In the 2008-2009 year, as in the past, NSPE Interest Groups have been hard at work creating value for NSPE members. Below are a few of these accomplishments.

Awards & Recognition
Some of NSPE’s most prestigious and recognized awards are given by the NSPE interest groups. This year many of the awards incorporated multi-media presentations and professional speakers.

- The **Engineering Education Excellence Award** winner is David A Rockstraw, PhD., P.E., Professor of Chemical Engineering at New Mexico University
- The **Federal Engineer of the Year Award** was presented by NSPE President Aldrich in February at the National Press Club to Kirankumar Topudurtti, Ph.D., P.E. Dr. Topudurttii is the deputy director of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center. This year 23 engineering professionals from 13 U.S. government agencies and the U.S. Armed Forces were nominated. The FEYA program included an address by Maj. Gen. Delwyn R. Eulberg, P.E., F.SAME, USAF, The Civil Engineer, U.S. Department of the Air Force
- The **2009 Industry New Product Awards** were presented during the NSPE award luncheon on July 17:
  - **Small Company Category** – Algal Turf Scrubber, HydroMentia, Inc, Ocala, FL
  - **Medium Company Category** – Heated Catalyst System for Cooking Odors, Catalyst Combustion Corp, Bloomer, WI
  - **Large Company Category** – Digital Precise Air Control System, AAON, Tulsa OK
  - **Mega Company Category** — Kohler Express™ Vanity, Kohler Co., Kohler, WI
- PEPP Awards were given at the annual PEPP dinner July 17.
  - **PEPP Award** – Fred E. Palmerton, P.E., F.NSPE
  - **PEPP Professional Development Award** – Freese and Nichols, Inc..
  - **PEPP Merit Award** – Lennart Lindahl, P.E., Vernon Lawson, P.E.
  - **PEPP Outstanding Service Awards** – Richard Delp, P.E., Kevin Skibiski, P.E., F.NSPE
- The **Professional Engineer in Government Achievement and Service in the United States Award (PEGASUS)** was presented to Amy H Ruggeri, P.E. (Missouri)
• PEI created the **PEI Distinguished Service Award** which was presented this year to Douglas E. Benner, P.E., F.NSPE.

The interest groups oversee four of the NSPE Educational Foundation’s scholarship and fellowships. These awards and their 2009 recipients are:

- PEC Hightower Fellowship – Thaddaeus Bode (Nebraska) ($3,000)
- PEG Management Study Fellowship – Tamara Johnson, P.E. (Oregon) ($2,500)
- PEI Scholarship – Caleb Sieck (Oklahoma) ($2,500).
- PEPP Albert H. Miller Memorial Scholarship at the University of Arkansas – T. Brett Gilbert ($2,500)

PEG also continues to oversee the Order of the Engineer on behalf of NSPE. A breakfast and induction ceremony was held July 17 during the NSPE annual meeting.

**Continuing Education**

The Interest groups continued to offer valuable Web seminars in 2008-2009.

- *Shaping the Future of Engineering: Challenges and Opportunities in a Time of Rapid Change* presented by PEG
- *Slips, Trips & Falls Part I & II* sponsored by PEC
- *How to effectively capitalize on the mature workforce* sponsored by PEPP
- *Community and Media Relations* sponsored by PEG
- *Construction Phase Risk Management: Critical Issues in Construction Contract Administration* sponsored by PEC
- *How to Gain Recognition for your Projects Through Public Relations* sponsored by PEPP
- *Recent Contractual Issues of Importance to Engineers* sponsored by PEPP
- *EJCDC contract documents* sponsored by PEPP
- *Recruitment and Selection During Uncertain Times – Developing a Successful Strategy as an Employer* sponsored by PEPP
- *Becoming a More Effective Leader Using Emotional Intelligence* sponsored by PEPP
• **Recruitment and Selection During Uncertain Times – Developing a Successful Strategy as a Candidate** sponsored by PEPP

• **Overcoming your Strengths** sponsored by PEPP

• **A Guide to Professional Development** presented by PEPP YEAC

The PEPP Council of Principals held a session during the January Board of Directors meeting on **Professional Ethics: A ‘Preventive Maintenance’ Approach.**

PEPP combined the HR & CFO Roundtables to create Synergy 2009. The knowledge shared among these professionals impacts over 50,000 engineer employees. “HR Roundtable – West” was conducted in November 2008 in partnership with the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

**Communications**

Interest groups continue to be a timely resource for information with sections in *PE* magazine that include idea generation and article creation. The groups also produce and distribute the following electronic newsletters with articles of interest to members:

- **PEC Reporter**
- **PEG E-news**
- **PEI E-News**
- **PEPP Talk**

Archived issues can always be found on the NSPE Web site.

The Interest groups continue to work on increasing their communication with the states. Many state interest group chairs are attending national conference calls and more frequent reports of national activities are being communicated directly to state volunteer leaders, including copies of this report.

**Outreach/Relationships with other organizations**

PEC worked with ASCE and NCEES on the new Construction Depth Module to the Civil PE Exam. The free recording of a joint web seminar is available on the NSPE Web site to provide potential and interested exam applicants with more information.
PEI is a cofounder of the National Software Engineering Licensure Consortium, along with NCEES, IEEE, and other organizations. The Consortium will present an education workshop on July 19 during this year’s annual conference. The workshop will address the process of developing a Software Engineering Licensure exam. The Consortium has also developed an executive summary and purpose statement that have been sent to all state licensure boards. The goal is to have an exam developed by Spring 2011. PE magazine has given considerable coverage to this initiative. As background, this consortium evolved from a recommendation of the PEI Computer and Software Engineering Task Force for computer and software engineering licensure, and also from a July 2007 Software Engineering Summit held in Denver.

NSPE/PEPP, along with the Risk Management Committees of the American Institute of Architects, and the American Council of Engineering Companies, continues to address issues related to professional liability through the Professional Liability Committee. CNA/Victor O. Schinnerer & Co. has once again been selected as the NSPE Commended Carrier for 2009.

PEI continues their participation in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair which reaches over 500 students each year. PEI is now creating synergy with the Junior Engineering Technical Society, Inc. (JETS) and making better use of the outstanding project entries that they receive. In addition, PEI has reached out to the NSPE Educational Foundation in an effort to have the Foundation become more active in this initiative.

**Products & Services**

EJCDC contract documents continue to be NSPE’s number one selling product, generating non-dues revenue and providing one of the Society’s biggest member discounts/benefits. Even though the document sales were negatively impacted by the economy this year, PEPP continues to sell more contract documents than the other three EJCDC sponsoring organizations (ACEC, ASCE & AGC). PEPP more aggressively markets EJCDC documents by various means even amidst increased “internal” competition from our partner EJCDC sponsoring organizations as well as other documents on the market. Relationship building is being enhanced with AIA, the Construction Specifications Institute, the American Public Works Association, and the Building Owners and Managers Association. PEPP has been continuously monitoring the new contract document entity “ConsensusDOCS” founded by the Associated General Contractors of America. Articles have been printed in PEPP Talk regarding the impact these documents have on design professionals and the allocation of risk, and a web seminar is being planned for Fall 2009.
PEG continues to work on updating the *Engineer Your Way to Success* book.

Professional Liability -The results of the annual survey of professional liability insurance companies and a directory of companies has been published in the Professional Liability and Risk Management section of the NSPE Web site. The PEPP Professional Liability Committee continues to work closely with CNA/VOSCO on providing liability and risk management information in *PE* magazine and *PEPP Talk*. A new program “The 5% CNA Premium Credit” was created this year to replace Commitment Plus. Under the plan, firms with NSPE and AIA members will obtain up to a 5% professional liability insurance premium credit for being insured under the NSPE/AIA commended VOSCO/CNA. Firms with substantial professional liability insurance premiums could potentially enjoy a substantial premium savings by increasing the number of employees who are NSPE and AIA members.

**Young Engineers**

A quarterly electronic newsletter dedicated to the interests of Young Engineers was launched Spring 2009.

The PEPP YEAC conducted a web seminar – free to young engineers - in June on their document “*A Guide to Professional Development.*” Over 75 young engineers registered for the event, and all received a copy of the document. NSPE young engineers Carlos Gittens and Aaron Thrush were the Web Seminar presenters.

The **Fifth Annual Young Engineers Forum** will be held July 18 during the NSPE annual meeting. This event is free to young engineers.

PEI and PEPP continue to recruit, fund, retain, encourage and listen to young engineers as an integral outreach for the future.

PEI YEAC has been working to recruit students/establish NSPE student chapters at the University of Houston, the University of Connecticut, and the University of Oklahoma.
The PEPP YEAC is planning a Fall webinar on their report entitled *Motivation Factors of Young Engineers*. Over 600 young NSPE members and 80 non-members responded to a survey on their motivating factors at work. Dawn Edgell will be presenting a session on this at the DFI and EFFC 11\textsuperscript{th} International Conference on ‘Geotechnical Challenges in Urban Regeneration’.

The PEPP YEAC has additional copies of their “canned” presentation *Engineers in Elected Office*, for distribution to interested states and chapters. This presentation encourages P.E.s to run for elected office. The information in the presentation was compiled from surveys of P.E.s who are elected officials and covers how being a professional engineer has impacted their time in office. Video clips of interviews with Rep. Trudi Williams, P.E. of Florida and Omaha Councilman Jim Suttle, P.E. are included. Interested states should contact kgranados@nspe.org.