The health and safety of ACEC/MO members and employees is at the forefront of our policies and guidelines, so we continuously address the coronavirus outbreak. There is an abundance of information on the ACEC and ACEC/MO websites - see links listed below. If you have any questions, please email Bruce Wylie or Dawn Hill.

COVID-19 RESOURCES:

- ACEC Coronavirus Resource Center
- ACEC/MO COVID-19 Resource Center
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
- Federal Guidance on COVID-19
- Missouri Chamber of Commerce & Industry Coronavirus Resources
- MO Dept. of Health & Senior Services
- COVID-19 Public Awareness Campaign
- Small Bus. Guidance & Loan Resources
- USDA Rural Development COVID-19

The Future of Engineering Roundtable Series

The ACEC Research Institute developed a series of roundtable discussions to explore solutions to tackle major financial obstacles, seek proactive approaches to predict uncertain future, and pursue strategies to remove barriers to create that future. For a replay of each session, click on the links below.

Roundtable Sessions Available On Demand:

- The Impact of Technology on Engineering
- The Buildings We Live and Work In
- Funding in the New Normal
Thoughts on the Post-Pandemic Office
by Tom Smith, Global Director, Property and Buildings, WSP

It’s better to know what you don’t know than to rush into making decisions, and it’s clear that there will be no single answer to the workplace after COVID-19. The solution will be different for every organization, and encompass many elements — from healthier environments to transportation, to productivity and emotional wellbeing.

At WSP, we have a deep understanding of workplace, so we’re well placed to help our clients to navigate to that better normal as a partner and a trusted advisor. With 50,000 employees around the world, we have also been thinking hard about our own response. Culture is important for any organization, but particularly for professional services firms. Having the best people, the best thinking and the best ideas is our competitive advantage — and when your mission is to enhance communities through great buildings and infrastructure, there’s no substitute for being there physically.

Many organizations have been able to work from home very successfully during the pandemic. This is partly because everyone has buckled down in a crisis, but it’s also because we’ve accumulated a lot of [.....]

Click here to read the full article.

The Future of Construction Webinar

Like every profession, the construction industry was upended by the COVID-19 pandemic. In many places, construction halted all together. In others, the practices of temperature monitoring, PPE usage and social distancing were adopted as work continued. New technologies, like virtual reality and video services, found new prominence in the construction process.

So, what does this mean for the future of construction? Should estimates include costs for PPE? Will social distancing decrease labor productivity? And will new technology solutions become a mainstay in the industry? The Engineering News Record is hosting this free webinar on August 13, 2020 at 1:00 PM. Items you'll learn include:

- How construction estimates can be built to account for changes in labor and equipment due to COVID-19.
- What impacts the use of social distancing could have on construction project timelines.
- Where new technologies are enabling innovation in the construction process to combat productivity loss, improve health and safety practices and increase convenience.
- How technologies may continue to evolve in the future to create a more streamlined construction process.

To register for the free webinar, click here. Can't attend live? Register to view the webinar on-demand!

Upcoming Worker's Compensation Webinar

EPIC and Fisher Phillips have partnered to help clients manage the ongoing business minefield during this global pandemic, and to deliver a COVID-19 blueprint. The webinar will be held on August 18, 2020 at 1:00 PM (Central Time). It will help clients navigate Employment and Workers’ Compensation issues by providing practical solutions.
Topics include:

2. Latest Developments from the Governor’s Office Regarding Remote Work Requirements and Potential Shutdowns or Furloughs
3. Leaves of Absence, Including When and How Employers Must Provide Sick Leave or Other Statutory Leaves of Absence for Employees Affected by Coronavirus
4. Protecting your Company’s Trade Secrets and Confidential Information When Everyone is Working from Home
5. Potential Employer’s Third-Party Liability

To register for the webinar, click here. To catch up on all our Coronavirus coverage, visit epicbrokers.com/coronavirus. Fisher Phillips, LLP is one of the largest U.S. law firms representing management exclusively in the areas of labor, employment, civil rights, employee benefits, and immigration law. For more information, please contact Julia Moore at julia.moore@epicbrokers.com or 916-576-1549.

As the Recession Lengthens, are Public Agencies Going to be Able to Continue to Fund Infrastructure Projects?
by ACEC and posted on Medium.com

One of the few economic bright spots since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic has been the continued infrastructure construction activity by state and local governments. This work was determined to be an “essential service” and in the intervening months, they have proved to be. As the recession lengthens, however, are public agencies going to be able to continue to fund infrastructure projects?

To answer that question, the ACEC Research Institute hosted the “Funding in the New Normal” roundtable on July 16 with Rosemarie Andolino, former chair of MAG USA and CEO of International Development, Manchester Airport Group; Anirban Basu, chair and CEO, Sage Policy Group; Jeff Davis, senior fellow, Eno Center for Transportation; and David Zipper, visiting fellow, Harvard Kennedy School’s Taubman Center for State and Local Government. State and local government revenues have been hit very hard by the recession. Unlike the federal government, state governments must balance their budgets each year. Revenue shortfalls, no matter how steep [.....]

To read the full article on Medium.com, click here. To view the roundtable, click here.

Impact of COVID-19 on Global Supply Chains
by Adrian Lightstone, National Manager, Advisory Services, WSP in Canada

"COVID-19 is the Black Swan event we all learn about in risk and scenario planning. It’s an event none of us expected to occur and has had an enormous impact on the global freight industry. It’s exposed the vulnerabilities of many organizations, especially those who have a high dependence on international trade and global supply chains. The focus on supply chain optimization, inventory reduction, and maximizing asset utilization has left little ability to accommodate a Black Swan event like COVID-19.

In Canada we’ve seen major changes in consumer demand, labour shortages in critical sectors, as well as trade restrictions and protectionist measures introduced by our largest trading partners. This
has had a major impact on our traditional supply chains. Many companies have been forced to pivot their business models as traditional retail channels have been weakened. This has created opportunities in how supply chains may operate in the future.

The pandemic has accelerated trends in supply chains such as e-commerce, automation, and reshoring manufacturing. To keep up with these trends it's important for freight planners and policy makers to understand the extended supply network and improve supply chain visibility. Enhanced visibility will allow businesses to activate alternate sources of supply, understand new risks and costs and focus on supply chain resilience.

Click here to download the PDF of WSP's What Will be the New Normal.

Covering Coronavirus: Risk Management & Employee Benefits Considerations

The global COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic remains both dynamic a fluid. We continue to see unprecedented disruptions at home and abroad. In this issue, we take a focused look at the below topics. To see the complete issue, click here.

1. Pandemic Insurance - Public Private Partnership?
2. D&O Insurance Impacts of Coronavirus Claims
3. Cyber Rates May Continue to Rise
4. London’s Role in U.S. Business Interruption Cases
5. OSHA Answers to Frequently Asked Questions
7. Presumptive Compensability Legislation Update

Visit epicbrokers.com/coronavirus to catch up on all our coverage.

Updated ACEC Coronavirus Resource Document Available