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## **Strategic Initiatives & Innovation Committee Activity Report June 2008-November 2008**

### ***Breakthrough Innovation Office***

The SII Committee convened on September 10-11, 2008, in Alexandria, Virginia, for a facilitated retreat to build the parameters for the newly established ASME Breakthrough Innovation Office. The retreat addressed agreement of a definition for Breakthrough Innovation; development of criteria and metrics; the requirements to successfully run the program; IP and legal considerations; and the successful launch of the web-based ASME IdeaPort<sup>SM</sup>.

Initial outcomes from the retreat were reported to the Board of Governors during their meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The committee seeks to have the Office and ASME IdeaPort<sup>SM</sup> operational by third quarter, FY09.

### **Center for Engineering Entrepreneurship & Innovation (CEEI)**

#### ***Market Analysis Project, CEEI***

Work has been completed on a CEEI Market Analysis Project to help build the products and services of the Center to address the developing needs in the dynamic area of entrepreneurship. The research centered on students and early career engineers (member and nonmember) through a series of interviews, focus groups, and online surveys. The final report and proposed strategic road map will be delivered to SII committee during their meeting in November 2008 at IMECE.

#### ***ASME IShow***

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ASME IShow is scheduled to be held in conjunction with IMECE on Friday, October 31, 2008, in Boston. Corporate sponsorships have been secured from AEP and Boeing. Additionally, Nate Ball, host of PBS' "Design Squad," will emcee the competition which highlights ten student teams pitching the commercial viability of their innovation for for seed funds and industry recognition.

Student team solicitation is under way for the 2009 ASME IShow, scheduled for June 13, 2009, in conjunction with the ASME Annual Meeting. A proposal has been submitted to the ASME Foundation to secure funding for the 2009 event. Additionally, initial exploratory work has begun to gauge the feasibility of an IShow competition in India in 2010.

#### ***Content Partners, CEEI***

Staff and volunteers are working to establish formal criteria and metrics for establishing partnerships with outside organizations. CEEI currently has agreements with four groups that offer products and services related to innovation and entrepreneurship, with royalties paid to ASME on products purchased via ASME.org. This material is currently being vetted to ensure that it supports the overall mission of the Center and offers high value and impact to ASME members and external customers.

### **Webinar Series, CEEI**

Initial planning has been initiated to produce a bi-monthly webinar series in spring 2009 highlighting topics and leaders in the area of innovation and entrepreneurship. Volunteers and staff have been solicited for ideas and suggestions as to the best format, demographics and marketing efforts for such a series.

### **2009 ASME Annual Meeting**

Partnering with APQC, an Executive Forum is being developed on “Understanding Breakthrough Innovation,” to be held at the 2009 ASME Annual Meeting in Palm Springs, CA. The forum will address the complex issues surrounding how to foster an environment that clearly identifies breakthrough innovation and supports its development in entrepreneurial terms is critical to corporate competitiveness.

### **Industry Advisory Board**

The Industry Advisory Board participated in the Global Summit on the Future of Mechanical Engineering on April 16-18, 2008 as well as held a private dinner on April 17th. The next IAB meeting is scheduled for December 10-11, 2008, in Washington, DC, and will focus on energy policy in the new administration and ASME’s role.

### **ASME ITI, LLC**

Based on the evolution of the RAMCAP methodology to an all hazards approach to risk management and in part to sector specific work, ASME ITI, LLC secured three SPGFs to be completed this fiscal year:

- Development of a Risk-Based Methodology to Assess Aging Infrastructure
- Development of a Water Security Standard
- Development of a Higher Education Risk Standard
- RAMCAP 3.0

### **Aging Infrastructure**

Numerous industry, risk, and security experts have been recruited to stand on the Aging Infrastructure Working Group Committee. The Committee is tasked to examine the critical issue of deteriorating infrastructures in the United States and develop a comprehensive risk methodology to assess the risks of aging infrastructure and evaluate the benefits and costs of reducing those risks. Issues of advanced technologies (e.g., “self-healing power grid, stress and fatigue sensors on bridges, new materials) and policy will be addressed in the context of assuring the viability and effectiveness of the methodology.

A draft methodology has already been written and sent to the Committee for their review and comment. A workshop is scheduled for early December 2008 with the committee to ensure a comprehensive path forward to develop the methodology.

### **Water Standard**

With the introduction of the “Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2008”, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and ASME ITI have agreed in principle to collaborate on the development of a national standard for water sector facilities based upon the RACAP Sector Specific Guidance for Water Systems. Members of the Standards Committee have been identified and an initial draft of the proposed standard has been developed.

### **Higher Education**

In 2007, American International Group (AIG) awarded ASME-ITI a grant to provide guidance on how best to apply a risk assessment methodology to higher education institutions around the nation. This guidance document was recently peer-edited by the Advisory Committee and is being prepared for publishing.

The grant funding also instituted a partnership between ASME-ITI and Alion Science and Technology to develop an all-hazards risk software. This software has been tested with success at various colleges and universities and is currently being enhanced to make it market-ready.

Currently, ASME-ITI is convening a Standards Committee to help develop RAMCAP Plus for Higher Education into a nationwide standard. The draft standard has already been written and will be distributed to the Standards Committee for their review and comment.

### **RAMCAP Plus, publication and standard**

The draft manuscript of RAMCAP Plus was delivered to ASME Publications in October 2008 for technical review and production with a planned print run of 500 copies in January 2009. Coinciding with the January release of the book, staff are currently developing a communications plan to educate members of Congress, their staff, key Agencies, and other stakeholders on the expanded scope and enhanced value of the RAMCAP Plus process as an all hazards risk assessment tool for critical infrastructure.

Working with Codes & Standards Board on New Business Development, a RAMCAP Standards Committee has been initiated to develop RAMCAP Plus into an ANSI Standard. Draft standard language has been produced by ASME ITI and provided to the Board for action and the working committee is currently being populated.