

Professional development: Finding your way through the maze

Thinking of taking a technical or business course, but don't know what's available or where to find what you want? Many universities and institutes offer continuing engineering education. Following is a list of some of the major providers of continuing engineering education in Canada and the United States.



by **Susanne Frame**

University of Toronto's Professional Development Centre

Through the faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, the University of Toronto's Professional Development Centre offers short seminar courses and evening semester courses that cover a wide area of study, from pavement design and rehabilitation, to engineering management. The centre also provides 12-week courses for those who don't have a bachelor's degree from an accredited engineering program at a Canadian university, and are looking to obtain a professional engineer licence. These courses can be used as preparation for PEO licensure exams.

For more information, visit www.pdc.utoronto.ca, or call 1 (888) 233-8638 to order a course calendar.

University of Wisconsin- Madison's Department of Engineering Professional Development

The Department of Engineering Professional Development allows you to study at your own pace with print-based, computer-based and video correspondence courses. Topics offered cover a wide range of engineering specialties and disaster management.

Visit <http://epdweb.engr.wisc.edu/istudy/>, or call 1 (800) 462-0876 or (608) 262-1735 for more information.

Educational Programs Innovation Center (EPIC)

EPIC offers online and in-house seminars on new technology relevant to civil, electrical, mechanical, chemical, industrial and environmental engineering. But there are

also courses on general engineering topics, such as technical proposal writing, implementing e-commerce technologies and pre-development reviews. EPIC will also customize seminars according to participants' knowledge.

To find out more, go to www.epic-edu.com or call toll-free at 1 (888) 323-6263.

Global Education and Consulting Services

Engineers in all fields can sharpen their skills at Global Education and Consulting Services. Some of the courses offered this fall are indoor air quality, health and safety program auditing, tendering and construction contracting. Courses are held throughout the year, and can be taken in-house or on site.

Log on to www.globalserve.net/~kumarr for more information, or call (905) 501-8128.

Advanced Technology Education Consortium (ATEC)

ATEC's Canadian Microelectronics Canadian Centre provides courses and training programs aimed at people working in telecommunications, software design and programming, biomedical technology, microelectronics and wireless technologies, or moving to the high-tech industry.

Visit www.atec-canada.com, or call (613) 533-6978 for information.

JOT Inc.

Though located in Fredericton, New Brunswick, JOT offers distance learning for courses covering IT, communications and project management. Learn at your own pace by purchasing a Web-based tutorial, or take a virtual class over the Internet.

Go to www.jot.nb.ca for more information, or phone 1 (888) 568-5327.

Canadian Management Centre (CMC)

CMC holds over 80 seminars in many areas

of management—financial, marketing, technology and innovation, purchasing and sales. CMC also offers business courses for those working in government.

Check out www.cmcmai.org to register online, or call (416) 214-5678.

York University's Schulich School of Business

Schulich School of Business offers seminars in management, sales and marketing, business operations and finance. The school also features a two-week executive program, where managers participate in classroom presentations, group computer simulations, case studies and intensive small group discussions. Courses cover areas of strategic management, working with boards of directors, new product marketing and business ethics.

Visit <http://ssb.yorku.ca>, or call (416) 736-5079 for more information.

Queen's MBA for Science & Technology

Queen's one-year program for those in the science and technology sectors has been ranked Canada's best MBA program for the third consecutive year by *Canadian Business* magazine. The program offers training in communication, networking, team building and conflict resolution for technology-driven organizations.

Find out more at <http://business.queensu.ca>, or call (613) 533-2302.

Linking to Ontario universities

Most Ontario universities offer professional development courses. Check out the following part-time studies and continuing education websites for upcoming courses, or go to <http://thenode.org/ocull/contacts.cfm> for hotlinks to these sites.

Brock University
www.brocku.ca

Carleton University
www.carleton.ca/itv/

Lakehead University
www.lakeheadu.ca/~disedwww/
Laurentian University
www.laurentian.ca/www/cce/index.htm
McMaster University
www.mcmaster.ca/conted
Nipissing University
www.unipissing.ca/
Queen's University
www.queensu.ca/cds/

Royal Military College
www.rmc.ca
Ryerson Polytechnic University
<http://ce-online.ryerson.ca/de>
The University of Western Ontario
www.uwo.ca/cstudies/profdevt/
Trent University
www.trentu.ca/jbc
University of Guelph
www.open.uoguelph.ca

University of Ottawa
www.genie.uottawa.ca/edperm
University of Waterloo
<http://dce.uwaterloo.ca>
University of Windsor
www.uwindsor.ca/coned/
Wilfrid Laurier University
www.wlu.ca/~wwwconce/
York University
www.atkinson.yorku.ca/~dce/

Learning from peers:

Engineering training through technical societies

Technical societies have a strong commitment to professional development. Though not every technical society offers courses, most sponsor technical conferences each year. Here are a few societies to bookmark when thinking professional development.

Engineering Institute of Canada (EIC)

When thinking about continuing education and professional development, the EIC is a good place to start. A non-profit organization, EIC promotes lifelong learning for engineering professionals in Canada. Through EIC's website, engineers can link to many technical societies and educational institutes to find out about latest course offerings.

Go to www.eic-ici.ca for more information, or call (613) 547-5989.

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

IEEE Canada's website offers a virtual community for engineers seeking to bolster professional development. Along with direct links to local and international conferences, workshops and seminars, engineers can also access IEEE Canada's digital library.

Visit www.ieee.ca for a list of conferences and calls for papers.

The Petroleum Society

Calgary's Petroleum Society has over 14 courses lined up for this fall. Its website also lists meetings and conferences, and features a list of technical publications.

For more information, log on to www.petsoc.org, or call (403) 237-5112.

The Canadian Medical and Biological Engineering Society (CMBES)

The CMBES continuing education Web

page lists upcoming conferences, discussion papers, publications, courses and symposiums of interest to medical and biological engineers. The site also features a comprehensive page of hotlinks to related biomedical engineering sites.

Search www.cmbes.ca for more information.

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE)

ASHRAE is an international organization that holds professional development seminars throughout the United States and Canada. Courses being held this fall include air system design and retrofit, and water-system design. ASHRAE also offers a self-directed learning program, in which participants complete courses through correspondence. Each course package contains topic discussions and skills development exercises.

To find out more about the program, visit www.ashrae.org, or call either 1 (800) 527-4723 or (404) 636-8400.

National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE)

NACE sponsors courses, conferences and expositions each year for both members and non-members in Canada and the United States. Some topics covered are basic corrosion, protective coatings and linings, corrosion in oil and gas production, and design-

ing for corrosion control. NACE has also developed a coating inspector training and certification program.

For the latest course schedule, go to www.nace.org, or call (281) 228-6200.

Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE)

Some of CSCE's courses geared toward civil engineers this fall are wastewater management, fibre reinforced concrete methods, and restoration and conservation of heritage structures. Check on the website periodically for more courses throughout the year.

For course dates and times, visit www.csce.ca, or call (514) 933-2634.

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

ASCE recently launched an "online university," in which members and non-members can download courses featuring interactive self-study, tutorials and instructor-led classes. ASCE also has opportunities for distance learning through CD-ROM, audiotape and videotape courses, covering areas in construction, forensics, geotechnical, hydraulics and water resources, management, transportation and structural engineering. Also offered are one-day seminars and international conferences.

Search www.asce.org for a complete list of courses, or call (703) 295-6300 for more information.

