Exciting New Venue For This Year’s Spring Conference!

The Commonwealth’s premiere transportation construction conference boasts a new venue this year. Hilton Norfolk The Main has Virginia’s largest ballroom, cutting-edge technology and easy access to all that Norfolk’s waterfront has to offer.

The Spring Conference will offer multiple sessions led by the industry’s most experienced leaders, and the Trade Show will showcase the latest tools, materials and services available to the industry. There will also be plenty of opportunities for networking and reconnecting with colleagues outside of the meeting rooms within walking distance to over 50 restaurants and the Elizabeth River waterfront.

Enjoy the opening reception on Wednesday evening where you can meet and greet industry colleagues and visit the wide variety of Trade Show vendors. Then join us for the opening keynote presentation on Thursday morning delivered by Lt. Colonel Kevin Sweeney, combat pilot, author and corporate executive. A captivating storyteller and inspirational icon, Kevin will share his wealth of experience about the tools necessary for excelling when the heat is on! You will walk away with a renewed hope and increased motivation to be a decisive leader. He’ll teach you how to be the “go-to” person in your organization so that you can become the teammate your customers, clients, and colleagues want.

Other notable speakers include Shannon Valentine, Virginia Secretary of Transportation, Bob Alger, PE, ARTBA Chairman and CEO of The Lane Construction Corp., and Closing Keynote Elliott Eisenberg, PhD.

Click here to register, secure an exhibit booth or become a sponsor. We look forward to seeing you in Norfolk!

2019 Premier Conference Sponsors

Dedicated to Advancing the Interests of the Transportation Construction Industries
$3.3 Billion Contract For HRBT Expansion Expected To Be Awarded In April

Governor Ralph Northam has announced the selection of Hampton Roads Connector Partners to deliver the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel (HRBT) Expansion Project. The fixed price ($3.3 billion) and fixed completion date (November 1, 2025) contract is expected to be executed in April 2019.

The project will add two new two-lane tunnels. It will widen the four-lane sections of Interstate 64 in Hampton between Settlers Landing Road and the Phoebus shoreline, as well as the four-lane section of I-64 in Norfolk between the Willoughby shoreline and the I-564 interchange. More than 100,000 vehicles currently use this facility during peak travel periods.

This announcement follows a yearlong competitive procurement that started in December 2017 with three qualified design-build teams. Two teams submitted comprehensive technical proposals and price bids. After detailed evaluation, the proposal submitted by Hampton Roads Connector Partners has been selected as the best value proposal based on bid price and technical score. The details of the best value evaluation will be presented to the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) at their respective meetings in March.

“This project supports and expands critical transportation infrastructure, creating opportunity for families, military personnel, and businesses in the Hampton Roads region,” said Governor Northam. “I am proud of the hard work and negotiations that have taken place over this past year to deliver significant improvements that will relieve daily congestion, increase safety, and drive economic growth throughout this important corridor.”

“VDOT’s largest transportation project is being constructed in the heart of a region vital to Virginia’s economy, military readiness, and regional connectivity,” said Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine. “This would not have happened without close coordination and strategic partnership.

Additional information is available on www.hrbtexpansion.org.
The VTCA Annual Meeting will be held July 11-14 at the incomparable Omni Homestead in Hot Springs, Virginia. Since 1766 The Homestead has welcomed world leaders, movie stars and guests like you to find relaxation and rejuvenation in the beautiful Allegheny Mountains of southwestern Virginia.

As usual, the Annual Meeting will open with a joint industry/VDOT session that always proves to be invaluable. As Chief Engineer Garrett Moore, PE approaches retirement, this will be our last opportunity to share time with him and glean his perspective on our industry.

While we are still working on the program and all the small details that will make your stay enjoyable and productive, please mark your calendar, tell your family, and keep an eye on the April Blue Top.

Culpeper/Fredericksburg District Dialogue March 19
VTCA’s District Dialogues provide you with a unique opportunity to join your industry peers, senior VDOT professionals, and locality leaders for networking, education and discussion.

The Culpeper/Fredericksburg Dialogue will be held at the Fredericksburg Expo Center on March 19. You will hear from Culpeper District Engineer John Lynch, PE and Fredericksburg District Engineer Marcie Parker, PE, who will provide strategic overviews of the VDOT program. Conversation will continue at lunch round tables. Details and registration are online at www.vtca.org/event/dialogue-with-the-culpeper-and-fredericksburg-districts/.

Dates Set for Salem/Lynchburg and Richmond – Details to Follow
The Richmond Dialogue is set for May 2 at The Westin Richmond. The Lynchburg/Salem Dialogue is set for May 29 at The Virginian Hotel in downtown Lynchburg.

A Few Spots Remain For TPMI
The Center for Transportation Studies at the University of Virginia, in partnership with VDOT and VTCA, is hosting the eleventh annual Transportation Project Management Institute (TPMI) May 14 – 23, 2019 in Charlottesville. The Institute is designed for a cohort of 35 midcareer, emerging leaders from the public and private sectors. To learn more, please visit https://at.virginia.edu/2FGrTKW.

A particular benefit for private sector participants is the opportunity to gain direct experience with the VDOT project management process. In addition, you will work side-by-side with emerging leaders in the Department and the industry. We have already received many strong applications for the 2019 program but there are a limited number of spots remaining!

Students who are employees of VTCA members are eligible for a $500 rebate. Contact VTCA’s Jeff Bragdon for details, bragdon@vtca.org.

Construction Inspector Certification Courses At CCWA
The Community College Workforce Alliance in Richmond and VDOT are pleased to announce upcoming classes approved for use with Highway Construction Inspector Trainee Apprenticeship Programs. Instruction complies with VDOT procedures and specifications; accreditations are provided by VDOT. Eligible Virginia residents can receive a 66% discount on these courses!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SiteManager - May 21</th>
<th>Plan Reading - July 9</th>
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<tr>
<td>Documentation and Record Keeping - April 16</td>
<td>Surveying - August 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roadway Construction &amp; Drainage - November 5</td>
<td>Structures and Bridges - December 9</td>
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CCWA also offers Work Zone Traffic Control classes; instructors are also available for individual groups. VDOT Intermediate Work Zone Traffic Control Certification classes are scheduled for May 21-22, August 8-9, and November 14-15.

CCWA offers a VDOT Hotline for direct assistance – 804-523-2290. All CCWA courses can be found online at ccwatraining.org/vdot. Custom dates for on-site courses may available - contact John McGarry at 804-523-2284 or by email at emcgarry@ccwa.vccs.edu.

For questions specific to the Highway Construction Inspector apprenticeship program, contact VDOT’s Jameo Pollock, M.Ed., Statewide Technical Training Manager, at Jameo.pollock@vdot.virginia.gov.
Southwest Virginia Aggregate Producers To Meet In March

On March 15 VTCA will conduct a meeting in Southwest Virginia for Aggregate Producer members located in the region. The meeting will be held at the office of W-L Construction & Paving in Chilhowie and is set to run from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

The meeting will bring together area aggregate producers, members of VTCA's Aggregate Producer Leadership Committee and subcommittees, and VTCA staff for an update on issues, initiatives and policies. It will also provide members with an opportunity to convey any issues where VTCA may be of assistance. If you plan to attend, please contact Rob Lanham at rob@vtca.org or 540-229-9662.

VTCA would like to give special thanks to W-L Construction for offering to host this meeting.

Mine Permit Fees Increase Passes General Assembly

The General Assembly has passed an increase in mining permit fees; the legislation now awaits signature by Governor Northam. There are two DMM permit fees impacted by this legislation. The first is the permit fee for new mining operations. The new mine permit fee will increase from $31 per acre to $50 per acre for every acre of land to be affected by the total operation for which plans have been submitted. The second is the annual mine permit renewal fee. The current renewal permit fee is $16 per disturbed acre. Once signed into law, the permit fees will increase to:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Fee Increase</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 1, 2019</td>
<td>$18 per disturbed acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 2021</td>
<td>$22 per disturbed acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 2020</td>
<td>$20 per disturbed acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 2022</td>
<td>$24 per disturbed acre</td>
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The total increase in the permit renewal fee will be $8 over the next four years. DMM initially proposed a $16 per acre fee increase for permit renewals that would be been fully assessed in 2019. The initial proposal would have doubled, in one year, the fees producers would have to pay to renew their annual permits. VTCA's Aggregate Producer Environmental Committee and Aggregate Producer Leadership Committee were engaged with DMM negotiating reductions of proposed renewal fee increase by half and structuring the renewal fee increase over a four-year period to lessen the impact.

The link to the Virginia Legislative Information System webpage detailing this legislation is https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?191+ful+HB1932ER.

Additionally, during the required periodic review, the Environmental Committee worked with DMM on amendments to mining regulations that were also part of the review process. VTCA was successful in ensuring that changes to the regulations are positive for operators. The regulations are currently under review by the Secretary of Commerce and Trade. Once that approval is received, the amendments go to the Governor’s Office for approval. The link to the current Virginia Mining Regulations is http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewXML.cfm?textid=13102.

CMA Certification Update

Since last month’s Blue Top report on the CMA Certification process and challenges, VTCA staff and representatives from the Aggregate Producer Technical Committee met with leadership from both the VDOT Materials Division and Workforce Development office to express our concerns.

VDOT has assured us they will look into and address the immediate issues, ensuring aggregate technicians can complete the process to obtain their CMA Certification.

If your certification has expired and you need to be recertified right away, please contact Duane Sayre at VDOT at rd.sayre@vdot.virginia.gov or 804-328-3150.
Update On VDOT Stone & Sand Bids (H-Orders)

Since VDOT employed electronic bidding for H-Orders late last year, the Department has been working to further streamline the stone and sand bid process. VTCA staff and members of the Marketing Committee have met with VDOT procurement officials and VDOT has conveyed what they are attempting to achieve with this effort. As a follow up, the Marketing Committee held a special meeting on February 21 and developed our suggestions. The next step is for members of the Marketing Committee to once again meet with VDOT and attempt to develop a bidding process that will accomplish VDOT’s needs while having a positive impact on aggregate suppliers.

2019 Mine Safety And Health Law Seminar

A Free DMM Training Opportunity

In order to achieve safe and compliant mine operations, it is necessary for mine operators and contractors to have a basic understanding of the laws that apply to their activities. Each year the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy presents its Mine Safety and Health Law Seminar focusing on federal (MSHA) and Virginia state laws governing the mineral mining (metal/nonmetal) industry. This seminar provides the resource materials, and a review of those materials, to aid the industry in achieving its goals in safety and compliance.

The 2019 program is set for April 16 -18 at the Middletown campus of Lord Fairfax Community College.

There will be an introduction to the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, the MINER Act of 2006, 30 CFR, the MSHA Program Policy Manual, and Virginia law. Class review and group exercises will provide a working knowledge of, and the ability to use, these publications. Other resources and materials will be provided and reviewed to promote a wider understanding of the subject matter including a stroll through the MSHA web site. Guest speakers will present a unique knowledge and view of the subject matter.

For more information visit the link below, DMM’s website or contact Vernon Harris with DMM vernon.harris@dmme.virginia.gov or 434-951-6310. Space is limited, register early - https://dmme.virginia.gov/dmm/pdf/BROCHURES/MSHALawSeminar.pdf.

Waters Of The United States

On February 14, the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency published for public comment the new proposed rule defining the scope of the Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS). This proposal is the second step in a comprehensive, two-step process to review and revise the definition of the WOTUS rule. This proposed rule is intended to increase Clean Water Act (CWA) program predictability and consistency by increasing clarity as to the scope of “waters of the United States” federally regulated under the Act. This proposed definition revision is also intended to clearly implement the overall objective of the CWA to restore and maintain the quality of the nation’s waters while respecting State and tribal authority over their own land and water resources. Below is the link to the Federal Register website where stakeholders can submit comments. All public comments are due by April 15, 2019.

Scholarship Helps Children Of Those Killed Or Disabled In The Line Of Duty - Apply Now

The Lanford Family Highway Worker Memorial Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to help the children of highway workers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty pursue post-high school education. The scholarship program is managed by the American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA). Launched in 1999 through a generous gift from the families of past ARTBA chairmen Jack (1991) and Stan (1999) Lanford of Roanoke, Virginia, more than $100,000 in financial aid has been awarded.

The scholarships, which are competitive, have a value of up to $5,000. The applicant’s parent must have been employed by a transportation construction firm or a transportation public agency at the time of his or her death or disabling injury. **Applications are due by April 5, 2019.**


“Honoring the memory of those who died while working to provide safer and more efficient roads.”
ARTBA Industry Leader Development Program

The American Road & Transportation Builders Association is accepting nominations for its 2019 Industry Leader Development Program (ILDP), set for May 13-15 in Washington, DC.

The ILDP boasts nearly 700 graduates over the past 23 years, including numerous VTCA members, and staffers Tom Witt and Jan Morehead. The immersive, two-and-a-half day program provides an understanding of industry economics, how transportation work in the U.S. is funded and financed, how actions by the federal government impact the industry, and how to become politically engaged to help shape transportation policy. ILDP fellows will also visit with their members of Congress to discuss the need for congressional action on a permanent Highway Trust Fund solution and new infrastructure investment package.

Admission to the ILDP is a competitive process. Nominees should be ages 30-50 and have at least three years of experience in the transportation design and construction industry, have made a significant contribution to the work of his or her firm, and shown evidence of strong leadership potential for the industry. Applications must be received at ARTBA’s offices in Washington, DC, by Monday, April 1.

Access the nomination form, or contact ARTBA’s Nick Goldstein at 202-683-1005 with any questions.

Member News

Allan Myers announced the acquisition of P.C. Goodloe and Son’s asphalt plant in Fredericksburg, Virginia on February 7, 2019. “Expanding our asphalt operations to Fredericksburg is a natural fit for us to enhance our existing operations in the Tidewater and Richmond regions,” said A. Ross Myers, Chairman and CEO. “Adding this asset to our business further strengthens our operations in the Commonwealth and provides significant growth opportunities for our customers and employees, including new employees joining our family from P.C. Goodloe.”

The new Fredericksburg operation will be Myers’ sixth operating materials facility in Virginia. With full-service operations in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Allan Myers produced more than three million tons of asphalt in 2018. This acquisition brings the total number of asphalt plants Allan Myers operates to 18, up 60% since 2014.

“Navigating Risk Allocation in P3 Agreements” is the title of an article authored by VTCA members Chuck Wall and Mike Wagner of Seyfarth Shaw. Understanding the contractual framework and principal risk items is essential to any construction firm interested in dipping its toe into the P3 waters. That article was published in Construction Executive magazine, and, with their permission, you may read the article here: http://bit.ly/NavigatingRisk19.

Volkert, Inc. welcomes Mark Burris, PE, as the Mid-Atlantic Region’s new Deputy Director of Municipal & Highway Engineering. Mark’s 35 years of experience includes managing transportation design and construction for civil and structural projects. He has served as Design Manager for numerous D-B and P3 projects, and as Project Manager on numerous on-call task order contracts for VDOT and municipalities.

In his new role Mark is focusing on the growth of the Volkert’s municipal practice supporting VDOT Locally Administered Projects and other transportation improvements. His experience along the I-81 Corridor, and across the state provides Volkert with additional depth in these critical infrastructure growth areas.

Mark earned his B.S. in civil engineering from Old Dominion University. He can be reached at mark.burris@volkert.com.

In Memoriam

John Christos Daoulas, 60, of Richmond, a former Senior Project Delivery Engineer with VDOT, passed away on January 28 after a battle against cancer. John earned his B.S. and M.S. in Engineering from Virginia Tech, and made his mark at VDOT through a dedication to innovation and design. A service of remembrance was held on January 31. More details are online at www.bennettfuneralhomes.com/obituary/john-christos-daoulas.
Welcome To Our New Members

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President/CEO: Jan C. Hutwelker, PE
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Operations/Senior Technical Advisor: Scott Newman

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President & CEO: Wendy Panuska