

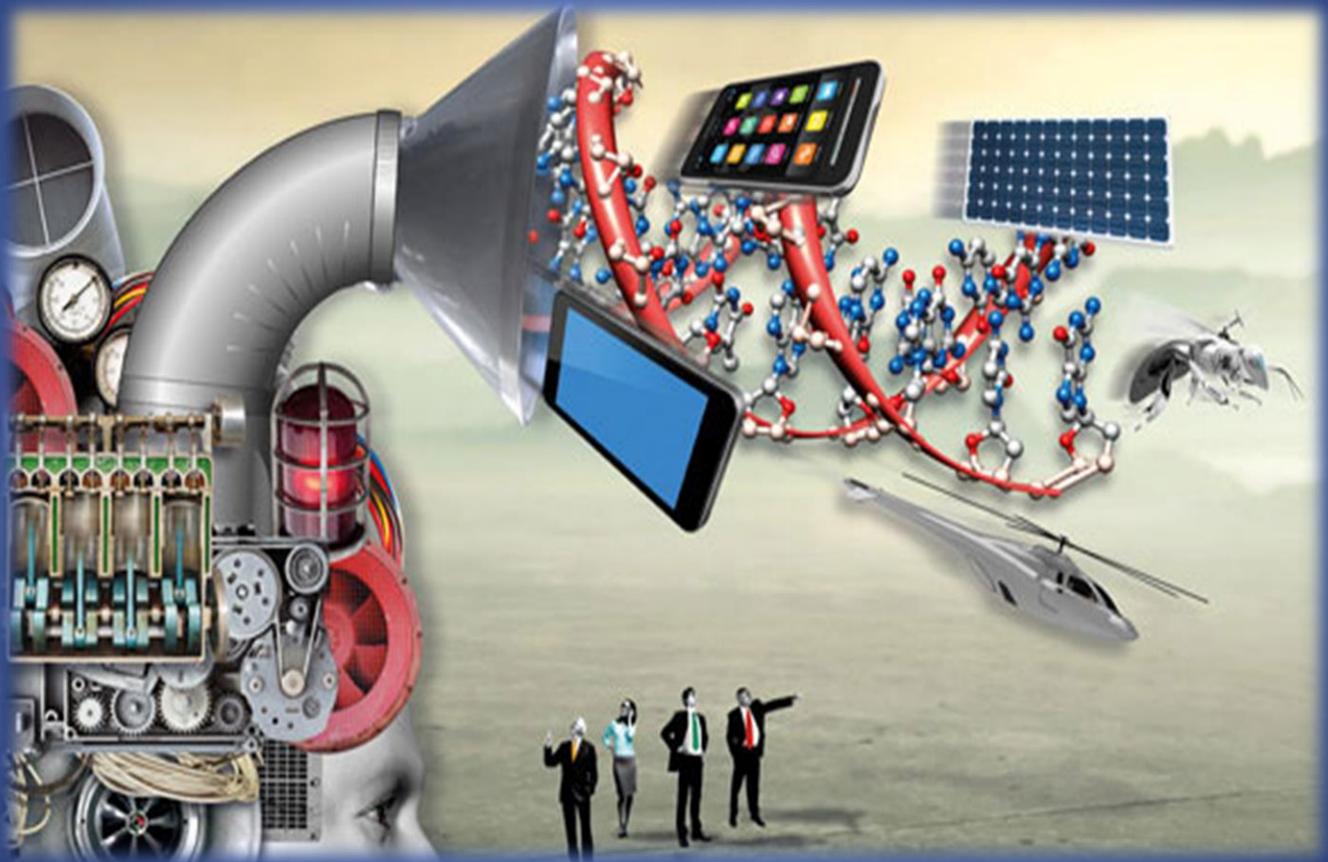
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1952
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GAUTENG SOUTH

ISSUE 2: 6 JULY 2015

Celebrating 60 years of Engineering
Excellence



*EMANCIPATION
OF YOUNG MINDS*

Our generation is not short of icons to mimic or draw inspiration from, yet we seem to be a generation more lost than ever before. This youth month is a reminder of where we come from and how much further we still need to go. 800 million people living in Africa still do not have access to drinking water and in order for that number to be tackled we need more learners taking up careers in the engineering field. This is what the job shadow initiative aims to achieve and we hope that you are doing your part in this initiative to give a learner the experience of 'A day in the life of a Consulting Engineer.' We need a youth that is emancipated from the shackles of poverty and dependence.



We should not stop here though, for it was Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu who said: "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." Only through continually taking part in such initiatives will we reap the rewards. When we stop learning we die, not in the physical sense but our minds cease to be challenged and if there is anything the quiz, hosted by UWP showed us it is that we still have a lot of learning to do. Learning does not only take place in the class room it also takes place through games like these which aim to energize our minds and make us think outside the box. With the upcoming financial talk with SANLAM we also try to make you aware that life planning still needs to happen when our structures and roads are taken care of and we hope that you will benefit from the speakers that we have lined up for this event (see events page).

In this newsletter we also take you on a journey back to some of the events that we have hosted in the past couple of months, if you take a closer look you might even spot yourself in one of the pictures. August is our 30th CESA Relay, a time when we get to meet up with old colleagues while we race them in the Run, Cycle Walk challenge. August is also that time of the year when we have YPF game changing discussions at the annual YPF sustainability Imbizo which takes place on the 11th and 12th of August, make sure you do not miss this event. The Imbizo is followed by an event that celebrates Engineering excellence, the CESA Aon Awards, on a night where we dust off the chinos and polish the safety boots (or leave them at home) to award the best of the best in the industry.

We urge you to take part in this Mandela day with our #YPFRAOK (YPF Random Acts of Kindness) challenge and send us pictures to be featured in our next newsletter. Get coffee for a hard working colleague, read to a child, help the elderly, take a learner in to shadow you for a day, buy a meal for a stranger just make the world a little better, if only for a moment. Remember to follow us on Twitter, Facebook or send us an email.

There has been great support from regular attendees of the Gauteng South events, but also from graduates who would like to know more about the YPF, so we have added a feature on what the YPF do because it is only through your assistance that we will be able to become a youth that is remembered for changing our country.

Wishing you a powerful youth month!

Keamogetswe Mmekwa

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WHO ARE WE?



CESA AND CESA YPF OVERVIEW

There has been an overwhelming number of Young Professionals (including new graduates) who have been asking about the role of CESA's Young Professionals Forum and the mandate that we are meant to fulfil, how you qualify to be a member and the benefits from being a YPF member.

1) What is CESA?

CESA Stands for Consulting Engineers South Africa

2) What do they do?

"Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) is a non-profit organisation and the '**Proud Voice of Consulting Engineering in South Africa**'. CESA represents for its members, a body that promotes their joint interests and, because of its standing, provides quality assurance for clients. Over 520 firms employing 23 550 staff are members of CESA" (Adapted from www.cesa.co.za)

3) How does (CESA) YPF fit into this?

The Young Professionals Forum (YPF) of the Consulting Engineers of South Africa (CESA) consists of Young Professionals who are passionate about the engineering industry and are interested in ensuring the sustainability and promotion of the profession.

4) How do I join the YPF and is there a membership fee?

Go to: <http://www.cesa.co.za/node/105> fill in the application form and you will be kept up to date with the latest industry news as well as the latest YPF events and YPF discussions.

Membership is free if your company is a CESA member firm. The benefits of being a YPF member is that you contribute to sustaining the profession by taking part in conversations and networking with like minded people. The YPF approach is a holistic one that believes in the power of networking. Our events do not only focus on engineering (exposing you to courses through the School of Consulting Engineering), but also events where conversations that shape the industry take place, such as at the annual Sustainability Imbizo and Debating events. We also host sporting events and challenge our minds through quizzes, shape our pockets through collaborations with financial companies and celebrate engineering excellence at the CESA AON engineering excellence awards.

5) More about the YPF:

The Young Professionals Forum (YPF) of the Consulting Engineers of South Africa (CESA) was established in 2004 after it was noted that there was a migration of qualified YP's to other industries as well as a huge age gap between experienced senior engineers and junior engineers. The YPF consists of YP's who are passionate about the engineering industry and are interested in ensuring the sustainability and promotion of the profession. This is achieved through various activities and events hosted by the various branches in all 9 provinces.

Where can I find my nearest branch?

There are 11 YPF branches in the country namely: Eastern Cape Boarder Kei and PE, Free State, Gauteng North (Pretoria), Kwazulu Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West Northern Cape, Western Cape and if you are reading this you are most likely Gauteng South (Midrand, Greater Johannesburg and the East Rand).

YPF SOUTH GAUTENG OVERVIEW

The Gauteng South branch takes great pride in the strides we have made over the years and we believe that we can be an even better region with your assistance. We would like you to contribute to articles or share ideas on events you think we can host that are aligned with the mandate that the YPF is meant to fulfill.

Quick facts about the South Gauteng branch:

- **First established:** 2006.
- **Branch Chair:** Keamogetswe Mmekwa.
- **Deputy Chair:** Erick Mulaudzi.
- **Immediate Past Chair:** Qaqambile Ngumbela.
- **Current Committee Members:** 5
- **Number of newsletters released each year:** 4 (one every quarter)

You can get in touch with us via the following social media platforms:

- **TWITTER:** @YPFSouthgauteng
- **FACEBOOK:** CESA-YPF
- **EMAIL:** ypfsouthgauteng@gmail.com

~By: Keamogetswe Mmekwa (PHB Engineers) and Yankho Banda (MPA Consulting Engineers)

PAST Newsletters:

The content can be found at: <http://www.cesa.co.za/node/53>





GAMA CONFERENCE

Accra (Ghana)

GAMA is the Group of African Member Associations of FIDIC (The international Federation of Consulting Engineers) is a body to which member organizations such as CESA form part of. Every year, member organizations in Africa get together at the Annual GAMA Conference to gauge the state of the consulting engineering industry in Africa and to come up with solutions to issues plaguing the industry. This year the GAMA conference was held in Accra the capital city of Ghana.



This year 18 countries, including South Africa were represented and took part in the theme of the conference: *“Developing & Sustaining Africa’s Infrastructure – Promoting African Consulting Engineering Partnerships.”* The conference curtain was raised to native Ghanaian dancers performing a piece to mark the opening after which the President of GAMA officially opened the conference. Mr Pablo Bueno, the outgoing FIDIC President gave a highlight on FIDIC’s member associations and reminded the delegates on the three (3) qualities of FIDIC which are: Quality, Integrity and Sustainability. He then proceeded to give statistics on the situation faced by the people on the African continent such as:

- There are 8 billion people on the continent of Africa but very little have access to infrastructure.
- 800 million people still do not have access to drinking water.
- 2.5 billion people are not connected to a sewer network.
- 1.5 billion people do not have toilets.
- 1.3 billion people have no infrastructure or proper housing.
- Africa has half the world’s gold reserves, a third of the world’s diamond, oil, coal and other minerals.
- Africa has 60% of uncultivated land and more cell phone users than Europe or the United States yet,
- The average age in Africa is 20 compared to Europe’s 40 and
- Africa is still the poorest continent.

He stated that the World Economic Forum reckons that in order to achieve our infrastructure needs, the annual infrastructure investment needs to be tripled in order to double the world’s GDP and that it needs to remain this way for 20 years. As alarming as these statistics are, there is hope and a lot of work still needs to be done as Mr Bueno put it *“Consulting Engineers need to be involved from planning, to design and construction.”*



GAMA CONFERENCE

Accra (Ghana) cont.

The President spoke about relooking at our procurement assessment criteria worldwide and partnering with each other to improve the statistics in Africa. Mr Bueno left these words to all in attendance: *'Africa should be at the forefront of their own development as much still needs to be happen in Africa'*

The YP's were also represented with YP's from various countries giving presentations such Pastor Albert Ocran who presented on Engineering Excellence and our very own National YPF Chair Jeshika Rachmund Moonsamy who took to the podium to share her view of the procurement of Consulting Engineering services. The South African CESA delegation consisted of six (6) YP's, CESA client liaison official Godfrey Ramalisa, past President Naren Bhojaram as well incumbent President Abe Thela and Acting CEO Wally Mayne.

The Conference was a great networking opportunity where lasting contacts were made using the "poken" (virtual handshake) and created an opportunity for future partnerships.

~By: Keamogetswe Mmekwa (PHB Engineers)





THE GREAT DEBATE AT ZITHOLE

“Engineers should be required to conduct community service in order to be eligible for Professional Registration.”

This was the topic that set the tone for the 2nd Inaugural Great Debate hosted by Zitholele Golder Associates on 26 March 2015. The evening got off to a great start with the “ship” being steered by our lively, active and funny MC Mr Terrence Modiba who got the creative juices of the audience flowing whilst the debaters went to prepare their arguments. This topic was fitting as most YP’s know (you will now if you didn’t), registering professionally is becoming integral in our industry as per the **Engineering Profession Act, 2000 (Act No. 46 of 2000)** which makes it compulsory to register so as to protect the public from unprofessional practices by individuals who are not accountable for their actions.



MC for the evening: Mr T. Modiba

The Teams **FOR** the motion: *Engineers **should** conduct community service in order to be eligible for Professional Registration* and **AGAINST** the motion: *Engineers **should not** conduct community service in order to be eligible for Professional Registration* were drawn randomly from a hat in which the names of the brave debaters were placed.

FOR the motion Team	AGAINST the motion Team
Sonwabe Nongogo - PHB Engineers	Haneem Hendricks - MPA Consulting
Sisanda Dyubhele - Jeffares & Green	Tumelo Thothela - UWP Consulting
Nothando Khumalo - Aurecon	Steward Twala - NECSA



Team FOR the motion: Sonwabe Nongogo (left), Nothando Khumalo (middle) and Sisanda Dyubhele (right)



Team AGAINST the motion: Ms H. Hendricks (left), Mr T. Thothela (middle) and Mr S. Twala (right)



THE GREAT DEBATE AT ZITHOLE

Both teams raised good and valid points to argue their case and this is a summary of those arguments;

Summary of the “FOR” argument:	Summary of the “AGAINST” argument:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •It is better to bring back senior experienced engineers back to municipalities from private sector so that they can mentor young engineers. •Conducting community service will help engineers in delivering the required services to the community as they will be working on the ground. •This will be a step in the right direction to correcting the issues currently being experienced in our government departments such as individuals with no Engineering background making decisions on engineering projects. •Junior Engineers will be protected from signing off on designs as they lack the required experience which in turn ensures reduced loss of lives due to poor designs. •Consultants will act as mentors to the juniors until such time that they prove they are competent to do so. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Professional Registration is a legislation that has been put in place to ensure incompetent individuals do not get the status without understanding the consequences. •Government departments are not an ideal learning environment for a junior engineer as these departments are filled with Project and Procurement Managers but little to no Engineers. This means the best experience a junior engineer will get is how to deal with politicians. •Junior Engineers will not get the required design experience to ensure they can be declared competent. •At Municipal level, a junior engineer will not be taught how to design and “think outside the box” as per the NQF 7 requirements instead they will be taught to listen to others e.g. Contractor.



The teams preparing their answers for questions raised by audience members



THE GREAT DEBATE AT ZITHOLE

Summary of the “FOR” argument:	Summary of the “AGAINST” argument:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to give incentives to senior engineers to make them want to return to municipalities so as to enforce a positive change in our communities as some projects come from government. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community service applies to doctors as they are at the forefront of hospitals. Government departments are not at the forefront for engineers. • Government is already under strain and battling to obtain materials and funding so how will they be able to obtain funding to support a young Engineer?

In closing the **FOR** team argued that as YP's we need to stop complaining and start taking the country back and shaping it into the type of country we want for ourselves and future generations. The apartheid government had infrastructure systems that worked because they had engineers within them. This meant that resources were not outsourced and the issues were better understood thus appropriate solutions were put in place as the technical skills were already in-house. The lack of service and infrastructure delivery would be addressed tendering prices would not be so exorbitant as there would be less “competition” and useless expenditure would be reduced as engineers could monitor and ensure money is spent correctly as we are trained to be neutral and less influenced by political interests.

Whilst the **AGAINST** team argued that ECSA requirements are technical to ensure certain outcomes are met by individuals which cannot be met at government level. Currently government departments and municipalities have no qualified mentors so how can a junior engineer become a professional engineer? The team also argued that sending in a junior engineer to deal with political issues can have serious consequences as the loss of lives is greater in the engineering sector than in the medical sector (i.e. a doctor kills one person if he makes an error unlike an engineer). Also there is no link between community service and professional registration.

Both teams made compelling arguments which could have swayed the audience in either direction irrespective of their initial stance. However, after the blood, sweat (literally) and fierce fist thumping on the podium there can only be one winner and the honours for this year's Inaugural Great Debate went to....*drum roll please"...the **FOR** the motion team!!

In conclusion the debate was a success (as it has come to be expected from the SG branch) and it highlighted the noble aims that government and the engineering fraternity are putting in place to ensure that responsible and competent individuals become registered as these would be individuals who are prepared to be scrutinized by their peers should they conduct themselves improperly.

We as CESA YPF SG would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the audience (yes we appreciate each and everyone of you), the brave debaters (it takes guts to stand in front of an audience and argue a point that sometimes even you disagree with), our hosts Zitholele Golder Associates and lastly our judges; Mrs Tracy Atti from Sanlam, Dr. Lucas Ebels from UWP and Mr Nevin Rajasakran from Zitholele Golder Associates



THE GREAT DEBATE AT ZITHOLE

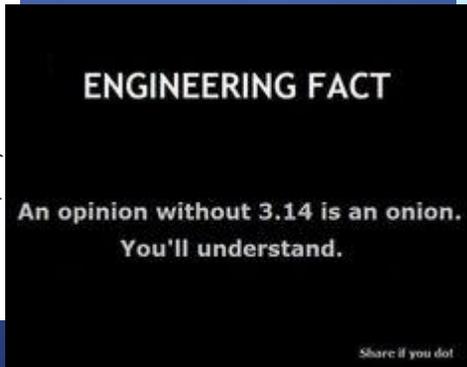
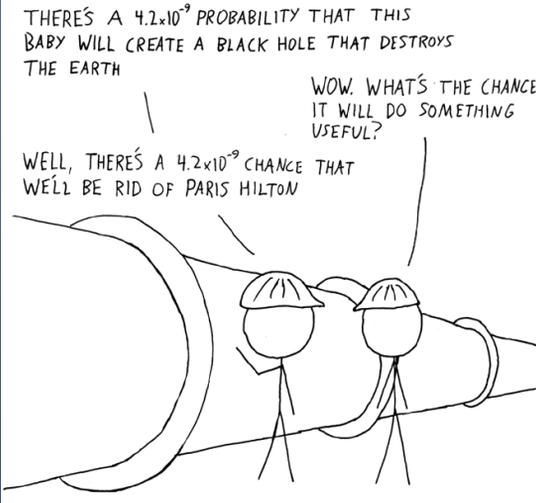
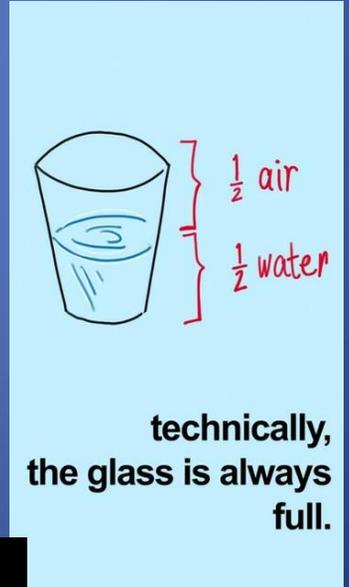
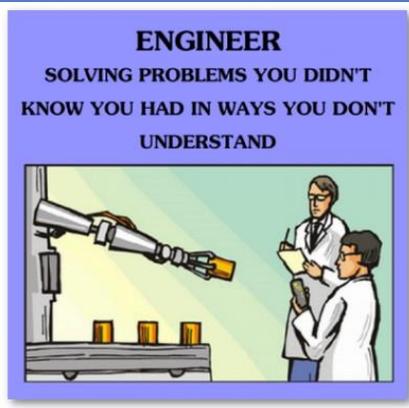


The reason why YPF SG strives for excellence, our supportive audience



Judges for the night: Mrs T. Atti (left), Mr N. Rajasakran (middle) and Dr L. Ebels (right)

FUNNIES:





QUIZ NIGHT CHALLENGE AT BRYANSTON COUNTRY CLUB

Thursday the 18th June 2015 marked the date for the first ever Quiz Night proudly hosted by UWP Consulting in conjunction with CESA YPF: Gauteng South branch (CESA YPF:GS). To peak interest for the event, UWP tendered challenge's to all the affiliated Consulting Engineering companies to enter teams of four (4) members. Each team was to then represent their respective companies on the night of the Quiz for the honour of being crowned **Quiz Masters 2015**. UWP had initially planned on hosting the event at their Bryanston Offices, but due to the overwhelming response from the Gauteng South Young Professionals (YP's), they had no other option but to hire a larger venue and what could be larger and more prestigious than the Bryanston Country club to meet the caliber of this event.

Like tax seasons and Edgars store invoices, the night arrived with mixed emotions of dread and anticipation by all in attendance. Individual team members trickled into the venue at a Poisson distributed rate of arrival and exchanged pleasantries with their fellow YP's (and competition) whilst all holding on to the shared premonition of victory. Ms Keamogetswe Mmekwa (CESA YPF:GS Chair Lady) and Dr Lucas Ebels (UWP) gave a warm welcome to all the delegates and introduced the facilitator for the night, Mr Quinten Smith from the "*Republic of the Western Cape*" (to paraphrase his own words). The evening got off to a sizzling start, with a total of 12 teams taking part on the night. The quiz had five (5) rounds each round consisting of two (2) categories such as; History, Geography, Current Affairs and General Knowledge but to name a few . As the night progressed, it became seemingly evident that some members had overstated their abilities, and that the relationship between reality and fantasy was inversely proportional on a logarithmic scaled graph. Some teams showed up, and some teams showed off; but like the Highlander, in the end... *pause for dramatic effect*... **THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE**. The finals scores were as follows:

1. The Ogressive Ogres (**Jeffares and Green**)
2. Cunning Stunts (**Mott MacDonald**)
3. Gibblets (**Gibb**)
4. Dempsey Naidoo's Angels (**Mott MacDonald**)
5. The Other Sudan (**Randwater 1**)
6. Coming from behind (**SRK**)
7. Hard hatters (**WSP**)
8. Hype (**UWP**)
9. Gibb A (**Gibb**)
10. Blah Blah YP's (**mixed attendees**)
11. South Sudan (**Randwater 2**)
12. Land mines (**Aurecon**)

As can be expected, Jeffares and Green were declared the victors, much to mummies of "match-fixing" and other Eskom themed slates (disclaimer: to avoid claims of perjury, I think it is prudent to mention at this point that the author happens to be in the employ of Jeffares and Green, but Royalty is indeed Royalty even by any other name).

As it has come to be expected, the night was definitely a gleaming highlight on the CESA YPF SG Branch Calendar and set the bar exceptionally high for future Quiz Night Challenges. We would like to take this opportunity to thank UWP for organizing and hosting the event. All in attendance agreed that despite the initial nerves, the night was an enjoyable way to unwind after a long day at the office.

~By: **Sisanda Dyubhele (Jeffares & Green)**

QUIZZ NIGHT CHALLENGE AT BRYANSTON COUNTRY CLUB



Welcome by CESA YPF
SG Chair:
Ms Keamogetswe
Mmekwa



“Republic of the Western Cape”
resident and Quiz Master:
Mr Quinten Smith



Welcome by UWP Representative:
Dr Lucas-Jan Ebels



Eager team members ready to prove and crown their respective companies as “Quiz Masters”



The Winning Team: The Oggressive Ogres
from J&G



The Runner's up: Cunning Stunts
from Mott MacDonald

FUTURE EVENTS:

JULY 2015

16 July: Sanlam Financial Talk

AUGUST 2015

9 August: National Women's Day
 11-12 August: Sustainability Imbizo
 12 August: CESA AON Engineering Excellence Awards
 29 August: CESA Relay

SEPTEMBER 2015

17 September: Brain of Brain (North Gauteng vs South Gauteng)
 24 September: Heritage Day

July						
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30	31					

September						
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26	27	28	29	30		

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CESA Aon
Engineering Excellence Awards
2015

12 August 2015



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