



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Colorado

THE VOICE

OF COLORADO'S ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

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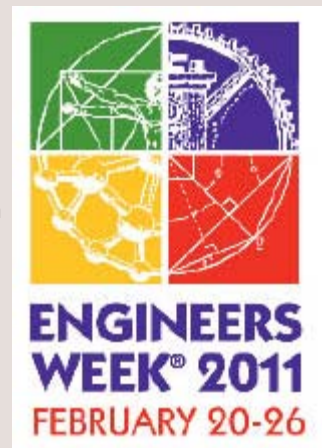


Engineers Week 2011

National Engineers Week for 2011 is February 20 - 26. However, February is often an "Engineers Month" at ACEC/CO. This month there are many things going on with the Council in celebration of engineering. From our TV program being aired on cable stations across the state, to recognizing our "new faces" and "outstanding women" engineers, to EEA project panels being displayed at the Capitol, we have a lot to be excited about!

Please [Read More](#) to view all of the ACEC/CO celebrations during our "Engineers Month."

Is your company celebrating Engineers Week? If so, we want to know about it! Please send us a photo and description of your firm's Engineer Week events and we'll feature it in our March issue of The Voice. Email your content to Robyn Curtis at robyn@acec-co.org.



Future Leaders ~ Celebrating 12 Years of Leadership Excellence for Engineering Professionals

The Value of Investing in Professional Development



© Nancy Whitsel, ACEC/CO Future Leader Instructor

In the past, many ACEC Member firms said their engineers were so busy; it was difficult to find time for professional development courses. During these economic times, you may have 'right sized' your staff to a strong core of key people. This also may be a good time to invest in a training initiative to prepare your valuable employees to practice excellence in project management. [Read more..](#)

In the News

Calling for "Educator of the Year" Nominations

It's time to recognize our outstanding educators in engineering and we need your help identifying them. Without our educators, our industry's future would be very unclear. Please think of Colorado teachers either in your child's school or elsewhere that deserves this kind of recognition.

The ACEC/CO Outstanding Educator of the Year Award is presented annually to an educator who meets the following criteria:

- An educator—usually high school or middle school; not necessarily a teacher.
- Involved in math, science, technology, or industrial arts education.
- Promotes math, science and/or engineering in the classroom.
- Involved in extracurricular activities such as MESA, Bridge Building contest, or school sponsored activities.
- Has been recognized by his/her peers for encouraging students.

[Click here](#) to access nomination form. Please return to Robyn at robyn@acec-co.org by March 11, 2011.

2010 Wake-up Call Podcasts Now Available

Good news! If you missed a Wake-up Call Breakfast in 2010, not to worry, we have all of the presentations podcasts available for you. We've had some excellent presenters this past year so [check them out here..](#)

News From National

ACEC Small Firm Council Report

From SFC, Steering Committee Member Mark Hamouz:

After the Fall conference, the ACEC Small Firm Council (SFC) has been actively working on influencing government agencies on small business issues, coordinating with the other coalitions to increase the voice of business to these agencies and other associations, and promoting and sponsoring educational and networking opportunities for SFC members. [Read more..](#)

President's Report

From ACEC's President Dave Raymond on the latest developments of ACEC's government affairs on your behalf. [Read more..](#)

ACEC Annual Convention and Legislative Summit

The ACEC Annual Convention and Legislative Summit will be held March 30 - April 2, 2011 in Washington DC. Early bird registration deadline is February 18. Book your hotel rooms as soon as possible. This is "Cherry Blossom Time" in D.C.! [Read More..](#)

Giving Back - Future of Engineering

FIRST Robotics Team Looking for Sponsors

Since 1992, The FIRST Robotics Competition has been helping high-school-aged young people discover how interesting and rewarding the lives of engineers and scientists can be.

The First Robotics Competition (FRC) is the highest level of competition for high school teams, requiring students to design and build a robot in a six week build period to compete in regional events and qualify for a national championship tournament. Students work with mentors (who are often engineers) in this process. Teams also compete for animation and website awards, as well as the coveted Chairman's award, which recognizes the team that best exemplifies FIRST values.

Sponsorships and funding are a must to keep this effort alive. [Alpine Robotics Team 159](#) of Fort Collins has called upon ACEC/CO for help. If you are interested in sponsoring this team, contact Katherine Edelblut at kedelblut@gmail.com. To learn more about the team use the link above. To find out more about FIRST Robotics and how you become further involved. [Click Here](#).

Membership Notices and Engineers in the News

[Membership Notices](#) for new and prospective members and other membership changes.

[Engineers in the News](#) from our members and member firms.

ACEC/CO Career Training Center

Register [online](#), by calling 303-832-2200, or by [e-mail](#) for ACEC/CO programs.

- Future Leaders Workshops
The Future Leaders [Supervisory Skills I Certificate Program](#) and Future Leaders [Management Proficiency II Program](#) begin March 1, 2011. Use the links for more information about these courses. Enroll your future leaders today!
- Project Management Seminars
A three seminar series on project management, March 9, April 13 and May 11. Earn up to 12 PDH's. [Read More..](#)

ACEC/CO Upcoming Events

- Wake-up Call Breakfast Series
Our next Wake-up Call Breakfast will be Wednesday, March 2, 7:30 a.m. at the Sunrise Sunset Restaurant. [Read More..](#)
- 2011 Annual Spring Transportation Symposium
The 9th Annual Spring Transportation Symposium, hosted jointly by ACEC/CO, WTS, ITE and APA will be held Friday, April 8, 2011, at the Pepsi Center. [Read More..](#)

- **SAVE THE DATE**
The ACEC/CO 2011 Annual Meeting will be held Friday, April 22 at Lakewood Country Club. This is our biggest meeting of the year where we make the transition in leadership and present our George Washington, General Palmer, Orley Philips, Outstanding Educator, President's and Committee Chair of the Year awards.

Additional Professional Development Opportunities and Events

- **Free Training: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep Class**
Thinking about taking the LEED Green Associate Exam? Prep classes for the exam are offered at NO COST courtesy of the Green Careers for Coloradans Grant.

[Click here](#) to find out more and to view schedule for classes.

[Click here](#) for info on LEED AP+ BD&C Exam Prep Classes

- **SMPS Upcoming Events:**
Check out the upcoming events for the Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) [Read More..](#)
- **Green Roofs Seminar: Design, Implementation and Maintenance:**
A two-day continuing education seminar at UCD. [Read More..](#)
- **Retro Chen Cup 2011**
Calling all skiers and snowboarders! Break out your 80's ski suits and come join the fun. The Chen Cup is a winter sports event held annually for company teams in the geotechnical/environmental consulting business. [Read More..](#)

Engineers Week 2011

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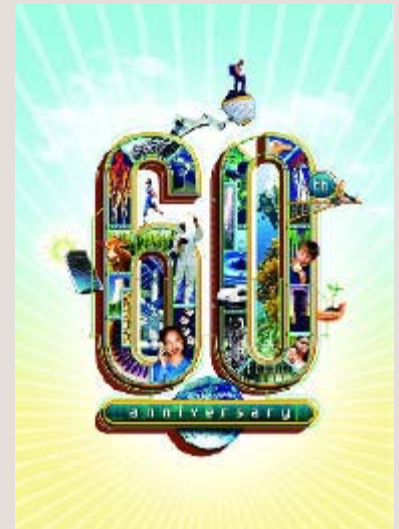
Is your company celebrating Engineers Week? If so, we want to know about it! Please send us a photo and description of your firm's Engineer Week events and we'll feature it in our March issue of The Voice. Email your content to Robyn Curtis at robyn@acec-co.org.

Also let us know if you or someone in your firm is doing any school presentations this month. We can help by providing materials and brochures.

ACEC/CO "Engineers Month" Celebrations:

EAA Panels to be Displayed at Capitol

The project panels from the 2010-2011 Engineering Excellence Awards will be displayed at the state Capitol during Engineers Week, February 21-25. To view the panels, visit the east hallway on the first floor of the Capitol, near the elevators. All legislators will be notified of the panel display, especially of those awards projects and firms in their districts.



Colorado Engineers 2011 TV Program Airing in February

We are very excited to announce that the ACEC/CO TV program, Colorado Engineers 2011, will be airing during February on the Denver Comcast Entertainment Television Channel (CET). The program features the 2010-2011 Engineering Excellence Award winners and is hosted by ACEC/CO President Bill Hoffmann and members of USGBC. If you are a Comcast subscriber you can catch the program weekdays, Monday - Friday, on the CET channel at 8:00 a.m.

The show will also be airing this month on cable access channels in Golden, Lakewood and Mesa County. [Click here](#) to view these schedules. You can also watch the program at this link [here](#).

Legislative Day at the Capitol

ACEC/CO had our annual "Day at the Capitol" on February 10. We met at the Supreme Court Chambers and heard from leadership and then had lunch with legislators at the Denver Art Museum. This was a great opportunity for engineers to meet directly with legislators and get our voices heard about industry issues.

[February General Meeting](#)

The ACEC/CO February General Meeting is a special celebration of engineering as we announce and award our "New Faces in Engineering" and "Outstanding Women Engineers." Please join us in recognizing these prominent individuals on Tuesday, February 22, 11:30 a.m. at the Lakewood Country Club. Click the link above to view our award nominees and to also view more information/registration for the meeting.

Introduce a Girl to Engineering

Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day, February 24, also celebrates an anniversary (2001-2011). The day is a catalyst to reach out especially to young women, typically under-represented in engineering. Free volunteer kits are available and contain the 2011 Girl Day poster, girl-friendly activities, and other resources. Not intended as student handouts.

Both the Engineers Week and the Girl Day kits are available at www.eweek.org.

Bridge Building Contest

ACEC/CO is a co-sponsor of the annual Model Bridge Building Contest, a statewide program aimed at providing interaction between high school students and practicing engineers. The contest will take place Saturday, February 26. ACEC/CO donates \$1000 dollars in scholarship money to the state winner. [Click here](#) for more information on the competition.

ACEC/CO Scholarships

During February the ACEC/CO Scholarship Committee is busy reviewing and interviewing our scholarship applicants. This year ACEC/CO will award \$28,500 in scholarship money to engineering students entering their Junior, Senior or 5th year in the fall of 2011. We received 41 applicants from four different engineering schools. Interviews will take place Saturday, February 26. Be watching for our announcement of the Scholarship Reception scheduled for early April.

Future Leaders ~ Celebrating 12 Years of Leadership Excellence for Engineering Professionals

The Value of Investing in Professional Development

© Nancy Whitsel, ACEC/CO Future Leader Instructor

In the past, many ACEC Member firms said their engineers were so busy it was difficult to find time for professional development courses. During these economic times, you may have 'right sized' your staff to a strong core of key people. This also may be a good time to invest in a training initiative to prepare your valuable employees to practice excellence in project management.



I am sure your younger workers will confirm that they place high value on an employer who sponsors professional development and encourages life-long learning. One of the most attractive recruiting and retention benefits is to help your people to identify a career path and provide resources for them to achieve professional goals. Junior engineers will be loyal to a firm that offers opportunities for them to succeed and advance.

An easy and inexpensive way to help build capability of your people as exceptional managers is to enroll your staff in the ACEC sponsored Future Leader

Supervisor workshops. The purpose of the Future Leader program is to provide engineers with 'people-management' and client service skills. The result of developing superior communication is ability to build relationships through constructive and cooperative interaction. Firms that emphasize best practices of creating long-term business friendship and building a strong network within the construction business will always be ahead of the competition.

At the January 25, 2011 ACEC luncheon, a group of Future Leader engineers were recognized. Each year we are pleased of this celebratory event and proud to hear from the attendees about the value of their workshop experience.

A new series will start March 1, 2011. Log on to acec-co.org to read more about specific topics and what your project managers can gain by attending. To register please call Jennifer Shaw at 303-832-2200. We look forward to welcoming your project managers to these practical and award winning workshops next year. On behalf of the ACEC Future Leader program, we send you best wishes for a successful and profitable 2011!

Top 3 Reasons Companies Invest in Employee Training:
(Scale: 10= very important 1= not important)

8.6 Increase Productivity
7.5 Increase Customer Satisfaction
7.4 Gain Competitive Advantage
Source: International Data Corp.

News From National

ACEC Small Firm Council (SFC) Report

After the Fall conference, the ACEC Small Firm Council (SFC) has been actively working on influencing government agencies on small business issues, coordinating with the other coalitions to increase the voice of business to these agencies and other associations, and promoting and sponsoring educational and networking opportunities for SFC members. A newsletter was published a few months ago which detailed the SFC events held and sponsored during the Fall Conference in Puerto Rico. This newsletter along with other material describing the Small Firm Council's mission and benefits are on the Coalitions & Forums menu on the ACEC website at www.acec.org.

On January 28 and 29, 2011, the yearly winter meeting was held concurrently with the Council of Professional Surveyors (COPS) in San Diego with an attendance of 30 members. This meeting included the CEO Roundtable session, which is always an active event, and issues discussed were the BS+30, retention of employees in the current and future economic climates, the future of health care impacts on employees and firms, and the upcoming SBA proposed regulations on firm size due out for comment soon. After the Roundtable session, in the afternoon and the next morning, the seminar was held entitled "Improving Your Business Operations" presented by Wayne Rivers, President and Co-founder of the Family Business Institute. This seminar provided an interactive opportunity to currently evaluate our businesses and to develop strategies and outlooks for our businesses to succeed in the future.

In-between the roundtable and seminar, many opportunities were available to network with other attending business owners. A pleasant advantage to holding the winter meeting in San Diego was the warm and pleasant weather. The SFC looks forward to holding the winter meeting in another warm location next year in February 2012 and we encourage anyone interested to contact me or another SFC member for details and information.

The Small Firm Council is looking forward to the upcoming ACEC Annual Meeting in Washington D.C., in late March, 2011. The CEO Roundtable will again be held on Friday and the SFC will be sponsoring a couple of seminars, an ice cream social with the exhibitors, and the opportunity to network with fellow SFC members and other ACEC member firms. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by Mark Hamouz, P.E., SFC, Steering Committee Member

President's Report

General

- Executive Committee approved ACEC's 2011-12 legislative agenda prioritizing passage of transportation, aviation, water and energy infrastructure; amended the Minuteman Fund strategic goal to accommodate a \$2 million reserve war chest (subject to Board approval); underscored the importance of state leadership in meeting PAC goals; met jointly with the FIDIC Executive Committee to discuss international objectives of mutual concern; and with the ACEC/Hawaii leadership on membership issues.
- ACEC/Illinois' landmark legal victory two weeks ago, supported by the Minuteman Fund, affirmed that the scope of a design professional's duty is limited to the terms of the contract.
- ACEC/Connecticut was awarded a Minuteman Fund grant to help the MO defend the contracting-out of engineering services in the state.
- ACEC/PAC's final year-end receipts for 2010 were \$580,000 – again establishing ACEC/PAC as the top engineering Political Action Committee in the nation – and in the top 4% of all PACs; 30 states achieved their 2010 ACEC PAC goals, up from 29 in 2009.
- Engineering Inc. won a “Bronze Eddie” from Folio Awards – the largest national competition recognizing excellence in magazine content – for a story on the use of social media in our industry.



Government Affairs

- Updated state executive directors on ACEC legislative efforts in wake of President's State of the Union address, emphasizing importance of lobbying program at the upcoming Spring Convention. Solicited names of State Coordinators to promote member participation in this program.
- Gained support from key members of the new Congress for repeal of the 3% withholding mandate, including Congressmen Herger (R-CA) and Blumenauer (D-OR) taking the lead in the House; and Senators Snowe (R-ME), Brown (R-MA) and Vitter (R-LA) taking the lead on the Republican side in the Senate.
- Met with the President's Office of Procurement Policy and Small Business Administration to oppose federal in-sourcing and discuss changes to small business size guidelines.
- Lobbied the Millennium Challenge Corporation and USAID for greater infrastructure spending and “buy American” priority.
- Opposed Department of Labor proposed changes to the definition of a fiduciary for retirement plans that would adversely affect employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs).

Institute for Business Management

- ACEC's Contracts website has added the following resources: SIC Codes, Small Business Size Standards, Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations (DFAR), General Service Administration (GSA) Regulations, and Code of Federal Regulations.
- Recent sell-out business webinars: Responding to Requests for Discounts or Unilateral Fee Reductions, and Engineering Opportunities in the Upcoming Urban Water Crises.
- Senior Executives Institute Class 16 focused on effective communication skills and development of business plans.
- Bookstore specials: 10% off all 2010 ACEC bestsellers; 25% off Project Delivery Series
- Bookstore's top sellers this month: One Year to an Organized Work Life, Marketing in the 21st Century, and 2010 Professional Liability Survey.

By Dave Raymond, ACEC President

ACEC 2011 Annual Convention and Legislative Summit

This is an exciting opportunity for ACEC/CO members to strengthen our message at Capitol Hill at the 2011 convention to be held March 30 - April 2, 2011 at the Grand Hyatt in Washington DC. Early bird registration ends on February 18. Book your hotel rooms as soon as possible. this is "Cherry Blossom Time" in D.C.!

"Opportunities and Challenges - The New Congress and the Future of the Industry." Capitol Hill visits will take place during the beginning of the convention with educational programs at the end of the week. Hear from Speaker of the House John Boehner, Incoming Transportation and Infrastructure Chair John Mica and former U.S. Representative Tom Davis on the political dynamics of the New Congress and what it means for our industry. [Click here](#) for more information and registration.

Membership Notices

Prospective Affiliate Members:

Steve Dorau, Shea Carr Jewell

Prospective Sustaining Members:

Tim Masters, CEI

Welcome Affiliate Members:

Daniel Bechtold, LONCO, Inc. 1700 Broadway, Ste. 1512, Denver CO 80290. 303-620-0098 dbechtold@lonco.com Daniel is a graduate of Colorado State University with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. He also received his M.S. degree in Structural Engineering at Colorado State University. Recommendations came from Mark Hamouz, Steve Banks, and Karlene Thomas.

Colleen Roberts, CH2M Hill. 9193 S. Jamaica St., Englewood CO 80112. 720-286-9014 colleen.roberts@ch2m.com Colleen is a graduate of Yale University with a B.A. degree in Art History. Recommendations came from Tim Eversoll, Mandy Whorton, and Joe Hart.



Engineers in the News

Roger D. Nelson has been named Vice President of Surveying for Merrick & Company. Nelson will be responsible for statutory and technical matters, professional registrations, and educational requirements related to the firm's surveying and mapping practice. Randy Kray has joined Merrick's Science & Technology group as Director of Laboratory Architecture. In this role, Kray will be responsible for directing projects and extending Merrick's global reaching project development and execution. Rich Apolinar has joined Merrick's Aurora office as science and technology business development manager.



Randy Kray



Roger Nelson



Brandon Tyler

URS Corporation recently announced new hires to its team: Anna Nowrot, a Graphic Designer specializing in 3D work who will support the Creative Solutions Group; Sam Percy, a chemist who will be

supporting the Environmental Department; Dirk Wold, an air quality specialist who will be supporting URS' Air Quality and Permitting Team; and Dan Dell'Agnese, an environmental project manager who will support URS' Planning and Assessment Team.



Anna Nowrot

Congratulations to Merrick & Company for celebrating 15 years in the biofuels and renewable energy markets this year.

Beaudin Ganze Consulting Engineers added Brandon Tyler to its Albuquerque, NM office. Tyler joined BGCE last week after graduating from Oklahoma State University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.



Samuel Percy

Michael Carter recently joined MWH as director of federal strategy and marketing.

The Colorado Association of Geotechnical Engineers announced the following officers for 2011: Mark Vessely of Shannon & Wilson Inc., president; Aaron Bagley of JA Cesare and Associates Inc., treasurer; Paul Jordan of Geocal Inc., secretary; John Hart of Coggins and Sons Inc., past president; Andrew Gardner of PCH Group, LLC, director; Tonya Hart of CTL Thompson Inc., director; Julie Foreman of Tensar International, director.



Dirk Wold

Erik Nyce, PE, recently joined David Evans and Associates, Inc. as the Roads and Highways Manager.

In Memory:

Chuck Schesel of SEH passed away in November 2010 after a 12 year battle with cancer. Chuck was ACEC/CO's Business Practices Chair several years ago and a strong supporter of the Council and profession. Our condolences go out to his family.



Dan Dell'Agnese

ACEC/CO Events

Register [online](#), by calling 303-832-2200, or by [e-mail](#) for any ACEC/CO program or event.



February General Meeting

ACEC/CO will be celebrating Engineer's Week at our General Meeting on Tuesday, February 22. We have received your nominations and will be awarding our "New Faces in Engineering" and our "Outstanding Woman Engineers" at the meeting. Please join us for this celebration of engineering excellence.

The meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. at the Lakewood Country Club. To register contact Jennifer at jennifer@acec-co.org or 303-832-2200 or simply use the link above.

Wake-up Call Breakfast Series

What better way to start off the month than soaking in some intriguing information while networking with your colleagues over breakfast? Our monthly Wake-up Call Breakfasts have been consistently beneficial for our members and this series has proven to be one of the best! The next Wake-up Call will be Wednesday, March 2, 7:30 a.m. at Sunrise Sunset Restaurant in Lakewood. Be watching for further updates on our upcoming speaker.

[Spring Transportation Symposium](#)

The 9th Annual Spring Transportation Symposium, hosted jointly by ACEC/CO, WTS, ITE and APA will be held Friday, April 8, 2011, at the Pepsi Center. With this event, over 100 of the region's transportation planners, engineers, and decision makers are brought together to share information and lessons learned from the most innovative and successful transportation projects.

Use the link above for more information on the symposium and sponsorships.

Do you have a good project experience you would like to share with your peers? Speakers are needed for the symposium! [Click here](#) for more information.

Breakfast Series Podcasts For Sale

Missed a Wake-up Call Breakfast Series? Not to worry! Now you can catch up by purchasing our breakfast series presentations podcasts. Available to members for \$20 each or three for \$45. To purchase, contact jennifer@acec-co.org or call 303-832-2200. The following are now available:



- December 1, 2010: "Tax Credits & Deductions - How They Apply to Engineers" By Dennis Buelow of Clifton Gunderson.
- November 3, 2010: "Integrated Project Delivery - What is it? How Does it Affect Engineers?" By Brant Lahnert of KL&A, Inc.
- October 6, 2010: "Smart Grid: Fact, Fiction and the Future" By Mark Gabriel of Halcrow, Inc.
- September 1, 2010: Bob Arentz of Ball Aerospace and Technologies Corp. discusses near-earth objects.
- June 2, 2010: "Climate Change - How Real is it, and Will CO2 Reduction Work" By Steven E. Sondergard.
- May 5, 2010: "Construction on Leed Overview & Responsible Parties During the Leed Process" By Drew Russ, Director of Sustainability, Adolfson & Peterson
- March 3, 2010: "BIM to Construction" By Cameron Donegan, Assistant Project Manager/Virtual Construction Manager, Adolfson & Peterson.

Additional Professional Development Opportunities and Events

Green Roofs Seminar: Design, Implementation and Maintenance

A continuing education seminar, March 4 - 5, 2011 at the University of Denver, downtown campus.

Green roofs have many benefits that are increasingly being identified, measured, and acknowledged by policy makers and the general public. This intensive one-and-a-half day seminar will give participants the ability gain a general understanding of: the basic elements of a green roofs and green infrastructure – especially for semi-arid and arid climates, the benefits associated with green roofs and green infrastructure, how to select the type of green roof for your project, technical issues necessary to address during design, implementation and maintenance, maintenance issues which ensure longevity of the green roof and green infrastructure, and detailed cost variables for green roofs and green infrastructure. For more information visit the website

[here.](#)

Retro Chen Cup 2011

Calling all skiers and snow boarders! Break out your 80's ski suits and come join the fun Saturday, March 19 at Eldora Mountain Resort. The Chen Cup is a winter sports event held annually for company teams in the geotechnical/environmental consulting business. Events include a morning race in three divisions; alpine, telemark and snowboard; an afternoon Nordic race in two divisions; classic and skate. Points are accumulated in an individual and team format.

Entry fee is \$20.00 for each participant. Specially discounted lift tickets will be available for \$30.00. The event is open to friends and family and discount lift tickets are available for friends and family members not competing as well. Lunch will be provide and an après ski party includes snacks and of course free beer!

For more information contact Trisha Fanning at 303-503-7539 or tfanning@trihydro.com. Also, check out the events [facebook page](#).

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