



SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:

- SPED Annual General Business Meeting and Corporate Member Showcase
- PPD Level I and Level III Exam—Bechtel, Dec 11th

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SPED Update December 2008

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DECEMBER 2008

SPED 2008 Annual General Business Meeting and Corporate Member Showcase, Dec 3rd

SPED's 2008 Annual General Business Meeting is December 3, 6-10pm, at the Omni Houston Hotel Westside will have seven exhibitors at the **Corporate Member Showcase**: AVEVA, Bechtel, COADE, Foster Wheeler, Piping Technologies and Products, SNC-LAVALIN and Technip. The **Corporate Member Showcase** allows SPED's Corporate Members a chance to profile their piping related products and services.

The Annual General Business Meeting allows SPED Members to hear a report on the activities and plans for the organization. Members enjoy networking with other pipers about the profession and current work.

The **Corporate Member Showcase** is a new addition to the annual meeting consisting of table top and show exhibits. EPC Corporate Members will profile their projects and how pipers are used to design and maintain process plants. Software Vendor Corporate Members are expected to show the latest software used to design those plants. "This marks the first time that SPED Corporate Members can illustrate just how broad the opportunities are in the Piping Profession," said William G. Beazley, SPED Executive Director, "There isn't any other exhibit or program focused directly on the Piping Designer."

Attendees are required to be SPED Corporate Member Employees, Professional Members or Student Members in good standing. The program is awarded 3 Professional Development Units for PPD Renewal.

The speaker is James F. Davis, P.E., Senior Director, Midstream Services, SNC-LAVALIN Engineers and Constructors. The topic "**CAPITAL PROJECT ACTIVITY AMIDST THE MARKET TURMOIL**" will touch on the driving forces impacting the capital project market and what might be some forward looking scenarios.

Registration is available for purchase online at the 2008 Showcase webpage at <http://www.spedweb.com/spedwebpublic/Products/showcase.asp> or you may contact: Linda Hunter, SPED Member Services, spedasst@spedweb.com, 832-286-3404.



SPED Completes First PPD Piper BootCamp

SPED has successfully completed its first PPD Piper BootCamp training course, hosted by AMEC Paragon. The course is specifically designed to prepare students to pass the Professional Piping Designer Level I Exam. The course concluded with the PPD Level I Exam.

To prepare for the PPD Level I Exam, the course covered 18 topics:

- 01a-Introduction to Process Plant Design
- 01b-Design Phases & Information
- 02a-Pipe Manuf & Fab
- 03a-Pipe Assembly
- 03b Typical Spool ISOs
- 04-Pipe and Weld Materials
- 06a-Valve Types & Applications
- 06b-Self-Actuated Valves
- 06c-Valve Selection and Use
- 08a-Pump Selection
- 08b-Pump Layout
- 09-Instrumentation
- 11a-Pipe Routing
- 11b-Pipe Racks
- 02-Pipe Layout Specification
- 05-Pipe Supports & Hangers
- 14-Pressure Vessels
- 16a-Pipe Stress and B31-3
- 12-CAD
- PPD Review & Test



Dr. Beazley seated next to the screen, discusses a Typical Fabrication ISO to students. The course was held at AMEC Paragon, Houston, Texas.

The course (PPD Piper BootCamp) is specifically designed to prepare students to pass the Professional Piping Designer Level I Exam.



SPED Piper BootCamp Student with Certificates, AMEC Paragon

19 Students completed the course and took the PPD Level I Exam.

SPED is planning to offer the PPD BootCamp in late January, 2009. For more information, contact: Amy Voss-Foster at spedasst@spedweb.com or 713-718-8086.

SPED Exhibits at AVEVA 2008 ISEIT Americas Conference

SPED Exhibited at the 2008 International Symposium for Engineering IT (ISEIT) Americas Conference. AVEVA is a leading vendor of Plant Design Solutions worldwide. "AVEVA has been a SPED Corporate Member for close to two decades," said William Beazley, SPED Executive Director. "We are happy to support their meeting and explain SPED's programs for Piping Professionals."



Richard Longdon, Chief Executive, AVEVA 2008 ISEIT Americas Conference, Austin, TX

"AVEVA has been a SPED Corporate Member for close to two decades," said William Beazley, SPED Executive Director.

ISEIT continues to be one of the most important annual events for professionals and business managers involved in the complete lifecycle of process and power plant assets. It brings together senior executives from both EPC and Owner Operator companies to network and discuss the opportunities offered by the latest engineering IT developments.

Richard Longdon, Chief Executive, AVEVA, gave a very upbeat analysis of the market for Process Plant Design Services. Fresh from presentations for analysts, Longdon, said, "Six months ago they said I was in all the right businesses, now they tell me I'm in all the wrong businesses." In slide after slide, Longdon laid out the inevitable increases in demand that will drive the need for plant design products and services.

For more information, contact: Jennifer Z. Lozier, Head of Marketing for The Americas, AVEVA Inc, 10370 Richmond Ave, Houston, TX. 77042, Direct (832) 204-5597, Mobile (713) 231-4212, jennifer.lozier@aveva.com, www.aveva.com



Andrea Macejak, SPED Manager of Operations, 2008 ISEIT Americas, Austin, TX

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Reduced Rates for SPED Corporate Members.

Contact the SPED Office for Details.

Lee College Planning Program Innovations as CAD Students Ponder Market, SPED Certification

"If DeDe Griffith and her team are successful, the Lee College program will be the first of its kind to train piping designers to industry consensus standards of knowledge and ability and capable of becoming PPD certified." Dr. Beazley, SPED Executive Director

Lee College is considering a major restructuring of its course content to better align with industry needs and SPED Certification. Under the direction of DeDe Griffith, Lead Instructor of the CADD / Engineering Technology Department, Lee College is proposing a Process Piping Design Program that contains several innovations to better prepare students.

William G. Beazley, SPED Executive Director, addressed Lee College CAD majors on the value of a full two year Associate Degree and SPED Certification. He pointed out that most firms prefer Piping Designers possess both credentials before employment or soon thereafter. Some firms are even requiring 4 year degrees in either Engineering or Engineering Technology.

Ms. Griffith has assembled a faculty team to propose a curriculum better satisfying a pipers higher levels of responsibility. Lee College has a unique set of resources, including process, pipe fitting and CAD labs, supported by highly talented and dedicated faculty. Ms. Griffith's team is planning to incorporate fabrication, engineering mechanics, materials, process, laser scanning and other technologies into the program. These resources will also enhance departments and programs now allied with her advance piping design content.

Says Dr. Beazley, "If DeDe Griffith and her team are successful, the Lee College program will be the first of its kind to train piping designers to industry consensus standards of knowledge and ability, capable of becoming PPD certified. I am certain it will become a huge resource to the surrounding community, the state of Texas and the entire country." Lee College is a member of the SPED Educational Consortium.

For more information, contact, DeDe Griffith, Lead Instructor, CADD / Engineering Technology Department, Lee College, P.O. Box 818, Baytown, Texas 77522-0818, (281) 425-6518, DGriffit@lee.edu.



Dr. Beazley talks with CAD Students at Lee College about the Process Piping Market and PPD Certification.

AVEVA Showcases Powerful New AVEVA NET Release at Industry Events Worldwide

AVEVA (LSE: AVV), the leading provider of plant and marine design and engineering lifecycle solutions, has presented the latest release of its AVEVA NET technology at a number of high-profile industry events across the world and will shortly be showcasing it in the US at Daratech 2009.

AVEVA NET enables designers and constructors to freely access a plant's underlying 3D model, together with documentation and fabrication drawings, as required. This results in a better quality model which, in turn, saves considerable time in construction.

AVEVA NET Cont.

AVEVA NET also enables plant operators to maximize safety and productivity through providing access to mission critical data including real-time plant operating information. Working with companies such as Data Systems & Solutions (DS&S) and ISS Group Ltd has enabled AVEVA NET to deliver sophisticated monitoring and management of vital real-time plant information and KPI's. Through AVEVA NET, plant operators can track plant performance characteristics and other "vital statistics" which can be made constantly visible on-screen, alongside all other types of information.

The new release also features extensive collaboration and work process management capabilities. These enable AVEVA's customers and partners to develop solutions which integrate and control the processes used to manage information content and flows within their business. These capabilities encompass workflow management, configuration management, impact assessment, management of change, and a range of other features designed to ensure information integrity and optimise business processes.

AVEVA NET extends and enhances the information management capabilities that were first developed in AVEVA's VNET solution, which has been proven in multiple customer deployments since 2003.

Who needs AVEVA NET?

AVEVA NET addresses a key concern for Owner Operators, engineering designers and EPCs alike, namely the ability to view, manage and actively exploit information from many disparate sources.

AVEVA NET is an application-neutral environment – it doesn't matter where data comes from, what format it is in, or which program created it, AVEVA NET harmonises it into one common format, which can then be made useful to a host of different applications and different types of user across all of the project phases.

Derek Middlemas, Executive Vice President Business Strategy at AVEVA, explained: "We laid down a roadmap to put intelligent, fully managed collaboration within our customers' reach. AVEVA NET now delivers on that promise. For example, through AVEVA NET, applications can interpret and enforce the management of change process; they can flag up the consequences of a component that's about to fail; they can issue a challenge if a work package is assigned to an individual who is not qualified in that area of work. AVEVA NET works automatically across teams, departments, offices, countries and continents, organising and adding value to digital information according to each user organisation's needs."

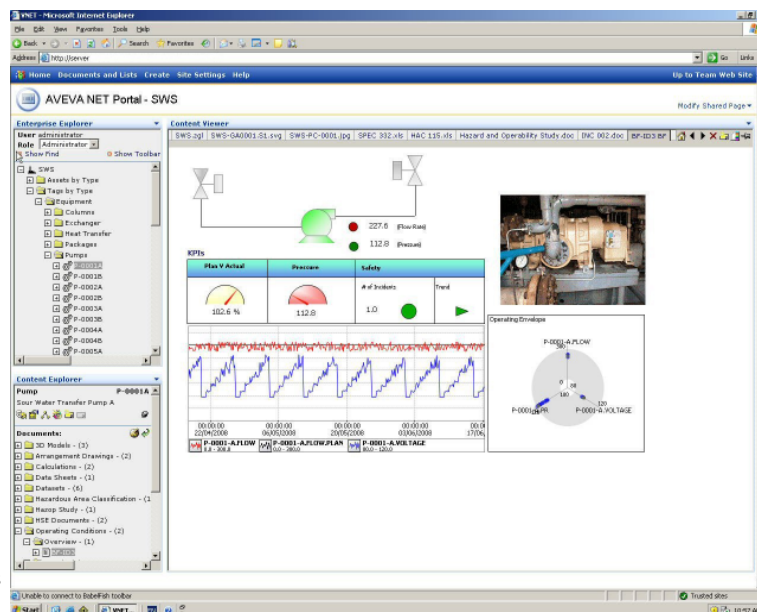
For further information, please contact:

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About AVEVA Group plc

AVEVA Group plc is one of the world's foremost and fastest-growing lifecycle engineering IT solutions and services providers to the oil and gas, paper and pulp, power, chemical, pharmaceutical and shipbuilding industries. Listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE:AVV), the Group reported pre-tax profits for the year ended March 2008 of GBP 45 million on revenues of GBP 127.6 million. The Group has grown consistently since 1967 on the strength of pioneering engineering technology that protects the information assets of its customers from the volatile nature of the IT industry.

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AVEVA NET shown here integrating information from many different sources, including hot spotted P&IDs, real-time instrumentation data and KPIs, and photographic, as-built data. AVEVA NET enables disparate data to be made universally visible but also to be controlled, supporting processes like impact assessment, workflow management, and so on.

SPED to Offer Reduced Rate PPD Testing to Corporate Member Employees and Prospects

Houston, TX December 3, 2008. The SPED Board of Directors has approved a new benefit for its SPED Corporate Members: Any Corporate Member (CM) in good standing may nominate anyone for PPD testing at a reduced rate at the SPED Houston Office. Testing must take place during normal business hours.

For nominees not able to come to the Houston Office, the reduced rate still applies for testing proctored at their site or at a SPED Certified PPD Testing Center. Testing candidates can only be referred by the CM Point of Contact or their designated representative.

The reduced rate for PPD testing is \$100 billable to the CM. Once the test is successfully passed, the applicant can apply for PPD certification at the Level he qualifies for a reduced rate of \$100, also billable to the CM.

"This is another benefit we provide exclusively to our Corporate Members," said Jack Belden, SPED President. "This provides an easy way for companies to assess their staff's credentials for hiring or advancement."

The CM benefits in 2 ways:

1. CM can use PPD exam to upgrade and/or credential their staff for promotional purposes.
2. If used for new hires, PPD exam can be used for 3rd party qualification of candidate.

"If the piper passes the PPD Exam, says Bill Beazley, SPED Executive Director, "they can apply for PPD Certification. After their application is approved, they Certification can be made public." Normally, SPED does not release test numerical scores but will disclose numerical grade to 3rd parties with a signed release of test taker.

How SPED benefits:

1. Increased testing revenue.
2. More Certified Pipers.
3. Wider recognition of PPD Certification.
4. Increased interest in SPED PPD classes (BootCamp, PPL).

SPED will make this new benefit available immediately. Test candidates need only arrive at the SPED office, present their ID and take an on-line test. The test is automatically graded and the answers emailed to SPED.

For more information, contact: Andrea C. Macejak, SPED Manager of Operations, at spedexec@spedweb.com or at 832-286-3404.

"This is another benefit we provide exclusively to our Corporate Members," said Jack Belden, SPED President. "This provides an easy way for companies to assess their staff's credentials for hiring or advancement."

COADE updates Video Training Course for CADWorx Plant Professional with Metric Capabilities and Other Enhancements

HOUSTON, December 1, 2008 – COADE announced today an updated edition of its COADE Video Training Course for CADWorx Plant Professional. This COADE-approved video course has been revised to take into account the latest functionality of AutoCAD 2009 and CADWorx Plant Professional 2009. Also, for the first time, it is adapted to the metric format.

All major aspects of using, customizing and mastering CADWorx Plant Professional are addressed in this latest version, a comprehensive training program that contains five full days of course content, the same basic content as the training classes delivered by COADE experts across the globe. It has a step-by-step workbook designed to allow users to learn plant modeling and design skills at their own pace. The videos cover all aspects of 3D Plant design including piping, equipment and steelwork modeling; component placement, annotation, and modeling; piping specification generation; effective use of XRefs; bills of material production; leveraging databases and Isogen and much more.

“This metric-enabled version of the COADE Video Training Course for CADWorx Plant Professional now opens up the rest of the world to the benefits of training on this powerful tool,” explained David Diehl, VP Customer Experience. The latest update provides the novice and experienced user with a set of standardized skills, best practices and how-to methods for improving their efficiency and throughput when using the software. It is also a convenient alternative to refresher courses. “Some key benefits of the training videos are the flexibility and ease-of-use that the videos allow and the savings they will enjoy compared to the expense of traveling to a training center for a five-day course,” Diehl added. “After completing the key parts of these videos, the user should be able to begin using CADWorx Plant Professional for modeling the process facilities and modular process systems that our users typically create, all in 3D along with their associated piping, steel, equipment and components.”

About COADE

COADE, Inc. is a provider of software for multiple plant design and engineering disciplines. COADE's aims are that design and engineering should share relevant information seamlessly, thereby maintaining accuracy and improving efficiency. COADE's product line conforms to those goals and includes: CAESAR II, the world's most widely used pipe stress analysis software; PV Elite for pressure vessel and heat exchanger design and analysis; CADWorx Plant Design Suite for intelligent plant design modeling, process schematics and automatic production of plant design deliverables; and TANK for the design and analysis of oil storage tanks. COADE, CAESAR II, CADWorx, PV Elite, CodeCalc and TANK are registered trademarks or trademarks of COADE, Inc. For more information, visit www.coade.com.

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HOT TOPICS SERIES OCTOBER: “POWER PLANT PIPE SUPPORT DESIGN: LESSONS LEARNED”

SPEAKER, DAVID M. SMITH, PIPING TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTS DVD \$50 CALL THE SPED OFFICE FOR DETAILS.

SPED Calendar of Events—December 2008—April 2009

Date	Day(s)	Time	Location	Cost	Membership
December 3rd SPED Annual General Business Meeting and Corporate Member Showcase	W	6-9pm	Omni Hotel Westside Houston, TX	\$25	Members
				\$15	Student Members Valid Student ID
December 11th SPED PPD Level I Certification Exam	F	6-9pm	Bechtel Houston, TX	\$150	Members
				\$200	Non-Members
December 11th SPED PPD Level III Certification Exam	F	6-9pm	Bechtel Houston, TX	\$150	Members
				\$200	Non-Members
PDS I Dates: Spring 2009 TBA			TBA	\$1095	Members Only
PPD Piper BootCamp Dates: Spring 2009 TBA			TBA	\$1450	Members Only
DaraTech Plant Conference, February 23-25, 2009 www.daratechplant.com	M-W		Hilton Americas Houston, TX		
SPAR 2009 March 30-April 1 http://sparllc.com/spar2009.php	T,W		Hyatt Regency Denver Denver, CO		
FIATECH 2009 Technology Conference and Showcase, Apr 6-8 www.fiatech.org	M-W		Green Valley Ranch Henderson, NV		



THE SPED PIPER VIDEO SERIES IS YOUR ANSWER.

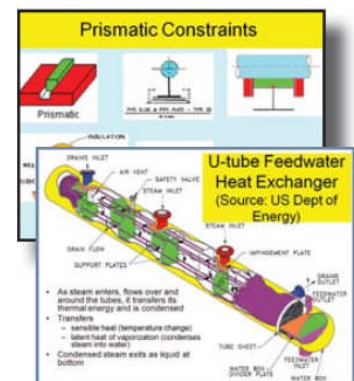
"It's the Piper's resource for Information and Just-in-Time Training."

PIPER BOOTCAMP covers equipment and fittings necessary for routing pipeline from nozzle to rack to nozzle.

PROCESS PLANT LAYOUT covers knowledge and skills required for plant equipment and layout. Targets pipers already familiar with in-line pipe routing.

Version I contains original video recordings of live presentations by industry leaders.

Version II contains newly recorded videos with additional topics, and extended notes.

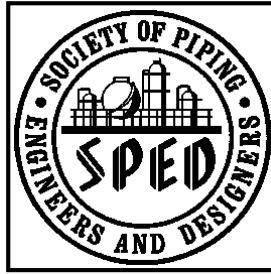


**New project?
Staffing issues?**

Designed for the new Piper and as a useful resource for experienced Pipers, the SPED Piper Video Series is considered the Industry Standard for piping training.



For more information, call 832.286.3404 or email videos@spedweb.com



Executive Director's Notes, Dr. William Beazley

Houston's Piping Managers are all up in arms! There are not enough people to hire! No one is trained! The CAD Educational Programs can't turn out prospects fast enough. Local firms have started their own Piper schools to meet the demand! Clients are canceling jobs because engineering costs have risen too high! Some pipers are jumping ship for hourly rates of \$50/hr!

The date, April 12, 2006, 2 ½ years ago. The place, SPED's Piping Manager Roundtable, "The Piping Design Manpower Crisis" in Houston, TX.

By that date, Oil had been trading above \$50 a barrel on growing supply concerns. On April 21, the front-month price of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) closes above \$75 for the first time in the history of the contract. A combination of rising global demand and geopolitical instability contribute to the higher price. (Reuters, DJ, AP). <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/AOMC/Overview.html>

America is shocked as gas prices at the pump start to rise.

"I cannot explain why we have \$70 oil. The fundamentals behind supply and demand do not support \$70 oil. The fundamentals support something much less," Exxon Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson told a business roundtable in September 2007. <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN0720445120070907>

As oil tops \$104/barrel, Tillerson says, "It's pretty crazy. A weak dollar accounts for about a third of the recent record run in oil prices, another third on geopolitical uncertainty and the rest on market speculation," he said. "Despite the concerns about political instability hurting oil supply, history suggests that supply disruptions are actually quite rare," he said. "In terms of fundamentals, fear of supply reliability is overblown," he said. None of Exxon's energy development projects are based on \$100 a barrel oil," he said. <http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/exxon-mobil-ceo-calls-oil/story.aspx?guid={BC4FF1D5-47D4-4B5F-A867-69E122D31094}&dateid=39512.5485964815-923226281>

One analyst Freddy Hutter of Trendlines Research seems to make sense: The speculative excesses are just about squeezed out of oil at these prices so they won't go too much lower. Note their extraction costs averaging \$25 a barrel.

<http://trendlines.ca/monthlyreport.htm#barrel>

Hutter writes, "Saudi Arabia seems to be openly seeking a band centered on \$50/barrel. The Kingdom's badly kept secret of its \$43 estimation for 2007 Revenues within its national budget gives us clues to their flexibility."

So, the question is, what would the economy look like if we stayed at \$45-\$60 for about 3 years? Cars would sell again, raw materials and their finished products would go to 2006 prices. Some energy and petrochemical projects would proceed and, yes, some would get canceled. In my humble opinion, what is needed is price STABILITY and tax policy STABILITY. With those two things, pipers should do quite well.



Society of Piping Engineers and Designers 2008 ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

December 3, 2008 from 6:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M.
at the Omni Houston Hotel at Westside

Plan now to attend our
**2008 Annual General Business Meeting
and Corporate Member Showcase.**

SPED Corporate Members will showcase their projects, services, and products. Corporate Member Employees, Professional and Student Members are invited to attend.

"Capitol Project Activity Amidst The Market Turmoil"

Keynote Speaker: James Davis, Senior Director,
Midstream Services
SNC-Lavalin Engineers & Constructors, Inc.

Seating is limited. Purchase your tickets online now at:

<http://www.spedweb.com/spedwebpublic/Products/showcase.asp>

Corporate or Professional Members **\$25**

Student Members (Must present valid I.D.) **\$15**

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Corporate Member SHOWCASE

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