

NEWSLETTER

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The History of Cast Iron Bob Taylor with McWayne Company

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11TH, 2026

12:00PM-1:00PM LUNCH PROVIDED

THE THIRSTY GOAT

FITCHBURG, WI

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12TH, 2026

12:00PM - 1:00PM

MSOE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS CENTER

ROOM CC-70

1033 NORTH BROADWAY

MILWAUKEE, WI 53202

VISIT ASPEWI.ORG to register

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

BY: JON MILLARD, PE



Someone recently asked me what my favorite project is I've ever worked on. For me, I could easily say it was the Labor & Delivery Unit at a local hospital. I was a few years out of school when I worked on this project at my previous employer. It wasn't the largest project I've ever worked on, but it has turned out to be one of the most rewarding projects I've ever worked on.

There are two main reasons this sticks out in my mind as one of my favorite projects to have worked on. My original reason is that this project had so many existing conditions that made it a unique challenge to make any of the proposed floor plans work on the plumbing side.

This project took place on the second floor of an existing hospital that had been built in the mid 1970's. The original hospital structure utilized a PT slab to support the 2nd floor. This hospital also had an addition which was built shortly after the original construction – this addition utilized precast concrete beams to support that portion of the 2nd floor. I enjoyed overlaying the original 1970's structural plans against the proposed floor plans to determine where new floor penetrations could be made for plumbing.

I then worked closely with a very talented & creative group of medical planners & architects to figure out a floor plan that would meet the needs of the hospital while also allowing plumbing piping to avoid conflicts with the existing structure. We went through many rounds of revising floor plans, mirroring rooms, utilizing rear-outlet toilets where floor-outlet toilets would be placed on top of beams, offsetting waste piping in walls, etc. It was a challenging process at times, but the end result was a very nice birthing center that made hospital staff and expecting families very happy.

The second reason that this is my favorite project is that my family recently got to experience using this facility. In early January, my wife gave birth to a beautiful baby girl at this specific birthing center. While the main focus of our time at the hospital was to welcome our new child into the world, it was also very rewarding for my family to experience firsthand and see the built environment that I played an important role in helping to design.

I'm happy to report that both Mom & Baby are doing well, and we are all enjoying adjusting to this new life!

Upcoming Events

VISIT ASPEWI.ORG TO SIGN UP

NOVEMBER	12th	Lunch Meeting - Madison
	13th	Lunch Meeting - Milwaukee
	13th	Dinner Meeting - Milwaukee
DECEMBER	10th	Lunch Meeting - Madison
	11th	Lunch Meeting - Milwaukee
JANUARY	14th	Lunch Meeting - Madison
	15th	Virtual Meeting - Milwaukee
FEBRUARY	11th	Lunch Meeting - Madison
	12th	Lunch Meeting - Milwaukee
MARCH	11th	Lunch Meeting - Madison
	12th	Lunch Meeting - Milwaukee
APRIL	16th	Joint Technical Seminar & Product Show with PHCC
MAY	13th	Lunch Meeting - Madison
	14th	Lunch Meeting - Milwaukee



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& JOE HERKOWSKI

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LETS GET TECHNICAL WITH VP TECH

BY: JUSTIN MONK, D.E.S.



Is a résumé all it takes?

We've all heard it before: "If you have a great resume, you'll get the job." However, the truth is that while a polished resume is important, it's only the first step in a much larger journey. As a hiring manager, I receive numerous resumes across my desk, and each one represents a potential candidate for a job that could significantly impact their career. The resume is a door opener, it gets the applicant noticed, it sparks curiosity, and even an interview. Most, if not all resumes provide a snapshot of skills, experience and achievements, such as licenses and certifications. But is a resume all it takes? In my opinion, the answer is NO. In today's fast-moving, competitive job market, employers are looking for something deeper, the human behind the paper. We want to see drive, adaptability, the ability to connect with others, and the applicant's vision for their future. Below I share two topics that all hiring managers and applicants should recognize, why a resume isn't enough and how to go beyond the resume.

Why a Resume Isn't Enough

- It's Just the First Impression – A resume is like a handshake, it introduces the applicant, but it doesn't tell the full story.
- Soft Skills Are Game-Changers – Communication, empathy, leadership, and resilience often reveal the person behind the paper.
- Networking Creates Opportunities – Many of the best roles are never posted online to resumes from a job posting. Relationships can open doors that a resume couldn't.
- The Story Matters – What's rememberable are applicants who can share their journey with authenticity and passion.

How to Go Beyond the Resume

- Build a Powerful Online Presence – LinkedIn profile, project portfolio, or personal website should reflect personality, professionalism and expertise.
- Master the Narrative – Stories that highlight problem-solving skills, creativity, and the impact to those around you.
- Engagement with a Professional Industry or Cause – Attendance at events, professional groups, and contributions to the industry matter.
- Follow Up with Intention – A thoughtful note or message can leave a lasting impression.

A resume is a single document that might get the applicant in the room for an interview. Yes, it is essential, but the resumes are just one piece of the puzzle.

To the Applicant, don't just focus on perfecting your resume, but focus on perfecting your presence.

To our Hiring Manager, there might be more discovered by additional investigation of the applicant's previous employer, LinkedIn profile or other methods. Bottom line, the resume is not all it takes to find the right person to fill the right position.

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

BY: RICH DAVISON



Wow fellow ASPE members-

Our Wisconsin chapter is looking strong with over 165 members and counting! Your chapter's growth in the past few years is thanks to your continued support, encouraging new memberships, and taking advantage of the many opportunities to increase your plumbing knowledge and mingle and network with our members.

We learned this morning of the potential 6 more weeks of winter, but the Groundhogs forecast has been known to be inaccurate sometimes. Whichever way it goes, please keep showing up to our great monthly meetings Its always warm inside!

Happy Birthday fellow ASPE members!

Joshua Coppernoll DES

William Darby

Matthew DeLuca

Chad Faber P.E.

Monique Faber P.E.

Robert Hopper

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TOUCHING BASE WITH VP LEGISLATIVE

BY: AARON BOCK, PE



HELLO EVERYONE,

HOPE YOU'RE ALL SURVIVING THE WINTER. SINCE I'M ALWAYS LOOKING FOR TECHNICAL TOPICS THAT TEND TO FLY UNDER THE RADAR, I'D LIKE TO SHARE A FEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM MY LATEST ARTICLE (LOCATED [HERE](#)) ON DECIPHERING GEOTECHNICAL REPORTS.

GEOTECHNICAL REPORTS BAFFLE A LOT OF PLUMBING ENGINEERS, IN HOW TO READ THEM, WHAT TO LOOK FOR, AND WHAT TO DO WITH THE INFORMATION. WHEN YOU RECEIVE A GEOTECHNICAL REPORT, TAKE THE TIME TO READ AND UNDERSTAND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON YOUR PLUMBING SYSTEMS. VERIFY YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THESE IMPLICATIONS WITH YOUR CIVIL AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS TO ENSURE THEY ARE ALIGNED. THESE DISCIPLINES ARE OFTEN MORE FAMILIAR WITH THESE REPORTS AND THEY CAN HELP CLARIFY VAGUE AREAS.

STUDYING THE LANGUAGE AROUND GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS USUALLY GIVES THE BEST INDICATOR OF WHETHER A SUBSOIL DRAINAGE SYSTEM IS NEEDED. SOME GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS MAY BE HESITANT TO OFFER RECOMMENDATIONS ON GROUNDWATER MITIGATION IN THEIR REPORTS, INSTEAD LEAVING THE DETERMINATION TO YOU. THE MOST THOROUGH ONES CLEARLY STATE THESE RECOMMENDATIONS AND GIVE DETAILS ON WHERE THE WATER TABLE NEEDS TO BE BELOW THE STRUCTURE AND FLOOR SLABS TO AVOID ISSUES.

REVIEWING THE SOIL BORING MAP AND SOIL PROFILES AT EACH BORING LOCATION IS ALSO A GOOD EXERCISE TO UNDERSTAND THE GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS AND ELEVATIONS, WHICH ARE NOT ALWAYS CONSISTENT THROUGHOUT A SITE. SOME AREAS MAY REQUIRE SUBSOIL DRAINAGE WHILE OTHERS CAN BE LEFT ALONE, AND WHERE THE BUILDING SITS IS ALSO A FACTOR. TAKE NOTE OF WHAT ELEVATION GROUNDWATER WAS ENCOUNTERED AT EACH SOIL BORING, DETERMINE WHERE IT SITS RELATIVE TO BUILDING FLOOR SLABS, STRUCTURE, AND ELEVATOR PITS, AND SEE IF THERE IS ENOUGH CLEARANCE BETWEEN THEM TO MEET THE REPORT'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

IN ADDITION TO GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS, SITE SOIL TYPES ARE ANOTHER IMPORTANT FACTOR TO CONSIDER FROM THE REPORT, SPECIFICALLY IF THE NATIVE SOILS ARE EXPANSIVE. IF EXPANSIVE SOILS ARE PRESENT, THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT TYPICALLY STATES THIS IN THE GEOTECHNICAL OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSES THEM MORE IN THE EARTHWORK SECTION. THESE SECTIONS MAY ALSO GIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM. AS WITH DETERMINING GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS, YOU SHOULD REVIEW THE SOIL BORING MAP AND SOIL PROFILES THROUGHOUT THE SITE TO DETERMINE WHERE THESE MIGHT BE ENCOUNTERED.

IT IS BEST THAT THE BUILDING OWNER—NOT YOUR FIRM—BE THE ONE TO HIRE THE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER, AS IT TRANSFERS THE RISK AWAY FROM YOU. IF YOU ARE IN A POSITION ON YOUR PROJECT TEAM TO INFLUENCE THIS DECISION, BE SURE TO PUSH FOR IT. ASK FOR GEOTECHNICAL REPORTS EARLY IN THE PROJECT, AS THEY CAN HAVE SIZEABLE IMPLICATIONS ON DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

LASTLY, FEB. 28 IS THE LAST DAY TO SUBMIT A PRESENTATION FOR THE CONVENTION AND EXPO IN OKLAHOMA CITY. IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE IT BEFORE, GETTING ON THAT STAGE IS A GREAT WAY TO GET YOUR NAME OUT IN THE INDUSTRY AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE IN OUR SOCIETY.

PRESENTER'S CORNER

BY: BRIAN GOGLIA



This month our spotlight is on Bob Taylor with The McWayne Plumbing Group. Bob is the Divisional Manager of Codes & Standards.

What is the importance of ASPE (American Society of Plumbing Engineers) to your company?

ASPE has always been an incredible engine to interact with the engineering community and add opportunities to educate them on product capabilities.

What three items would you like engineers and designers to take away from your presentation?

A better understanding of the cast iron DWV system. An appreciation as to WHY we need a sanitary system for public health. And the value of sustainable and solid building materials for their projects.

What additional tools does your company provide that helps engineers solve problems?

We offer Revit and AutoCAD drawings of our fittings to help engineers and designer with their projects. We also offer Declare certificates should an owner want a “green” building. We also have a large and incredibly responsive and talented team throughout the country available to assist when product questions arise.

Are there any codes or updates that the engineering community should be aware of when dealing with your products or product category?

With the introduction of epoxy coatings on cast iron to extend system life, it is important to note that there are no new standards an engineer/designer needs to add to their specification.



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