

ConsultA

ACEI Newsletter - 8 September 2022

Information and Advice for ACEI Members

ACEI Work Arrangements

The ACEI office is open three days a week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Phone 01-6425588 or email info@acei.ie to make contact with the Secretariat.

News Updates

- [ACEI](#)
- [EFCA](#)
- [FIDIC](#)

Online Resources

- [HSE](#)
- [Revenue](#)
- [Institute of Public Health](#)
- [Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection](#)
- [Health & Safety Authority](#)
- [World Health Organisation](#)
- [Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [Health Protection Surveillance Centre](#)
- [Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#)

ACEI Annual Awards 2022

Congratulations are due to the ACEI Member Firms and their winning projects in the [2022 ACEI Engineering Excellence Awards](#). The awards were presented by the ACEI host on the night, David McHugh, Past-President 2021-2022 at a gala awards dinner in the Shelbourne Hotel on 2nd September. Further details and photographs of the winning projects will be available soon on the awards section of the website. An ACEI awards feature will be published in the Business Post later in the month. ACEI also congratulates [Peter Lynch](#), CEO [FuturEnergy Ireland](#), the recipient of the 2022 ACEI President's Award.

ACEI Submission on Budget 2023

An ACEI submission on [Budget 2023](#) was sent to relevant Government Ministers and other officials on 31st August. The content focuses on the following five key areas with suggested solutions included: Unprecedented inflation; Industry skills shortage; Professional Indemnity Insurance; Capital investment in public infrastructure; and Climate Action / Sustainability. ACEI also affirmed in the submission that its member firms are fully committed to helping the Irish Government achieve its targets by providing value-added, sustainable solutions that meet infrastructure challenges across the built environment, in harmony with the natural environment.

ACEI Participation in 2022 BIM Coordinator Summit

ACEI is pleased to sponsor and participate in the [BIM Co-ordinator Summit](#), taking place today 8 September 2022. This live and virtual event, hosted in the RDS Dublin 4, is a celebration of excellence and digital innovation in engineering, architecture and construction. ACEI thanks Aonghus O'Keeffe, Director in member firm Roughan & O'Donovan and ACEI BIM Committee member for presenting in the [Professional Practice session](#) during the afternoon.

ACEI Participation in 2022 FIDIC Conference

ACEI Secretary General, Sarah Ingle will participate as a panel member in the [Human Capital Resources Forum](#) at this year's [FIDIC Global Infrastructure Conference 2022](#). ACEI President Brian Kavanagh will also attend the event along with some other members. The conference will take place in Geneva, Switzerland during 11-13 September 2022 with a forward-looking theme of *Building a better tomorrow, by investing today: Sustainable infrastructure development to improve community wellbeing*. Presentations and discussions will focus on how consultants can engineer a sustainable future in a way that benefits communities worldwide and the prestigious gathering will bring together premier engineers and infrastructure stakeholders from across the globe.

ACEI PSDP Course

There are still a few places available on the two day, virtual ACEI Project Supervisor Design Process ([PSDP](#)) course taking place on 18 and 25 October 2022 during 9.30am – 4.30pm. The course is directed towards Chartered Engineers and permanent works designers who will fulfil the role of PSDP in accordance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013. It is required that participants should have previously completed the ACEI / Engineers Ireland *Designing for Safety in Construction* (DSC) course.

EFCA Newsletter

The August 2022 edition of the [EFCA Newsletter](#) has been published. Newly appointed EFCA Director General, Sue Arundale, notes that: 'The consulting engineering industry has a major role in supporting the EU's climate policies and accelerating its twin digital and green transitions. Consulting engineers are helping to solve their clients' biggest challenges, deliver value to investors and improve people's lives.'

Information on EFCA activities and links to EU and other relevant reports are also provided in this edition. Upcoming events and meetings are available to view on the [EFCA website](#).

FIDIC 2022 Webinar Series

A number of free [FIDIC webinars](#) continue to be available for ACEI members to attend during Sept - Dec 2022. These webinars have been arranged along with FIDIC's standing committees, councils or expert panels. The webinar series is a mainstay of FIDIC's stakeholder outreach and engagement activity. Registration is free for all events and attendees will benefit from high level expertise provided by expert speakers addressing some of the key challenges currently affecting the consulting engineering industry. These include issues in contracts, climate change and getting to net zero.

Subsea Cloud Underwater Data Centres

[Subsea Cloud](#), the company proposing to put commercial data centres in deep ocean waters, has announced that it has moved closer to a physical launch. Data centres are usually located in rural, landlocked areas where power is cheaper. Subsea data centres are planned to be located near coastlines and benefit from long-term contracts with power providers to get cheaper power. The firm also benefits from proximity to renewable energy sources like offshore wind, which provide cheap and clean power, too.

Traditional data centres daily use millions of litres of water and produce huge amounts of CO2. Subsea Cloud uses zero water, refrigerants and harmful chemicals. Every pod put in the water prevents CO2 from being emitted. Fitting into the overall subsea ecosystem is of the utmost importance to the firm. It plans to co-locate with all types of renewable infrastructure, consuming renewable power exclusively by 2026.

SEAI Energy Academy - Free Training

Members are encouraged to review the free training offered by the [SEAI Energy Academy](#). The SEAI Energy Academy is a free, online, e-learning platform designed to help firms increase their energy efficiency and reduce their energy related costs. Learning takes place using short, interactive, animated modules. These are mobile friendly and offer flexible, self-paced learning with access available 24/7. The courses can be integrated into any business's sustainability strategy helping them embed energy efficiency across the firm. Modules are available on a variety of subjects including: Electric vehicles; Behavioural change; Business energy efficiency; Office energy efficiency and Solar PV.

Recent Good News

- Congratulations to Emma Daly from ACEI member firm [DBFL Consulting Engineers](#). Emma cycled the length of Ireland from Malin to Mizen with a team of friends, including some from DBFL. The team raised an impressive €50,000 to help fund the Irish Motor Neuron Disease Association. The cyclists completed the 700km route over six days during what turned out to be one of the hottest weeks of the year.
- ACEI congratulates the employees of member firm [O'Connor Sutton Cronin](#) who were the winners at the recent [Dragon at the Docks](#) racing event held on 1 September.
- The O'Connor Sutton Cronin Dublin office has established a 'Gardening Club'. This was set up not only as an opportunity for staff to learn a new skill, but to help enhance the office's indoor and outdoor spaces. OCSC has enlisted help from Dymphna Kyne a renowned horticulturist who has agreed to share her valuable insight and ideas with staff members.

Ethos Engineering Achieves WELL Performance Rating

Congratulations to ACEI member firm Ethos Engineering on the recent announcement that it is the first company in the world to achieve the WELL Performance Rating through [the International WELL Building Institute](#) (IWBI). IWBI is the global authority for transforming health and well-being with a people-first approach to buildings, businesses and communities. This new, industry-leading benchmark is designed to help organisations leverage building performance data and occupant experience insights, with a view to shifting business decisions towards driving health and well-being outcomes.

The WELL Performance Rating serves as a roadmap to implement best practices for continuous monitoring and performance across key indoor environmental quality (IEQ) metrics related to indoor air quality, water quality management, lighting measurements, thermal conditions, acoustic performance and occupant experience. The rating is comprised of features from the WELL Building Standard.

Ethos pioneered a Living Lab initiative using its own HQ in Sandyford, Dublin as a testing ground, installing several smart building technologies and sensors that significantly enhance the amount of information that a building can provide. These included sensors for Air Quality, People Counting, Desk Occupancy, Energy Metering and Acoustics. When combined, the data provided allowed the firm to regulate and manage the work environment, providing optimum levels of ventilation, space management and staff engagement.