

## EXAM UPDATE

The Architectural Engineering Professional Engineering Examination Development Subcommittee has recently received several questions concerning the available reference material and study material for preparation in taking the Architectural Engineering P.E. Exam. We have also received several questions concerning whom the prospective candidate should contact regarding taking the exam and whether the A.E. Exam is appropriate for them to take based on their background and experience. I would like to offer the following comments concerning these topics.

Currently, the only available resource material specifically for the Architectural Engineering P.E. Exam is the Principles and Practice of Engineering Architectural Engineering Sample Questions and Solutions Manual. This manual provides general information on licensing and examinations, the architectural engineering examination specifications, a complete eighty question sample examination and solutions, and a list of reference material which defines the applicable codes and standards for the examination. The examination specification defines the categories and topics which could be covered in the A.E. Examination and the approximate percentage of questions on each exam associated with a specific topic. Each exam will not cover all topics in the examination specification, but the topics covered on each exam will comply with the exam specification.

The Architectural Engineering P.E. Exam is offered by NCEES to the state licensure boards. The A.E. P.E. Exam is offered in April of each year by the majority of the state licensure boards. Each state currently governs the licensure, registration, and practice within the state. Specific questions concerning licensure and practice with a specific state should be directed to the state licensure board of that state.

The Architectural Engineering P.E. Exam covers four primary areas of knowledge: construction management; electrical and lighting systems; mechanical systems; and structural systems. The questions on the exam focus solely on the construction and design of building systems. Each candidate taking a P.E. Exam should evaluate which of the available exams is best suited to correspond with their education and/or experience background. The A.E. P.E. Exam covers a wide range of topics related to the construction and design of building systems and requires a fairly large number of references to properly cover the topics included in the exam. I suggest that the A.E. P.E. Exam be taken by candidates who possess a general knowledge or background in 2 or more of the categories covered by the exam.

The A.E. P.E. Development Subcommittee is continually looking for people to assist in the test item writing and reviewing process, the exam pretesting process, and other specific exam related tasks which must be performed each year to comply with the NCEES guidelines and requirements. If you would like to help in this process, please contact me, Mark McAfee, P.E., at [mmcafee@dwase.com](mailto:mmcafee@dwase.com).