

**Contact: Hannah O’Grady**  
**Vice President**  
**ACEC New York**  
**Phone: 212-682-6336**  
[hannah@acecny.org](mailto:hannah@acecny.org)

**ACEC NEW YORK HONORS CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
FOR OUTSTANDING PROJECTS**

**Joan McDonald, Commissioner, NYSDOT, Master of Ceremonies**

**NEW YORK, March 28** –The American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC New York) gathered Saturday evening, March 26, for its 44<sup>th</sup> annual Engineering Excellence Awards gala. The event, held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, is the equivalent of the Academy Awards® to the engineering profession. Over 500 engineers and clients celebrated achievements in public infrastructure projects and private-sector works in the areas of buildings, energy, environmental, structural systems, transportation, and water and wastewater engineering.

The Empire Award, which is given to the highest rated project in New York State based on contributions to the economic health of an area, sustainability, innovation and creativity, went to HDR for its Woodbury Toll Barrier Highway Speed E-ZPass, the first highway speed electronic tolling facility in New York. The toll barrier is within Interchange 16, one of the busiest locations on the New York State Thruway, connecting the Thruway with Route 17. HDR’s work included an alternatives analysis, environmental assessments, public outreach sessions and preliminary and final design. The firm is headquartered in New York City, with eight branch offices throughout the state.

Twenty New York State consulting engineering firms were honored with ACEC New York’s Diamond Award for 27 outstanding projects throughout the world. The judging was based on complexity, future value to the engineering profession, original or innovative application of new or existing technologies, and meeting or exceeding client needs.

Neil Lucey, chairman of ACEC New York, said of the winning firms, “The wonderful projects that have earned awards represent successes, each in their own way. The honorees are not the only winners – society is as well. The award-winning works connect communities, ensure safe and reliable energy and water, and make our buildings safe, efficient and comfortable. To be able to end a work day knowing you’ve made a valuable contribution to society through the built environment is a privilege and a source of pride for the professional engineers of our member firms. Our quality of life and economic future depend on the quality of our infrastructure and the buildings where we live, work and play, and they wouldn’t exist were it not for engineers and their colleagues.”

Winners of the 2011 Diamond Awards were:

Water and Storm Water

- AECOM – Wards Island SHARON® Facility

Transportation

- AECOM – Peter Minuit Plaza Reconstruction
- C&S Engineers, Inc. – Security Improvements at Syracuse International Airport
- HDR – Woodbury Toll Barrier Highway Speed E-ZPass
- Parsons Brinckerhoff – Hood Canal Bridge East Half Replacement
- The RBA Group – Reconstruction of County Road 58

Energy

- AECOM – Castle Hill Boiler, Climate Control and Lighting Upgrade

Building/Technology Systems

- Arup – Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies
- Pathfinder Engineers & Architects LLP – SUNY Fredonia - Campus & Community Children’s Center
- Syska Hennessy Group, Inc. – The Cooper Union

Structural Systems

- Arup – Songdo Convensia
- Buro Happold Consulting Engineers, P.C. – Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center
- Hardesty & Hanover, LLP – Northbound Whitestone Expressway Bridge over Flushing River
- Severud Associates Consulting Engineers P.C. – 851 Sixth Avenue
- Thornton Tomasetti – Eleven Times Square
- Thornton Tomasetti – MGM Mirage CityCenter – Block A
- WSP Cantor Seinuk – Beekman Tower – 8 Spruce Street, New York, NY

Special Projects

- Arup – Songdo City Central Park
- Buro Happold Consulting Engineers, P.C. – U2 360 Transformable Screen
- YU & Associates Engineers P.C. – Parking & Sports Facilities at Yankee Stadium

Water Resources

- CH2M HILL – Westcott Reservoir Rehabilitation Project
- Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. – Saratoga County Water Treatment & Transmission

Studies, Research and Consulting

- Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. – Impact Assessment of Natural Gas Production in the NYC Watershed

- T.Y. Lin International Engineering, Architecture & Land Surveying, P.C. – Historic Erie Canal Aqueduct and Broad Street Corridor Master Plan

#### Surveying and Mapping Technology

- Erdman Anthony – Wards Island WPCP Laser Scanning
- Halcrow, Inc. – Newtown Creek Central Residuals Facility BIM Model

#### Environmental

- HDR – Pocket Parks at Former Yankee Stadium

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*Founded in 1921, the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC New York) is the state's premier organization for consulting engineering firms, representing over 280 companies and 20,000 employees in New York. The organization's mission is to further the business interests of its members through advocacy, networking, education and business services. For more information, visit [www.acecny.org](http://www.acecny.org).*

Note to Editor: Complete listings of the award-winning projects are posted on the Engineering Excellence section of ACEC New York's Web site: <http://www.acecny.org>. For more detailed descriptions of the projects, contact Hannah O'Grady, 212-682-6336, [hannah@acecny.org](mailto:hannah@acecny.org).