“The Power Of Performance”
Omni Homestead to Host VTCA Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for July 11 - 13 to learn what the future of Virginia’s transportation program means for your company, and how the power of excellent performance paves the way for success.

- We will talk with VDOT Commissioner Stephen Brich, PE and Chief Engineer Garrett Moore, PE and senior VDOT staff about the future of the VDOT program.

- Pat Genzler and Gretchen Ostroff of Vandeventer Black will provide strategies and legal tips on how to control costs, and headaches, in business disputes.

- Preventing fraud in the workplace will be the focus of a session led by Billy Robinson, CPA, CCIFP, Brown, Edwards & Company

- Dan Skelly of Morgan Stanley returns to share “The Economy and the Markets: What to Expect in 2019 - Part Two”

Here is the schedule at a glance. Look for complete details and the opening of registration in the next two weeks.

**Thursday, July 11**
Opening Session with VDOT: 2:00 p.m.
Opening Reception: 6:00 p.m.

**Friday, July 12**
Business Builders Breakfast: 8:00 a.m.
Education Sessions: 9:30 a.m. to Noon
Golf Tournament: 1:00 p.m.

**Saturday, July 13**
Breakfast On-Your-Own
Virginia Mineral Mining Reclamation & Safety Awards: 8:30 a.m.
Installation of New Directors and Officers: 9:00 a.m.
Education Session: 9:45 a.m.
Annual Business Meeting: 11:00 a.m.
Sporting Clays Tournament: 2:00 p.m.
Hot Time in Hot Springs Closing Party: 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

**Sunday, July 14**
Breakfast On-Your-Own
Morning Devotional: 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Contracts Signed For Largest Transportation Project In VDOT History - The HRBT Expansion

On April 25, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam announced the execution of agreements critical for advancement of the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel (HRBT) Expansion Project. The Commonwealth has signed a Project Agreement for Funding and Administration with the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, and a Comprehensive Agreement with design-build team Hampton Roads Connector Partners for the HRBT Expansion Project.

The $3.8 billion project is expected to be completed by November 1, 2025. The project will bolster the Hampton Roads region with more than $4.6 billion in investments and a projected 28,000 new jobs over the life of the project. This 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.

“The largest project in VDOT history, this expansion will address some of our most pressing transportation challenges and unlock opportunity for families, military personnel, and businesses not only in the Hampton Roads region, but across the Commonwealth,” said Governor Northam. “These agreements are a culmination of the diligent work and extensive negotiations by our dedicated teams over the past year to deliver significant improvements to reduce daily congestion, increase safety, and enhance connectivity throughout this key corridor.”

Additional information is available on www.hrbtexpansion.org.

Secretary of Transportation Valentine Announces Leadership Changes

On April 12, Virginia Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine announced important leadership changes within the Transportation Secretariat.

John W. Lawson has been appointed as acting Deputy Secretary of Transportation. Lawson has served as Chief Financial Officer for the Virginia Department of Transportation since 2010 and has worked for the agency since 1987. He is responsible for the leadership and execution of the agency’s financial planning, capital investment, fiscal management and tolling programs and was instrumental in establishing the Virginia Transportation Infrastructure Bank and Virginia’s Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicles (GARVEE) program. Lawson holds an A.S. from Rappahannock Community College and a Bachelor of Accounting from Christopher Newport University, and is a graduate of the Virginia Executive Institute.

“John has been instrumental in managing several public-private partnership project procurements that are building a 21st-century transportation network and save the taxpayers money,” said Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine. “His decades of financial expertise and 31 years with VDOT make him uniquely suited for this role.”

Laura Farmer, VDOT’s Financial Planning Division Administrator, will assume the role of the agency’s acting Chief Financial Officer. Farmer has served as VDOT’s Director of Financial Planning since 2011. She holds a Bachelor of Science from Chowan University and a Master of Public Policy from the College of William and Mary.

“Laura’s steadfast leadership and experience with VDOT’s financial planning for the past 15 years will serve her well,” said Rob Cary, VDOT’s Chief Deputy Commissioner. “Her collaborative approach and strong knowledge base of innovative financing, revenue estimating and accounting will ensure continued sound stewardship of VDOT’s $5.5 billion annual budget.”

Morteza Farajian, Ph.D., acting Deputy Secretary of Transportation and Director of the Office of Transportation Public-Private Partnerships, will be departing the Governor’s Office to take on a new role. U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao recently appointed Farajian as the Executive Director of the Build America Bureau.
**District Dialogues Coming In May**

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. Conversation continues at topic-centric lunch round tables. Two Dialogues are set for May.


**Engineer Consultant Leadership Committee Election**

The ECLC has begun the annual cycle to replace committee members’ expiring terms. Electronic nomination packages have been sent out to all VTCA Engineer Consultant members, and the nominees have been notified to put their bios together for the ballots. Ballots will be sent out this month to each member’s primary representative with the opportunity to vote for up to three candidates. The ballots are to be returned by May 17. The newly-elected representatives will be announced in early June, with their terms starting in July.

If you have any questions regarding the ballot or the ECLC, please contact Jeff Bragdon, [bragdon@vtca.org](mailto:bragdon@vtca.org).

**ASCE International Conference On Transportation & Development**

*Engineering Smart Mobility for the Smart City*

Join the conversation at ASCE’s flagship transportation and development conference as experts from the public sector and civil and transportation engineering community take the stage with leaders from the hi-tech world to discuss the deployment of technology to deliver smart mobility for the smart city.

The conference will be held in the national capital region at the Hilton Mark Center in Alexandria, Virginia, from June 9 to 12, 2019. Visit [www.asce-ictd.org](http://www.asce-ictd.org) to register by the May 1 early-bird deadline. Opportunities for exhibits and sponsorships are also available.

**E-Bidding For Professional Services Contract**

VDOT is close to implementation of an electronic bidding platform ([BidExpress.com](http://BidExpress.com)) for managing professional services contract solicitations. With VDOT’s assistance, VTCA member **Info Tech, Inc.**, has developed a software platform to manage consultants’ Expressions of Interests (EOIs).

A few benefits offered to the engineering consultant community will include automatic error checking, alerts to omissions, elimination of costs and time associated with hand or hired delivery, allowance of last-minute changes before submission, and notification of receipt of delivery.

VDOT has posted a “test procurement” which will provide you the opportunity to become familiar with the system’s functionality. Your firm’s personnel who typically submit EOIs to VDOT are encouraged to register now at [https://demo.bidexpress.com/login?return_to=%2F](https://demo.bidexpress.com/login?return_to=%2F).

VDOT expects to go live with the new bidding system for all future procurements starting July 1. VTCA will notify you of any implementation updates along the way. If you have any questions regarding BidExpress.com, please contact Jeff Bragdon, [bragdon@vtca.org](mailto:bragdon@vtca.org).
New Developments On CMA Certifications

VDOT Materials and VDOT Workforce Development professionals have asked VTCA Aggregate Producer members to conduct the Central Mix Aggregates (CMA) Certification proficiency exams for 2019. There are approximately 70 technicians that will be required to take the CMA Certification proficiency exam in 2019. VDOT is requiring that all 2019 proficiency exams be completed by December 1, 2019. Aggregate producers will not be able to sign off on their own employees, however approved proctors from producers may sign off on proficiency exams from other producers – for example, a Luck Stone-approved employee may proctor a Vulcan employee for the proficiency exam and sign off that the Vulcan person has passed.

The Aggregate Producer Technical Committee has developed a list of approved proctors for the proficiency exam and has developed and conducted the first round of group proficiency testing events. Additionally, the Committee has developed a process to conduct one-on-one proficiency exams on an as needed basis. Additional group proficiency exams are scheduled for June in Roanoke and August in Northern Virginia.

All persons requiring the CMA Certification Proficiency exam should check with CCWA about registering for the group proficiency exams.

Through industry partnering there will be no fees associated with the Aggregate Producer proficiency exam program. For further information please contact Rob Lanham at VTCA at 540-229-9662 or rob@vtca.org.

DEQ Quarry Tour

Going through the recent VPDES Nonmetallic Mineral Mining General Permit periodic review process, it became apparent that mine operators need do a better job of informing some regulatory agencies about characteristics unique to non-coal mining operations.

To expand VTCA’s efforts to educate these agencies, the Environmental Committee will be conducting a quarry tour for DEQ officials from both the Air and Water Permitting Offices. The tour will focus on situations relating to air and water quality that may only exist within mining operations.

The DEQ Quarry Tour will be held at Luck Stone’s Spotsylvania Plant on May 20.

VPDES General Permit Regulation For Nonmetallic Mineral Mining

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Water Permits Office has completed the periodic review for the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Nonmetallic Mineral Mining and the DEQ recommendations were approved by the State Water Control Board. DEQ incorporated most of VTCA’s recommendations, apart from our request for relief to dewater pits that become flooded during major storm events.

VTCA’s Environmental Committee will continue to work with DEQ to develop an acceptable process that can permit operators to quickly dewater flooded pits.

The final amended permit will be published in the Virginia Register on May 13, 2019, additionally the amended VPDES Nonmetallic Mineral Mining General Permit will be reissued on July 1, 2019. The link to the final amended permit is http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewXML.cfm?textid=13276.
“One-Stop-Shop” Created For VDOT Materials Certification Classes

VTCA works closely with VDOT, the Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA) and Germanna Community College (GCC) to ensure effective and efficient access to information on VDOT Materials Certification Classes. VDOT now has a “One-Stop-Shop” for this information. Here you can learn about announcements of course offerings, additions, cancellations, re-schedulings and more. Visit www.virginiadot.org/business/matschools.asp.

After this month, VTCA will not publish specific class schedules, so we encourage you to bookmark the above link and stay on top of your certification and recertification needs! As a courtesy to CCWA, we are re-publishing last month's article on upcoming CCWA classes.

Construction Inspector Certification Courses At CCWA

VDOT and the Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA) in Midlothian, Virginia (Richmond) are excited to continue their collaboration for certification training. The following classes are provided through CCWA. Instruction will comply with VDOT procedures and specifications. Accreditations will also be provided by VDOT. CCWA has a dedicated VDOT Hotline for students and prospective students. That number is 804-523-2290. Eligible Virginia residents can receive a 66% discount on these courses!

SiteManager for Inspectors - May 21
Plan Reading for Inspectors - July 9
Surveying for Inspectors - August 13
Surveying for Inspectors - August 20 (in Woodbridge)
Roadway Construction and Drainage for Inspectors - November 5
SiteManager for Inspectors - November 11 (in Woodbridge)
Documentation and Record Keeping for Inspectors - November 19
Structures and Bridges for Inspectors - December 9
SiteManager for Inspectors - December 16

CCWA also offers regularly scheduled Work Zone Traffic Control classes and our instructors are available for individual groups. Upcoming VDOT Intermediate Work Zone Traffic Control Certification classes are scheduled for May 21-22, August 8-9, and November 14-15.

All of these courses are online at ccwatraining.org/vdot. These courses are approved for use with Highway Construction Inspector Trainee Apprenticeship Programs. Custom dates for on-site courses may available upon request. Check our website for additional locations and dates. For more information, 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, you may contact VDOT’s Jameo Pollock, M.Ed., Statewide Technical Training Manager, at Jameo.pollock@vdot.virginia.gov.
The 2019 Spring Conference continued the tradition of success at a new location in downtown Norfolk this year with over 900 transportation industry attendees. With speakers covering issues across the Federal, state and local spectrum, attendees were given insight into Virginia’s growing transportation construction program.

Right on the heels of acquiring new funding sources for I-81 improvements, the conference covered many other industry issues including the development of a new contracting mechanism for Progressive Design-Build, progress in e-Construction initiatives, and updates from VDOT’s engineering and construction staff.

Opening Keynote Speaker Lt. Col. Kevin Sweeney focused on the importance of preparation and confidence under pressure as he described his inspired story of safely landing his damaged KC-135.

Virginia Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine and Commissioner of Highways Stephen Brich, PE filled in brand new details of the recent I-81 funding success and a big picture view of Virginia’s program outlook. Breakout sessions brought deeper detail from speakers specializing in aggregate production, engineering services, utilities and contract administration.

In case you were getting concerned about the confusing messages you see in economic indicators conference closing speaker, Elliott Eisenberg, injected humor into his presentation on the complex, but “okay”, economy.

**Vulcan Materials** graciously steamed into Norfolk their Night Hawk Tugboat for VTCA Spring Conference attendees to tour. The Night Hawk was tied up at the Town Park Docks two blocks from the Spring Conference venue. Vulcan estimates over 150 people toured the vessel. Tours included the bridge, engine room, workshop and decks. Her crew had her spit-shined and polished for the tours! **Vulcan** utilizes a fleet of tugs and barges to move aggregate materials up and down the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

VTCA would like to thank **Vulcan Materials** and Todd Miller, General Manager - Marine Department and Eastern Virginia Sales Yards, for making the Night Hawk available!

Thank You to the Premier Conference Sponsors!
Get Involved - VTCA Committees Seeking New Members

Several of VTCA's committees are seeking members interested in getting involved and contributing through committee work. Each year VTCA committees have seats open due to expiring terms. If you are interested in the Contractor Leadership Committee (CLC), Structure and Bridge Committee (S&B) or the Design-Build Committee (DB), please contact Tom Witt or the committee’s chairman and express your interest. The committee chairs are:

Contractor Leadership Committee (Contractors) – Doug Jackson, Bryant Contracting;

Structure & Bridge (Contractors & Engineers) – Ken Walus, VDOT;

Design-Build (Contractors & Engineers) – Jerry Mrykalo, Dewberry.
Member News

**Wagman Heavy Civil** is pleased to welcome Gerry Hargis as Senior Construction Manager to support the expansion of design-build services performed by the company’s Virginia-based operations. Gerry brings over 40 years of experience managing complex heavy civil, bridge, marine, railroad, and industrial projects from proposal through all phases of permitting, design and construction. He has supervised staffs comprised of estimators, engineers, managers, schedulers, public relations professionals, utility coordinators, CM/CI and field personnel. This includes design-build and conventional project delivery including turnkey QA/QC programs.

“Wagman’s relationship with Gerry began in the early 2000’s during our successful delivery of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Approach Roadways and Interchanges,” shares Greg Andricos, President and COO. “His personal and professional experience aligns with our vision while allowing us to better serve our valued clients.”

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam has appointed Caitlin Massie King, Vice President of J.S.G. Corporation, to the Board for Contractors. Falling under the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, the Board for Contractors licenses businesses engaged in the construction, removal, repair, or improvement of facilities on property owned by others.

Christopher J. Payne, PE, CCM has been named President and Chief Operating Officer of MBP. Chris joined the firm in 1993 and has risen steadily through positions of increasing responsibility. Prior to being named President, he served as MBP’s Chief Operating Officer. Chris has more than 30 years of experience in construction management and design, performing a wide variety of services including construction project management, inspection, CPM scheduling, and cost estimating. He has specialized experience in the resolution of construction disputes to include analysis of delays and expert testimony, both nationally and internationally.

This election, which took effect on April 18, 2019, is another step in the thoughtful transition of MBP’s ownership. As part of this transition, Blake V. Peck, PE, CCM, will remain in his position as Chief Executive Officer, and Charles E. Bolyard, Jr., CCM, PSP, CFCC, will continue to serve as Chairman. Both remain actively involved in the firm’s business including client project work, strategic planning initiatives, client relationships, and mentoring.

“We are excited about the opportunities for our team’s continued growth through the evolution of our senior leadership,” said Bolyard. “We have a high level of confidence in Chris and look forward to his increased impact as we focus on well-defined, long-term strategic goals, the development of our team members, and meeting the growing needs of our clients.”

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**Century Engineering** is proud to announce the acquisition of NXL Construction Services. The acquisition aligns with a pivotal strategic goal of Century to expand upon existing operations in Virginia. Century and NXL have shared a working relationship for many years and, by combining resources, will better serve clients and the industry as a whole.

“Century Engineering is excited to build its presence in Virginia by acquiring NXL” said Century CEO Francis Smyth. NXL’s Nico De Leόn and his staff of professionals represent the best the industry has to offer. NXL’s reputation and leadership was built on quality, responsiveness and dedication to clients, and these are core values to Century’s business model. We are excited for our future in Virginia and welcome the NXL professionals to the Century team.” De Leόn added, “This is a major milestone for the company. Century will now have an immediate solid presence in Virginia and NXL will be able to offer new services to our clients.”

All existing NXL contracts will continue to be managed and executed by the same dedicated staff their clients know and trust, and that staff will continue to operate under the name of NXL, a division of Century Engineering.
Thanks To Basic Construction And Roanoke Cement/Titan Virginia Ready Mix

For 75 years, Basic Construction Company has been committed to promoting the growth and improvement of Virginia’s transportation construction program through its membership in VTCA – which in those days was the Virginia Road Builders Association. Some of you will remember VRBA! Thanks to everyone at Basic Construction for this long relationship.

We are also deeply grateful to Roanoke Cement/Titan Virginia Ready Mix for supporting our work for 25 years! They have provided a firm foundation for the growth of the transportation construction industries in the Commonwealth.

To honor these members, VTCA has made a contribution to ARTBA’s Lanford Family Highway Worker Memorial Scholarship fund, which provides financial assistance to help the sons, daughters or legally adopted children of highway workers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty pursue post-high school education.

A Tip Of The Hard Hat For Work Zone Safety Week Activism

During National Work Zone Awareness Week April 8 – 12, eleven of Virginia’s Welcome Centers greeted visitors with a display focused on work zone safety. Located at strategic points on Virginia’s interstates, it is estimated that the displays were seen by thousands of travelers over the week.

Thanks to these companies for taking the time to gather, deliver, and then pick up the items needed by the Welcome Centers for their displays:

P. D. Brooks Company
Branscome, Inc.
Adams Construction
Bryant Contracting
Perry Engineering
Wagman Heavy Civil

Remac
W-L Construction & Paving
DBL Enterprises
Superior Paving
Slurry Pavers

Driving down I-81
Thinking about what a sweet job you did, getting the funding!

Amy Morris
Employees who have reached the age of 65 and are still on an employer’s group health care plan need to pay careful attention to the “coordination of benefits” provision of the plan. Is the primary payer the group plan or Medicare?

Many people who have reached the age of 65 do not fully enroll in Medicare. This can be problematic. Generally, when an employer has less than 20 employees, their health insurance carrier pays on a secondary basis and Medicare pays first. For employees who are 65 and not fully enrolled in Medicare, this can create a large gap in coverage. It is important for your employees to know your group’s coordination of Medicare benefits and who pays first. Please contact me with any questions.

W. Montgomery Dise, President
Asset Protection Group
14021 Charter Park Drive
Midlothian, VA 23114
804-423-7700 ext. 309 (office)
www.apgroupinc.com

Farewell To Lisha Reynolds

VTCA’s Professional Development Manager, Lisha Reynolds, has accepted a new and exciting position. Many of you know that Lisha is a yoga instructor. Her new role will combine her event planning expertise along with her passion for yoga. She says, “I will always treasure the relationships that I built during my time at VTCA. It was an honor to serve our members and work with such an amazing staff. I wish VTCA and all of its members continued successes!”

Her last day with VTCA was April 26. Lisha made significant contributions to the development and enhancement of the Alliance’s programs, and we wish her the very best as she continues her journey.

Health Care Corner

Employees who have reached the age of 65 and are still on an employer’s group health care plan need to pay careful attention to the “coordination of benefits” provision of the plan. Is the primary payer the group plan or Medicare?

Many people who have reached the age of 65 do not fully enroll in Medicare. This can be problematic. Generally, when an employer has less than 20 employees, their health insurance carrier pays on a secondary basis and Medicare pays first. For employees who are 65 and not fully enrolled in Medicare, this can create a large gap in coverage. It is important for your employees to know your group’s coordination of Medicare benefits and who pays first. Please contact me with any questions.

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Position Sought

Civil Engineer graduating in May from Virginia Tech is seeking a position “that will assist me in developing, improving, and obtaining the necessary skills in order to become the best engineer possible.” For a copy of this resume, please contact Stephanie at VTCA, stephanie@vtca.org.