



جمعية تطور هندسة التكاليف

THE AACE ARABIAN GULF SECTION Newsletter

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The Association for Advancement of Cost Engineering

December 2000

TECHNICAL DINNER MEETING A SUCCESS

The first technical dinner meeting of the year 2000-2001 was held at the Dhahran International Hotel on November 12, 2000. The meeting was well attended with more than 70 members and other professionals present. Saudi Aramco sponsored the meeting. The meeting started with



a welcome speech by Dr. Abdulaziz Bub-shait, Arabian Gulf Section (AGS) President, where he highlighted the activities of the Section. One of the highlights of his speech was the announcement that of the 12 candidates, that appeared for the July 2000 AACE Certification Examination held at Dhahran, 10 candidates had passed the examination.



Dr. Abdulaziz Bub-shait presented certificates of completion the Spring Cost Engineering course offered by the AGS to the students.

The guest speaker for the evening was **Noman Zaheer** from the Department of Engineering and Management, KFUPM. He gave a very interesting presentation on the “**Use of Simulation in Cost Estimating**”. He spoke on simulation’s use in estimation, which is potentially superior technique than anything in use presently in industry, and its cons and pros. The presentation covered an array of tools



available for the purpose of simulation. Noman presented **STROBOSCOPE** as an application used by him for simulation. The presentation was well received by the audience and their interest in the subject matter was obvious by the number of questions that followed.



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OUR PROGRAM CALENDAR

Attached is the 2000-01 program calendar of the Arabian Gulf Section, AACE (Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering) International. The Section activities comprise of dinner meetings, workshops, cost engineering course and an exchange meeting between AGS/AACE and KFUPM. The technical dinner meeting is a forum for our members and interested professionals to meet where a presentation is made on topic of interest.

The cost certification course is held twice each year and is designed to prepare candidates for the certification examination offered by AACE International. The Section hosts the certification examination in Dhahran for residents of Saudi Arabia and in Bahrain for other residents of the Gulf Region. A Cost Engineering Exchange Meeting between AACE and KFUPM is planned in May 2000 and the theme is "**Cost Engineering for Effective Project Management in the Arabian Gulf**".

All Section members and other interested professionals are invited to attend the AGS scheduled activities. A reminder of the activities, together with detailed information, is issued through e-mail before the scheduled date. If you would like to get an e-mail reminder of our activities, please send an e-mail request to Mohammed Al-Thageb, Membership Director, at thagebms@aramco.com.sa

WORKSHOP TO HELP OUR MEMBERS BECOME POTENTIAL WEBMASTERS

On September 28, 2000, a workshop to teach the attendees "**How to Make a Project Web Page or a Home Page on the Internet**" was held at the Saudi Electric Company (SEC) Training Center. The guest presenter was **Dr. Fred Rahbar** from Saudi Aramco.

Fred stated that your or your Company's web page is a "window to the world" through which you can communicate with the rest of the world and anyone from anywhere can see a glimpse of your Company.

The workshop gave a step-by-step instruction in creating a web page for your company or a personal home page and also provided hints on how you can easily publish and promote your web page on the Internet. No special software is required other than the basic Microsoft products or Netscape, which are available to all PC users.

COST ENGINEERING COURSE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

Six professionals from Saudi Aramco, Saudi Electricity Company - Eastern Region Branch (SEC-ERB), Al-Hussaini & Al-Khodari & Sons Co. joined the Arabian Gulf Section's Fall 2000 Session of the Cost Engineering Course. The course, started on 4th September 2000 and completed on 23rd November 2000, was conducted at the Aramco's Industrial Training Center at the Dhahran North.

Over 40 hours of lectures were held, which were mostly on Monday evenings & Thursday mornings. The instructors of the course were all certified Cost Engineers/Consultants and are as follows: Mubashir Q. Mirza, Dr. Abdulaziz Bu-Bshait, Ibrahim Bu-Bshait, Bader M. Ahamed, Farouk Khory, Khalid Shehabi, Mohammed Moideen, M. Imran Asghar, S.M. Azim Warsi & Umar Mirza.

The Board would like to thank Mubashir Q. Mirza, the course coordinator, for doing an excellent job in managing the course effort. Also all the instructors deserve special recognition for participating in teaching the course. Their effort and dedication is primarily responsible for the success of the course.

CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION AN ACHIEVEMENT

The Section held the November Certification Examination simultaneously at two locations for the first time, which was a significant achievement. In the past, we have been holding the examination only at the Saudi Aramco Training Institute at Dhahran. This year the Section was approached to hold the examination at a location outside Saudi Arabia for students of the Gulf Region that could not enter Saudi Arabia to sit for the examination. Holding the examination at two sites (Dhahran as well as Bahrain) truly representing the needs of Gulf Region.



CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION AN ACHIEVEMENT - CONTINUED

Saudi Aramco, ITC, Dhahran North was our regular site. Two candidates from Zuhair Co. & Zamil Steel took the written examination, which was held on Thursday, 23rd November 2000 from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Candidates also submitted 2500 word technical papers as part of the Certification requirement.

The following Certified Cost Engineers proctored the exam at Dhahran: Mubashir Q. Mirza, CCE, Bader M. Ahmed, CCE, Mohammed V. Moideen, CCE and M. Imran Ashgar, CCE.

Bahrain was selected as the other site outside Saudi Arabia since it was the most convenient location for our representatives to be present to proctor the examination. The examination was held at the Bahrain Society of Engineers office and Hassan Al-Somali volunteered to proctor the examination. His effort in holding the examination is appreciated.



Hassan Al-Somali Examination at Bahrain.

This is a first step in our effort to reach out and support our members that are Out-Of-Kingdom. In future, we could plan some of our other activities outside of Saudi Arabia. Three candidates from United Arab Emirates and Oman registered for the exam.

The Section appreciates Saudi Aramco and the Bahrain Society of Engineers support in providing office space to hold the certification examination.

RESCHEDULING ICARUS WORKSHOP

The ICARUS workshop scheduled for November 1, 2000 was postponed and will be rescheduled sometime in January 2001. We apologize for not holding the workshop as scheduled but it was beyond our control. The workshop presenter could not leave London airport due to bad weather on October 30, 2000. He was also scheduled to do a presentation at Saudi Aramco and for Project Management Institute, which were both cancelled. As soon as we have a confirmed date of his visit to Dhahran, we will inform you through our e-mail network.

To keep current with our activities, we urge you to send an e-mail requesting Mohammed Al-Thageb (thageb@aramco.com.sa) our Membership Director to add you in our mailing list. This way, you will be informed of all our activities. If you do not have e-mail, please call any of our Officers or Directors by phone. The Section contact phone numbers are listed in the attached Program Calendar.

MEET THE BOARD

Ahmed Al-Muairfi is the Vice President - Administration of the Arabian Gulf Section. Ahmed is Certified Cost Consultant since 1995 and has been involved in teaching the Certification Course.

He is a Senior Estimating Engineer in Saudi Aramco. He holds a MS in Urban Planning from King Faisal University in 1991.

He has been with Saudi Aramco since 1983 and has worked in Project Inspection, Facilities Planning, Project Management and currently working as an Estimator.



A. AL-MUAIRFI

SPRING 2001 COST ENGINEERING COURSE STARTS ON MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2001

All persons who are interested in joining the Cost Engineering Course or need information should contact: Mubashir Q. Mirza, Phone Number 857-5011, Extension 5164 or mail to: mqmirza4178@safco.net

A MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERS

IF YOU HAVE ANY ARTICLES, NEWS, PHOTOGRAPHS, OR COMMENTS FOR PUBLICATION IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF OUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE FORWARD IT TO:

FAROUK KHORY
PHONE 874-6622
FAX 873-0853
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جمعية تطور هندسة التكاليف

The Association for Advancement of Cost Engineering
Arabian Gulf Section
 P.O. Box 2747, Dhahran 31311
 Saudi Arabia

ARABIAN GULF SECTION

MISSION AND VISION

Our mission is to advance and promote Total Cost Management in the Arabian Gulf Region.

Our vision is to be recognized professional association for Total Cost Management in the Region.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide a forum for interested professionals to get together and exchange information/ideas to enhance their knowledge in the field of Total Cost Management.
- Introduce current changes in technology to help keep abreast with the latest developments in the field.
- Provide an opportunity to increase our members' interaction with local industries to enhance their understanding of various aspects of business in the Region.
- Encourage our members and others to become Certified Cost Engineers or Certified Cost Consultants.

STRATEGIES

Provide the following services to our members, their employers, and the professional community in the region to meet the above objectives:

- Organize technical dinner meetings with a presentation on a topic of interest.
- Organized technical workshops on the current technology changes.
- Conduct tours of local industries for our members.
- Offer the cost engineering Certification course and host the Certification Examination.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2000/2001

Officers

President	Dr. Abdulaziz Bu-Bshait	860-3709
VP Administration	Ahmed Al-Muairfi, CCC	874-6646
VP Technical	Ahmad Al-Juraifani, CCC	03-357-5076
Treasurer	Khalid Abdulwahed	873-4482
Secretary	Mubashir Mirza, CCE	857-5011

Directors

Past President	Hassan Al-Somali
Certification	Gamini Padmaperuma, CCE Bader Munir Ahmed, CCE Mohamed Moideen, CCE
Membership	Mohammed Al-Thageb, CCE
Public Relations	Khalid Shehabi, CCC
Regional Affairs	Iqbal Zakai (Jubail Area), CCC Syed Anwar (Abqaiq Area), CCE
Publication	Farouk Khory, CCC
Steering Committee	Ibrahim Bu-Bshait, CCE