



APRIL 8-10, 2026 | SHERATON SAND KEY RESORT

Agenda

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

4:30 – 6:30 pm	Registration
6:30 – 8:00 pm	Welcome Social

Thursday, April 9, 2026

5 PDH's

7:30am – 4:00 pm	Registration
7:30 – 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 8:45 am	Welcome and Update
8:45 – 10:15 am (1 PDH pending)	Session I: Leadership in Transition: Guiding the Consulting Engineering Industry Forward <u>Speaker:</u> Todd Compton <u>Description:</u> A panel discussing the challenges of the modern engineering consultant and solutions to these issues will include Jessica Mcrory, PE - President of Arehna Engineering, Henri Jean, P.E. - Senior Exec VP of Tierra Inc., John Walton, P.E. - National Discipline Director of Geotechnical Engineering of Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc., and Odelkys Cobb, P.E. - President of the Emerging Leaders Board of ACEC-FL, (RK&K). Come for the CEI's, and stay for the wisdom, with unique perspectives into the solutions that our panelists have used to combat issues that have arisen in the modern engineering consulting world.
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Networking Refreshment Break
10:30 – 11:30 am (1 PDH pending)	Session II: Application of Diverse Ground Improvement Techniques for the Stabilization of Reinforced Earth Wall Approach Ramps <u>Speaker:</u> Michael Smith <u>Description:</u> As part of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's drive to create a pre-eminent destination, an Elevated Iconic Steel structure supporting a section of elevated roadway for a future F1 track is being built connecting to lower-level area. The structure has length of 2000-ft, and projects 200-ft to 300-ft above existing ground levels and is supported by multiple columns. The approach ramps towards the structure connecting the piled abutments are proposed as Reinforced Earth Walls with heights ranging from 10-ft to 85-ft. The sub-soil conditions comprising of silty sands and gravels in the top layers were shown to be of collapse potential by inundation due to water ingress, as evident from tests carried.



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Thursday, April 9, 2026

5 PDH's

11:30am – 12:30 pm	Networking Lunch
12:30 – 2:00 pm (1 PDH pending)	ACEC Florida President & Keynote: Dr. Gray Mullins
2:00 – 3:00 pm (1 PDH pending)	Session III: Moisture Management Geosynthetics Path to the 100-year Pavement Foundation <u>Speaker:</u> Ben Campbell <u>Description:</u> The Transportation Research Board has recently published a Research Circular entitled “Foundation Design and Construction for 100-Year Pavement Systems”. As water is known to be the #1 enemy to civil structures, achieving 100-year pavement foundations requires an in-depth understanding of unsaturated soil behavior. This presentation looks at the influence of geosynthetics on mechanical and hydraulic properties of granular base materials and unsaturated soils in pavement foundations. We discuss accelerated pavement testing, field studies, laboratory and long-term project performance of a Moisture Management Geosynthetic.
3:00 – 3:15 pm	Networking Refreshment Break
3:15 – 4:15 pm (1 PDH pending)	Session IV: Strong Foundations: Communication and Documentation Best Practices for Geotechnical Engineers <u>Speaker:</u> Mark Jackson <u>Description:</u> Communication is essential to every part of a project. Good communication can help ensure a project's success, while poor communication can lead to disputes and claims. Equally important is comprehensive documentation, which provides the written narrative of the project and establishes the legal project record. This presentation examines best practices in communication and documentation throughout project. It also addresses critical risk-management considerations, including appropriate document retention, the pitfalls associated with email communication, and strategies for managing digital data.
4:15 – 5:30 pm	Networking Reception



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Agenda

Friday, April 10, 2026

3 PDH's

8:00am – 12:00 pm	Registration
8:00 – 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:30 am – 9:30 am <i>(1 PDH pending)</i>	Session V: Supporting Rail Embankments on Soft Organic Soils with Controlled Modulus Columns (CMCs) <u>Speaker:</u> Venkata Prashanth Muppana <u>Description:</u> Constructing a railroad embankment over soft organic soils presents challenges in bearing capacity, stability, and settlement control, especially when environmental and schedule constraints limit conventional solutions. At a site in Jacksonville, Florida, the rail alignment crossed wetlands where surcharge fills were infeasible and demucking was impractical due to the thickness of the organic deposits. To meet performance and schedule requirements while minimizing wetland impacts, the embankment was supported using a T-WALL retaining system combined with Controlled Modulus Columns (CMCs). This approach provided adequate bearing support and settlement control without extensive excavation.
9:30 – 9:45 am	Refreshment Break
9:45am – 11:45 am <i>(2 PDHs pending)</i>	Laws, Rules, & Ethics
11:45 am – 12:00 pm	Adjourn