



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

# ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

No. 2018-20

Issuing Office: CECW-EC

Issued: 30 Nov 18

Expires: 30 Nov 20

**SUBJECT:** Annual Support to National Engineers Week

**CATEGORY:** For Information

1. **References:**

- a. ECB 2017-17, "Employee Professional Registrations and Reporting," 07 AUG 17

2. **Purpose.** This Engineering and Construction Bulletin (ECB) provides information on the expectations for Engineering and Construction (E&C) at HQUSACE and in field activities related to the recognition of National Engineers Week (NEW). As the Nation's premier public engineering organization, USACE seeks to participate in NEW activities to the greatest extent possible, given limitations based on work load, authorities, and volunteer availability (particularly with those associated with allowable Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math activities). However, given those constraints, USACE has a strong tradition of volunteer outreach, promotion of the engineering profession, and continual investment in technical competence. This ECB provides information to clarify intended outcomes, roles and responsibilities, resources for NEW that are supported by HQUSACE and provided to field offices for their determination of level of participation in any given year.

3. **Background.** National Engineers Week was established in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and is always observed during the week in February that encompasses George Washington's birthday, February 22. President Washington is considered as the nation's first engineer, notably for his survey work. The purpose of NEW is to call attention to the contributions to society that engineers make<sup>i</sup>. It is also a time for engineers to emphasize the importance of learning math, science, and technical skills. Now known as E-Week, E-Week is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers<sup>ii</sup>.

4. **Applicability.** This ECB applies to all USACE organizations.

5. **Intended Outcomes.** As shown in Attachment A, the objectives for participating in NEW activities are to recognize achievements in the engineering profession; improve understanding of USACE's contributions to the Nation through engineering; promote professional development of engineers, and encourage more children and young adults to pursue engineering

6. **Roles and Responsibilities.**

- a. HQ E&C's role in NEW is two-fold: (1) to support NEW efforts USACE-wide, and (2) support local NEW activities, including hosting and/or participating in events at HQUSACE and in the National Capitol Region.

b. MSCs, Districts, and Field Operating Activities (USACE elements) are encouraged to participate in the recognition of NEW to the extent possible in any particular year, given current ability to support such actions at the operating level. HQ recognizes that, as a whole, USACE is supportive of meeting the intended outcomes for NEW, but the ability of various offices to take actions in any given year will change.

c. USACE elements conducting NEW activities are encouraged to establish cross-functional teams to plan and conduct activities. Teams may be comprised of a combination of Engineering, Public Affairs, Executive Office, Human Resources and/or Training staff, and others, as designated by the element. The lead for NEW efforts is typically Engineering, but can be done by another organization on the team. For USACE elements conducting NEW activities in a given year, HQ E&C will request a brief summary of planned actions for its situational awareness and use in NEW promotion.

7. **Tools and Resources.** In order to support field office recognitions of HQUSACE will share resources such as an internal NEW SharePoint site<sup>iii</sup>; common talking points; StrongPoint(s); NEW media campaign support; letters from the Commanding General, USACE, congratulating newly licensed professional engineers; internal and external NEW videos from the CG, USACE; a list of HQUSACE activities for NEW (see Attachment B); and others as available. These tools and resources will be made available to all field offices for their use during NEW activities to the extent possible determined by that field office.

8. **Communication and Reporting.** USACE uses the OPORD process to communicate coordinating instructions with field organizations. Each year, the HQUSACE NEW team will provide the current coordinating instructions via the OPORD process. Items likely to be included in the instructions for the upcoming year's NEW events include current point(s) of contact, suspense dates for reporting the names of professional engineers in each USACE element newly licensed in the preceding year, field office reporting SITREP format, event dates, and/or other resources.

9. **Lessons Learned.** As E&C continues to better establish standard operating procedures, tools, and resources for its support of NEW, staff participating in NEW continue to capture and communicate lessons learned. Going forward, these lessons learned will be posted to the NEW SharePoint site. Two current lessons learned are presented here.

a. Leaders, supervisors, and mentors in engineering fields should consider encouraging engineers to participate in outside groups related to engineering to enhance and expand their professional experiences. Many engineers are not aware of the significance that participation in these groups can have on their careers and the personal satisfaction attained through contributions to the greater good outside of work hours.

b. Leaders, supervisors, and mentors are encouraged to remind newly licensed engineers and other staff receiving licensing and/or certifications to update their profile in the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System, as indicated in reference a, ECB 2017-17.

10. **Update.** This guidance does not affect higher level documents and does not require updating existing requirements.

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**11. Points of Contact.** HQUSACE points of contact for this ECB is Scott Wick, (202) 761-7419, [scott.c.wick@usace.army.mil](mailto:scott.c.wick@usace.army.mil).

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Encl A – National Engineers Week Overview – HQUSACE Governance Quad Chart

Encl B – List of HQUSACE events for NEW 2018

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<sup>i</sup> Wikipedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Engineers\\_Week\\_\(U.S.\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Engineers_Week_(U.S.))

<sup>ii</sup> National Society of Professional Engineers, <https://www.nspe.org/resources/partners-and-state-societies/national-engineers-week>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://apps.usace.army.mil/sites/TEN/NEW/Forms/AllItems.aspx>