



The Flyer

March 2002 Edition (9th Issue)

The Monthly Mentor

By Capt. Chris Knutson.

Anatomy of an Engineering Exam

So what's the secret behind the FE and PE exams? Who are those responsible for the eight-hour ordeal? Everyone that sits for the FE/PE has probably asked these questions. It may come as a surprise that the test creators are practicing engineers, each a former examinee.

Several times each year up to 50 volunteers from across the US descend on the National Council of Examiners for Engineering & Surveying (NCEES) in South Carolina to spend a weekend crafting questions for upcoming exams.

These questions are written to provide exams that will establish a baseline level of competency for the professional engineer. This standard is kept in mind as volunteers develop the questions. The goal is to ensure that those passing the exam have knowledge and ability to practice engineering without supervision in a way that will protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

The next exam offering is fast approaching on the 19th of April. Although the exam is written to evaluate basic competency, it's by no means elementary. The pass rate for the April 2001 exam for first time examinees was 62%, while for repeat testers it was just 37%. Start early, pace yourself, and stay current on testing news at the NCEES web site (www.ncees.org).

Adapted from ASCENews, Feb 2002

Upcoming Meetings and Events

MARCH MEETING

Engineering Marvels in Europe

28th March 2002

The March meeting will be an off-base event at a local restaurant, as a little change of pace from the O'Club scene and cuisine (venue to be announced).

The topic for the meeting is Engineering Marvels in Europe and will consist of a number of short presentations on such landmarks as the Eiffel Tower, the Leaning Tower of Pisa or the Channel Tunnel (see advert at end of the news letter).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

21st March 2002 at 13:00

86 CEG conference room,
B521 on Ramstein AB

APRIL MEETING

25th April 2002

Program to be Announced

Meetings are normally held the 4th Thursday of every month at the Officer's club on Ramstein. If you need access to the base, please contact

Mr. Franz Pfaffenrath
(06371) 476-233
franz.pfaffenrath@ramstein.af.mil

President's Notes

Col. Jeff Leprone.

Our efforts to grow the Post in 2002 are off to a great start. For those that had the opportunity to participate in February's membership luncheon, you're well aware of the outstanding turnout from prospective Sustaining Member firms. The tour and presentations conducted after the lunch were top-notch and helped illustrate the monumental engineering efforts underway on Ramstein AB. Many thanks to all that helped make the event a success, with special thanks to Capt. Chad Bondurant and Michaela Strasser (ARCADIS) for all their work. In the weeks ahead we'll be contacting these firms to follow-up on the mutual benefits of joining the ranks of S.A.M.E. and the Kaiserslautern Post.

Our Post has reason to celebrate. The streamer awards announcements for 2001 have been released and the Kaiserslautern Post is the recipient of five streamers, the most of any Post in the European Region. The streamers include:

- ✓ **Distinguished Post**
- ✓ **Membership Award**
- ✓ **Swimmer Award**
- ✓ **Youth Award**
- ✓ **Education Award**

This achievement is the result of many current and former members working towards common goals and is indicative of the quality of our programs.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at our March membership luncheon. We're taking our monthly meeting off base this time and will be focusing on European engineering points of interest. Choose to participate and join us on the 28th.

Post Officers

President

Col Jeffrey Leprone
jeffrey.leprone@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6228

Co-Vice Presidents

Mr. Harry Finke
harry.finke@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6288

Capt Chris Knutson
cristian.knutson@ramstein.af.mil
06315-36-7395

Co-Secretaries

Capt Laura Johnson
laurajohnson@sembach.af.mil
06302-67-7900

MSgt James Brigham
james.brigham@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-7878

Treasurer

Capt Todd Waldvogel
todd.waldvogel@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6305

Programs Co-Chairs

Capt George Petty
george.petty@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6305

Capt Chad Bondurant
chad.bondurant@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6551

Michael Graham
mgraham2@ch2m.com
0631-892-9810

Awards Chair

Major Barton Barnhart
barton.barnhart@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6573

Air Force Senior Advisor

Colonel Clifford Fetter
clifford.fetter@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6381

Membership Chair

Capt Wade Lawrence
wade.lawrence@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-7251

Youth Programs Chair

Ms. Monica Engler
monica.engler@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-2825

Web Master

Mr. Chris Aamold
chris.aamold@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-3932

Past President

Maj Sherry Brown
Sherry.brown@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6305

Advisors

Mr. Franz Pfaffenrath
franz.pfaffenrath@ramstein.af.mil
06371-47-6233

Sustaining Member Firms

ARCADIS ASAL

Barbarossastrasse 30
D-67655 Kaiserslautern

Bilfinger & Berger

Flickerstal 5
67657 Kaiserslautern

Buchart-Horn GmbH

Frankfurter Strasse 21-25
65760 Eschborn

CH2M Hill GmbH

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67663 Kaiserslautern

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D-67806 Rockenhausen

IT Infrastructure & Environmental

Merkurstrasse 60
67663 Kaiserslautern

Montgomery Watson Harza

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Rosenhofstr. 62
67677 Enkenbach-Alsenborn

SOTEC

Bexbacher Strasse 53
66424 Homburg

URS Deutschland GmbH

Hertelsbrunnenring 22
D-67657 Kaiserslautern

Walter Bau-AG

Postfach 175
66454 Kirkel-Limbach

Sustaining Members

Include an article about your company in the monthly Flyer. Send your write-up with logo and/or photos to the editor.

Editors:

Mike Adam, Brian Osborn
(0631) 340-1457
mike_adam@urscorp.com

Spotlight on Sustaining Member Firms



URS provides cost-effective environmental, engineering and planning services that are needed to respond to the changing environment facing today's military. With over 30 offices throughout Europe, URS can provide local support and services to most if not all DoD installations within Europe.



URS Deutschland GmbH consists of 10 offices in Germany, with Ramstein Airbase and GSUs being supported locally from the Kaiserslautern Office.

URS has an unrivaled experience base and associated reputation with the DoD, as well as with private industry, government and non-governmental organizations. Typical services provided include:

- **Master Planning and Infrastructure Development**
Transportation planning and development
Utility infrastructure evaluation and strategy development
Facilities management
Master plan development and general planning
- **Environmental Management and Engineering Services**
Environmental compliance and liability management
Environmental management plans
Risk assessments and costing
Hazardous material/waste management
- **Project Management and Construction Services**
- **Information Technology Solutions**

ADVERTISEMENTS

SAME MEETING

Engineering Marvels in Europe 28th March 2002



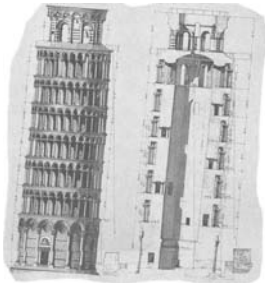
Choose an engineering marvel within Europe (for example the Eiffel Tower or the Leaning Tower of Pisa), preferably one that you might visit during a long-weekend getaway, research its history and construction and present your findings at the next SAME luncheon.



DEATH BY POWERPOINT IS FORBIDDEN



However, singing, dancing, juggling and other hidden talents are encouraged.



If you are interested in making a presentation, please contact Chad Bondurant on x6551 Ramstein AB

ENGINEERING SUCCESS STORIES

Why not include an article on a successful engineering or related project that your organization has conducted for the US Air Force or the DoD.

The article need not be very long, approximately 200-500 words maximum.

If possible include a couple of images/pictures that might enhance to article.

U N D E R C O N S T R U C T I O N

If you have an article you would like to include, please contact Mike Adam at (0631) 340-1457 or email text and/or images to Mike_Adam@urscorp.com