title "Professional Engineer" states "Only a person licensed or otherwise authorized under this article shall practice Engineering or use the title "Professional Engineer."

From the above, it is obvious that a Qualified Environmental Professional can only be a Professional Engineer. The required evaluation, investigation, certification, etc constitutes the Practice of Engineering and thus must be performed by a Licensed Professional Engineer. Therefore, the proposed "Qualified Environmental Professional" provision must be deleted and the present PE completion confirmation provision must be retained.

Please feel free to call me at 718.894.7822 to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George Tavoulareas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

George Tavoulareas, PE
President
Queens Chapter, NYS Society of Professional Engineers

C: M.Cardozo; Corp. Counsel

THE TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE – IN THE NEWS

By: Bernard Haber, PE

In the mid 1950's the New York State Thruway opened with much fanfare and with its center piece, the 3 mile long Tappan Zee bridge spanning the Hudson River between Tarrytown and Nyack, NY. The bridge consists of a 2400 ft. – three span - through truss main span, with deck trusses on either side of the main span. The long westerly approach is a stringer supported causeway. When the bridge went into service the average daily volume was 18,000 vehicles. Today it peaks at 170,000 vehicles/day.

The bridge designed as a 6 lane structure has been repaired, reconstructed and lanes have been reconfigured many times during its near 70 year life. It now has 7 lanes, the center lane being reversible. In 2009 the bridge underwent a costly major deck replacement under traffic to extend its useful life and to eliminate the constant deck holes that had been occurring.

For many years plans and studies have been undertaken for widening or replacement of the bridge. The approaches to the main span which are deck structures could be widened, but the main span, a through truss presents a major obstacle. Money is a great issue. Recently Governor Cuomo, who is favor of a new bridge had his Department of Transportation solicit proposals for a Design Build contract [which has just become legal in NYS for public contracts] based on an estimate for the bridge of \$5 billion. Presently four short listed proposers are developing designs and construction cost estimates within the parameters set by NYSDOT, with the hope of starting construction this year.

The new bridge will have rail transit and will be wider. The rail transit adds substantially to the cost of the bridge and many people are asking whether hard rail is the best way to go. This question has not been fully answered, Can the cost for hard rail and its associated infrastructure costs for stations, connections, land acquisition, etc. be justified compared to rubber tire transit, and is there the ridership for hard rail to justify its costly construction? .

March 16, 2012

NY JournalNews
lohud.com

Thruway Authority waiting on Tappan Zee Bridge cost estimate



Editorial Spotlight: New bridge could start this summer: Thruway Authority Executive Director Tom Madison estimates that construction of a new Hudson River bridge could start by the end of summer during a Journal News/ LoHud.com Editorial Spotlight.

Video by Melissa Elian

By Khurram Saeed

HARRISON — The cost of the new Tappan Zee Bridge and how much travelers might have to pay to cross it won't be known until this summer at the earliest, the executive director of the New York State Thruway Authority said Thursday.

The state will receive proposals from the four teams vying to design and build the new bridge at the end of July, which will provide it with a better idea of the project's true costs, Thomas Madison told the Editorial Board of The Journal News and LoHud.com.

"At that point, we'll have a more clear idea of both what kinds of designs and innovations the teams are proposing but also a much more refined understanding of what the ultimate cost will be," Madison said.

"We can't, today, as we sit here, predict what the tolls should or will be on the bridge until we have a clear understanding of what the project cost is going to be proposed at," he said later.

The Thruway Authority, which will own the new bridge as it does the Tappan Zee, anticipates that it will award the final contract in August after receiving the final go-ahead from the Federal Highway Administration. Construction would begin soon after, Madison said.

The state provided the final Request for Proposals for the project to the bidding teams last Friday. That "extraordinarily large document," as Madison put it, contains the finished specifications and technical dimensions. The state today plans to post the RFP, along with a summary on www.thenewtzb.com.

Madison said the four "world-class" bidding teams, which have created infrastructure projects across the nation, now have four months to complete their designs, construction plans and costs on the new Hudson River crossing that will replace the Tappan Zee Bridge.

March 16, 2012

The project is one of three highway bridges in the United States that has been fast-tracked by the Obama administration, Madison said. It has been estimated to cost about \$5.2 billion, but Madison said that figure “could swing very considerably in either direction” based on the potential builders’ determinations.

The state is still working on a financing plan.

The Thruway Authority is seeking to tap into Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program, which provides 35-year loans at low-interest rate. The U.S. Senate is looking to expand the program as part of its \$109 billion transportation bill; the House of Representative is pitching is a different plan.

“That’s a big piece of what we hope will be the funding plan for the new Tappan Zee Bridge is to get a long-term, low-interest loan,” Madison said.

Madison also answered questions submitted through an online chat during his hour-long interview.

Some people contended the state was undermining public input because it had not released requested documents about project, therefore not giving them time to review, analyze and respond to them before the public comment period closed on March 30, which was extended by 15 days following public outcry. Madison said there would be “room for modification” in documents like the RFP even after this month. He noted 460 public meetings had taken place over the past decade and \$88 million spent on environmental reviews and those comments and findings had been included in the draft environmental review.

“If you’re getting ready to drive piles (into the river) and dig your shovels into the ground, then we should have more definitive plans than we have,” said Lynn Parrott, who can see the Tappan Zee Bridge from his sixth-floor apartment at Salisbury Manor in South Nyack.

As for mass transit not being part of the new bridge plan, Madison echoed his boss, Gov. Andrew Cuomo, and said the state does not have the money to pay for both a bridge and bus rapid transit or commuter rail. He said the bridge would be designed to structurally accommodate those systems.

Leaders of Rockland and Westchester should talk directly with the federal government and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to explore how finance mass transit, Madison said. He added the new span would have a “dramatic and favorable” impact on traffic by addressing two main concerns: safety and congestion by adding more travel lanes, safety shoulders and lanes reserved for emergency vehicles.



DEAN G. SKELOS
PRESIDENT PRO TEM
MAJORITY LEADER

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E-MAIL: SKELOS@NYSenate.GOV

February 21, 2012

George Tavoulaareas, P.E.
Chair
The New York State Society of
Professional Engineers, Inc.
6 Airline Drive
Albany, NY 12205

Dear Mr. Tavoulaareas:

I wish to extend my best wishes to you and your fellow engineers as you assemble to celebrate the contributions your profession has made – and will continue to make – to New York State.

I regret that I am unable to attend this year's Engineer's Week events. I am happy to offer my hearty congratulations to the Society. As engineers from throughout the state gather to celebrate their achievements, the Society should take pride in the fact that the ideas of one engineer have the potential to benefit New York State in many important ways, including establishing job-creating projects.

As the Society celebrates this year's Engineer's Week, please know that the public still marvels at the power of your ideas. Keep up the good work – we expect great things!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dean G. Skelos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

DEAN G. SKELOS
Senate Majority Leader



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

February 21, 2012

Dear Friends:

As Speaker of the New York State Assembly, it is a great pleasure to extend my sincerest greetings as you gather for the Annual "Engineers Week – NYC."

Since its founding in 1951, the New York State Society of Professional Engineers has grown to represent more than 27,000 Professional Engineers in New York State and more than 100 professional societies, major corporations and government agencies. Whether massive public infrastructure projects or a local private-sector building, the innovation and creativity of engineers continues to transform the Empire State.

Engineers Week celebrates the positive contributions engineers make to society and is a catalyst for outreach across the country to kids and adults. As Engineers Week highlights these contributions, we also should reflect on how engineers transform their vision and hard work into our infrastructure and buildings to keep pace with our growing economy and population.

With New York's many new large scale construction projects, engineers will play a key role in driving New York's economic growth. The Engineers Week seminars, as well as your ongoing programs throughout the year, have proved to increase awareness and show the important role engineers play in today's society. You can be proud of all you have accomplished.

Again, welcome to New York City, and best wishes for an enjoyable celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheldon Silver".

SHELDON SILVER
Speaker

Technical Center
101 Hampton Avenue
Needham, MA
Tel: 781-972-2300
tcerullo@titanamerica.com

Currently the concrete industry is experiencing a shortage of fly ash for use as a supplementary cementitious material. The current shortage is a result of a number of issues outside the control of fly ash and concrete producer include:

- 1. Low Natural Gas Prices-** Electric generation from coal fired power plants competes on an economic basis with other fuel sources (natural gas, nuclear, oil, renewable) to sell its power onto the electric grid network. With natural gas prices now at 10 year lows, less coal - and more natural gas - is being used to meet electricity demand. Since fly ash is a byproduct of burning coal, many regions of the country have experienced a major reduction in the production of fly ash due to the major drop off of coal-based electricity generation.
- 2. Mild Winter Weather-** The moderate winter weather being experienced by many regions of the country has led to an overall decrease in electricity generation. Warmer temperatures decrease the electric energy demand that comes from electric powered heating systems. This decrease in demand due to the uncharacteristically warm winter results in less coal being burned and therefore less fly ash being produced.
- 3. Current Economic Conditions-** Lower overall economic activity has decreased the industrial and commercial demand of electricity which in turn leads to less power production and less fly ash generation.

These factors have led to a shortage of available Fly Ash for use in the production of Ready Mix Concrete as a supplementary cementitious material in many regions of the country, particularly the Northeast.

Given this current situation, it is advisable that concrete producers, developers, owners, agencies and authorities re-examine concrete mix designs that currently utilize fly ash and take the steps necessary to mitigate the impacts of this shortage. Concrete producers are advised to work closely with fly ash suppliers to determine how to best utilize the limited supply of fly ash which is currently available. It is difficult, if not impossible, to predict how long this shortage will last given the unpredictability of the factors which are causing the issue. However we do feel this condition is temporary and normal production levels will return at some point.

CITY OF NEW YORK
Queens Borough President
CITYWIDE JOB VACANCY NOTICE

Civil Service Title: Consulting Engineer Title Code No: 20835 Division/Work Unit: Topographical Unit Number of Positions: 1 Hours/Shift: Workload Driven		Salary: Commensurate with experience
JOB DESCRIPTION Serve as Chief Consulting Engineer providing oversight and technical assistance to the Borough President's Topographical Bureau. These functions include a variety of activities which assist both governmental agencies and the general public, such as: (1) Review and approve and sign street acquisition and damage maps for Department of Transportation (DOT) and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); (2) Review and approve street alteration maps; (3) Review and ensure the maintenance of survey monument information; (4) Review and ensure maintenance of street grade and elevation data for the Borough; (5) Issuance of street house numbers and the management of the topographical record room; (6) Present new revenue stream ideas and develop the fee structure for topography services and a system to collect, maintain and reconcile said fees; and (7) Work with the Office of Management and Budget, the Comptroller's Office and other Borough President's Offices to ensure that the fee structure and collection system is compatible and appropriate. (8) Oversight of capital project implementation and act as Borough President's representative on the progress of said projects. (9) Represent Borough President at meetings and resolve issues as directed for office.		
<p style="text-align: center;">QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS</p> A valid New York State License as a Professional Engineer is required. In addition candidates must have six (6) years of full-time paid experience in civil, mechanical electrical, chemical or air pollution control engineering work		
<p style="text-align: center;">TO APPLY, PLEASE SUBMIT RESUME TO:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUSANNE MARCHETTI, DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL Office of the Borough President 120-55 Queens Boulevard, Suite 249 Kew Gardens, NY 11424</p>		
POST DATE: February 22, 2012	POST UNTIL: FILLED	JVN#: 2012-013-0019

*The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
 New York City Residency Required.*

ZAHID R. KHAN

32-34 73rd Street ● East Elmhurst, NY 11370 ● (646) 361-0091 ● zahidkhan686@gmail.com

OBJECTIVE

To obtain a permanent position as an Engineer that will enable me to use and enhance my strong leadership, communication and organization skills

EDUCATION

B.E., Mechanical Engineering, City College of New York February 2012
GPA: 3.30
Chemistry Workshop Leader, Department of Chemistry, CCNY 2008
Certificate of Excellence, Department of Mathematics, CCNY 2008

PROJECTS

Porous Track for an Airborne Jet Train: Serve on a team designing a new soft porous track (SPT) to allow an airborne jet train (AJT) to glide within centimeters of the earth's surface at speeds approaching those of a commercial jet aircraft.
Finite Element Analysis: Performed analysis on a TV mount to determine points of maximum stress, strain, displacement and deflection
Steam Turbine Power Plant Design: Designed cycles for several steam turbine power plants to increase, thermal efficiencies and energy production

SOFTWARE EXPERIENCE

Engineering: SolidWorks, MATLAB, AutoCAD, PCTran, Pro E
Management: Oracle Primavera Contract Management
MS Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint
Graphics: Html, CSS, Photoshop 5.0, Adobe

HARDWARE EXPERIENCE

Computer Repair: Dell, Hewlett-Packard (HP)
Machine Tools: CNC Mill, CNC Lathe

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Engineering Assistant, Weidlinger Associates Incorporation, New York, NY 05/10 – 12/10
Assisted in the contract management for the rehabilitation of the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridge projects as well as the addition of aviation lights to the Queensboro Bridge for the New York City Department of Transportation. Responsibilities included document control, execution of contract management software, creation of transmittals, review of shop drawings, and assistance in answering Engineering Clarification Memo with sketches in AutoCAD. Additional responsibilities included coordination with the contractors such as, Skanska-Koch and Kiewit, prime consultant, URS, and sub consultant Wesler-Cohen Associates, on various engineering and document control issues.

IT Technician, Department of Education, New York, NY 02/09 – Present
Assist in setting up new computer equipment in classrooms and offices. Install software and ensured that LCD projectors, smart boards, and other related audio/visual equipment function properly. Troubleshoot hardware and software problems in conjunction with the DOE help center and the borough technology staff. Configure wireless devices to access the DOE network. Maintain classroom servers and technology equipment inventory. Monitor equipment to ensure timely repair. Provide assistance in use of technology equipment and coordinate with the MOUSE squad.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

Founder/President: National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) – CCNY Student Chapter
Secretary: American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning (ASHRAE) - NY Student Chapter
Member: American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
Member: American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)
Member: Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)

PERSONAL DATA

Languages: Fluent in English and Urdu, Conversant in Persian, Hindi, Punjabi and Hindko

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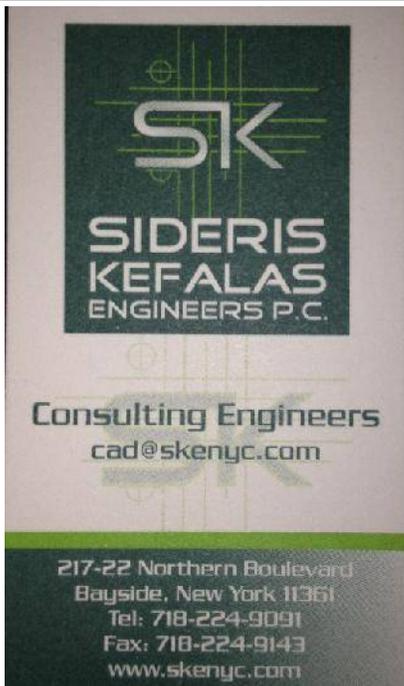
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