

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bellingham engineer named finalist in national New Faces of Engineering program

Bellingham, Wash., February 15, 2010 – CH2M HILL announces that Michael Pepera, a process engineer in the firm’s energy and chemicals group, has been named a New Faces of Engineering finalist by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Scott Bartlett, a mechanical engineer in the firm’s Spartanburg, South Carolina office was also named a finalist by the Project Management Institute. The 13 honorees in this national program are the “best of the best” – the next generation of engineers whose innovation, leadership and commitment to excellence are helping to better our world and inspire young people to consider a career in engineering.

“These two young men exemplify CH2M HILL’s values of client service with a strong focus on safety and sustainability and giving back to our communities and profession,” says Lee McIntire, CH2M HILL CEO. “We are very proud of all 41 of CH2M HILL’s New Faces of Engineering nominees. Their passion, commitment, and leadership represent us well in the quest to inspire a future generation of engineering talent.”

Pepera works in CH2M HILL’s Bellingham, Wash. office and has supported utilities, refineries, and pharmaceutical companies during his three years with the firm. Pepera has a strong commitment to sustainability and focuses on reducing energy consumption through engineering design and sharing the improvements that offer the best short-term paybacks. As the lead PLC programmer on the Round Butte Selective Water Withdrawal project, a first of its kind fish collector to help restore the natural salmon run in Oregon’s Deschutes River, he provided automation for the fish collection system and water blending system as well as integrated new control hardware in the powerhouse control system. This unique project provided an opportunity for Pepera to help mitigate the environmental impacts of energy production. In addition, he is balancing work as a process

engineer for two local refineries working on heater safety instrumentation upgrades, atmospheric relief valve mitigation and a pressure relief valve safety audit.

“My favorite part of my job is seeing something that I designed start-up and run as intended,” says Pepera.

His advice for aspiring engineers is “Participate in co-operative education during school, even if it means pushing your graduation out a year. Always seek to understand the core idea of what you are being taught. You may not remember the steps required to solve an engineering problem, but if you remember the main concepts you will be able to learn it again faster and/or ask intelligent questions to help you solve the problem. Good engineering requires collaboration. In the real world, no one is required to know everything and be able to do it all by themselves. Try to work in groups as much as possible during school.”

Pepera received his bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the University of Ohio in Toledo.

Visit ch2mhill.com to view video testimonials of all CH2M HILL’s New Faces of Engineering honorees.

Headquartered in Denver, Colo., employee-owned CH2M HILL is a global leader in engineering, procurement, construction, management and operations for government, civil, industrial and energy clients. With \$6.3 billion in revenue and 25,000 employees, CH2M HILL is an industry-leading program management, construction management and design firm, as ranked by Engineering News-Record (2009). The firm’s work is concentrated in the areas of energy, water, transportation, environmental, nuclear and industrial facilities. The firm has long been recognized as a most-admired company and leading employer. Visit www.ch2mhill.com.

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