

**NEWS RELEASE**

November 10, 2014

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**CDOT Regional Transportation Director Awarded  
Colorado Engineering Council's Highest Honor**

DENVER – **Johnny Olson, P.E.**, CDOT Regional Transportation Director, Region 4 for the Northern Colorado area, was recognized by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Colorado with its highest honor, the prestigious General Palmer Award, for his leadership of the September 2013 Flood Recovery and Repair Effort. The Council presents this award to an engineer in industry who has contributed to the state of Colorado, established recognition within the community, contributed to the advancement of the engineering community and has had an impact on future generations. The award was presented at ACEC Colorado's Engineering Excellence Awards event on November 3, which was held at the historic Brown Palace Hotel.

In September 2013 when the historic precipitation event hit Northern Colorado, Olson was asked to step into the Incident Commander position for CDOT. After unprecedented rainfall washed away roads and bridges in five mountain canyons and across several Northern communities leaving hundreds of people without access, Gov. Hickenlooper challenged CDOT to reestablish access by December 1, 2013. Under Olson's leadership, his team beat the deadline and reopened roadways and bridges ahead of schedule, reconnecting communities, businesses and lives.

"The Council is honored to present this award to Johnny Olson," said Peter Monroe, P.E., president of the ACEC Colorado. "His commitment to Colorado's flood recovery effort was exemplary and we thank him for his leadership and outstanding service," Monroe added.

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**About ACEC Colorado**

*The American Council of Engineering Companies of Colorado (ACEC/CO) is the business association of 230 member firms employing more than 10,000 employees in the independent private practice of consulting engineering. ACEC/CO is a primary resource for accessing engineering information, expertise and business ethics practices. The Council provides leadership and direction by developing practical, feasible options and solutions based upon technical collaboration to achieve enduring outcomes to benefit society.*

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