Preview of May 2014 SAME Presentation entitled “Regulatory Flux: Update on Changes on EPA’s GHG Permitting and SSM Regs”. This presentation will be given by Brandon Mogan of Geosyntec.

Regulatory Flux: Update on Changes to EPA’s GHG Permitting and SSM Regulations

This presentation will provide an update on upcoming changes to startup, shutdown, and malfunction (SSM) rules. The EPA has been forced to revise many rules to require emission limitations on a continuous basis, even during periods of SSM, including provisions in State Implementation Plans and NESHAPs. In April 2014, the DC Circuit decided that EPA does not have the legal authority under the CAA to provide an affirmative defense. The presentation will provide an update on EPA’s status with respect to responding to past litigations as well as provide a discussion on potential implications of the 2014 decision.

In addition to providing an update on SSM regulations, this presentation will provide an update on GHG permitting requirements as well as an overview of EPA’s proposed framework for accounting for biogenic CO2 emissions. With the end of the sunset period (July 2014) and the implementation of a 2013 vacature of the Deferral Rule both looming, regulation of biogenic CO2 under the PSD program may soon become a reality.

Ric Powers Scholarship Recipients!

Each year, the Robins AFB Post selects two winners for the Ric Powers Scholarship Award valued at $2,500 each. This scholarship is open to local area high school Seniors and 1st or 2nd year College students who wish to pursue a career in any field of engineering of their choice. Applications are scored by committee, which takes into account their written responses on the application, extracurricular activities and transcripts.

This year’s recipients are Ms. Jennifer Burkhart of Warner Robins High School and Mr. Forest Mercier, a sophomore currently attending Georgia Tech. The Director of Education & Mentoring will be presenting the winners with their awards on May 6th. Congratulations to both!
Brandon Mogan is an air quality engineer with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. Based in Columbia, South Carolina, he is responsible for managing office operations and is a member of the leadership team for Geosyntec’s national air practice. Brandon has built his career around providing a unique synthesis of technical and regulatory expertise to utility and industrial clients across the United States, ranging from small industrial facilities to Fortune 500 companies. Mr. Mogan routinely assists clients with obtaining air construction and operating permits, permitting strategy, NSPS and MACT/NESHAP compliance, control technology evaluations, emissions inventories, air dispersion modeling, and GHG reporting.

A Note from Joe: TISP Conference

I want to thank our Post for allowing me to attend the 2014 Critical Infrastructure Symposium in Colorado Springs 7-9 April. This event brought together over 200 Government, private industry and academic leaders to discuss a myriad of issues and challenges regarding critical infrastructure throughout the Nation. I attended technical sessions on transportation infrastructure and the NORAD/NORTHCOM response mission, then served as the moderator for a technical session on Technology and Innovation with respect to critical infrastructure. The dinner speaker on the first night was The Honorable Caitlin Durkovich, Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection within the Department of Homeland Security. She spoke of recent efforts to enhance coordination between Government and private agencies with regard to disaster response actions after a catastrophic event. Our closing speaker was General (USAF retired) Kevin Chilton. He also spoke about streamlining military and Government preparatory and response actions before and after disasters occur. My symposium involvement concluded with a working lunch session hosted by Dr Bob Wolff, Executive Director of SAME, and ten other EM Directors from Posts around the country. Our focus was to discuss a proposal to revise the EM Streamer criteria. Thanks again for the opportunity to attend!

President’s Corner

SPRING - A TIME FOR NEW IDEAS

Spring is upon us and with spring comes renewed energies as we get back in our yards and nurture the dormant grass and plants back to life...even plant a few new things to grow. Just a few new plants every year allows you to develop your yard into the "master landscaped" yard I'm sure each of you has a vision of. It doesn't take much to continue moving you to your goals...a little each year begins to add up. The same applies to our SAME program. We're looking for some fresh ideas to mature our program and make it that "master landscaped" program that you want and can benefit from. I was recently at the Earth Day golf tournament and I said a few words on behalf of the SAME post. What I asked is that each person come up with one idea of what they would like to see from our program that would draw them back in if not been to a meeting in a while or for those participating regularly, what would make the program even more beneficial to them. Just one idea, like that new plant in your yard, can improve our program significantly. So take 5 minutes after you read this, think of one idea of what you would like to see your SAME Post do to spice it up, and email it to any officer or board member listed on this newsletter.

Thanks for helping take the time to make our Post better. Of course, for all you overachievers out there...you can send in two ideas! :o) See you at the next meeting!
Chase McCard, the son of Mike and Jane McCard, lives in Macon, GA, and attends Howard High School, where he studies trombone performance in the marching, concert, jazz, and pep bands. Throughout his high school career, Chase has participated in many camps and festivals such as the International Trombone Festival and the University of Georgia Music Camp, where he studied with world-renowned trombonists. Aside from band, he is a member of his school’s BETA club, FBLA club, Math Team, and National Honor Society, making him an exceptionally well-rounded student who strives for success in all aspects of life.

His decision to apply for the SAME summer camp was primarily influenced by his yearning to gain a deeper understanding of the various fields in engineering while learning from people around the country as well as the world. In his senior year, he is aiming to become one of his school’s first Air Force ROTC students, as that is when the program will initially be available in his school. When not studying, Chase works at a local small business. Through the combination of his academic excellence and relevant work experience, he hopes to attend a college or university and lead a successful future.

Despite Chase’s busy schedule, he also remains dedicated to his community. Since middle school, he has been a devoted member of the Boy Scouts of America, and worked his way up to Scouting’s highest rank, the rank of Eagle Scout. To achieve the rank of Eagle, he crafted, devised, and carried out a project in which he constructed stairs for his high school’s auditorium stage, allowing for it to be significantly easier to access. In addition to this, he has recently created a donation bin at his grandmother’s church to help supply the Ronald McDonald House of Central Georgia with desirable items mentioned on their wish list.

Chase attributes his success to his strong work ethic, willingness to give back to his community, and academic achievement.

Sustaining Member Spotlight: CEMS Engineering

This year CEMS Engineering | Architecture is celebrating 25 years as a full-service, multi-discipline engineering firm. Our founders acknowledged from the beginning that they would be a small business that would produce quality engineering solutions responsive to the client’s needs. CEMS has since evolved into a fully integrated multidiscipline A/E firm offering Architecture, Structural, Mechanical, Electrical, Fire Protection, Civil Engineering, and Commissioning services serving a broad range of clients throughout the country.

CEMS built on the philosophy of a holistic, collaborative, and integrated approach that brings together all the necessary disciplines throughout the life of the project. We assist our clients in making decisions that affect the way people use buildings and interact with their surrounding environment, and we recognize both the responsibility and the wonder of such an unlimited opportunity. Over the years, we have continued to deliver cost-effective solutions, while remaining attentive and focused on client needs, resulting in a proven track record respected throughout the industry and region. We are passionate about our work, inspired by our clients, and committed to shaping a better world through integrated sustainable design. We believe that the best designs arise from a collaborative journey with our clients that reveal insights and spurs innovation. We look forward to serving the Robins AFB and its customers for the next 25 years.

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Are you with a Sustaining Member Firm?
If you would like to become one, or if you are not sure of your company’s registration status, please contact Ms. Kathy Chaffin, our Sustaining Member Director, at 251.545.8427 or at: kchaffin@cticompanies.com.

Accepting Abstracts
We are accepting abstracts for presentations for 2014. Let us know what presentation topics, presenters, or tour ideas would most interest you. We want to know what is important to you. Please contact Mr. Ken Branton at: Kenneth.Branton@urs.com with feedback or for more information.