NHI Receives ACEC Awards for Excellence in Engineering

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) recently selected two NHI initiatives as the recipients of prestigious awards honoring projects that "demonstrate exceptional achievement in engineering." NHI’s Virtual Bridge Inspection project and the Design Criteria for Arch and Cable-Stayed Signature Bridges reference manual received the National Recognition Award in the ACEC 2013 Engineering Excellence Awards competition.

NHI developed the Virtual Bridge Inspection computer-based training to enhance NHI course 130055 Safety Inspection of In-Service Bridges, which requires participants to participate in two bridge inspection field trips. The technology allows participants to inspect bridges virtually, and exposes participants to 30 bridge conditions and defects that reflect a wide variety of problems encountered in the real world. “The software was created to help participants feel like they are physically present in the inspection setting,” explains Meredith Perkins, senior instructional system designer for NHI. “The environment is very realistic, with clouds and shadows, an airplane flying overhead, and a stream that moves and babbles.”

The project also received the ACEC/Pennsylvania 2013 Diamond Honor Award. NHI course 130055 Safety Inspection of In-Service Bridges is available for scheduling at www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov.
The image above is a screenshot of the virtual bridge inspection computer-based training.

The Design Criteria for Arch and Cable-Stayed Signature Bridges reference manual received both the ACEC National Recognition award and the ACEC New York Diamond Award for Engineering Excellence. “These awards are a culmination of a year’s worth of work on the parts of NHI, the FHWA Bridge Program Office, and the FHWA Resource Center” says Louisa Ward, training program manager for NHI’s Structures and Geotechnical programs. “We are constantly looking for ways to enhance our trainings and contribute to the broader transportation community.”

The award-winning reference manual is provided to participants in NHI’s new training course 130096 Cable-Stayed Bridge Seminar, which is featured below.

### Course Spotlight: 130096 Cable-Stayed Bridge Seminar

The National Highway Institute's (NHI) one-day Cable-Stayed Signature Bridge Seminar is intended to provide participants with an introduction to planning, design, and construction of long-span, cable-stayed bridges. The seminar provides an overview of the features of cable-stayed bridges; their construction and maintenance considerations; and analyses needed to design these highly redundant structures including special aerodynamic studies.
This seminar will engage participants through Instructor-led presentations, discussions, Q&A, group activities, and walkthrough examples. Participants will review a case study to help them understand how the curriculum can be applied to making basic design decisions. Major topics covered include: bridge configurations, construction methodology, component details, analysis, aerodynamics, design methodology, construction engineering, and maintenance and inspection. As part of the seminar, participants will receive a copy of FHWA Design Guidelines for the Arch and Cable-Supported Signature Bridges.

Please visit the [NHI Web site](#) for a full description of this course.

**NHI-Hosted Trainings at Arlington Facilities**

In response to requests from the transportation community, NHI will host a series of NHI courses at our training facilities located in Arlington, VA. NHI will offer our most popular courses and others not widely offered in individual States.

NHI’s modern facilities offer four training rooms that feature the tools and equipment necessary to ensure a productive and engaging learning environment. Additionally, we are located within 15 minutes of the Nation’s capital. We welcome the opportunity to host transportation professionals from across the country as well as from the DC metro area.

**Upcoming Sessions:**

420018 Instructor Development Course (3.5-day)  
April 2-5, 2013

130055 Safety Inspection of In-Service Bridges  
April 8-19, 2013

**Soon to be Scheduled:**

130091B Underwater Bridge Repair, Rehabilitation, and Countermeasures  
130096 Cable-Stayed Bridge Seminar  
135047 Stream Stability and Scour at Highway Bridges for Bridge Inspectors
132014 Drilled Shafts
132034 Ground Improvement Techniques
132036 Earth Retaining Structures

For more information about upcoming trainings at NHI’s training facilities, be sure to subscribe to NH! News and Updates.