SPED Update

Volume III, Issue 2, February 2010

February 2010

Planning Underway for SPED Calgary Chapter Kickoff Meeting and PPD Review and Test

An April Kickoff is planned for the first Society of Piping Engineers and Designers (SPED) Calgary Chapter Meeting in Calgary, Alberta. The Kickoff Chapter Meeting is scheduled for Thursday evening, April 8, 2010. AVEVA Canada will be sponsoring the Kickoff of the SPED Calgary Chapter by hosting the reception and meeting on Thursday evening before the meeting.

PPD Review and Test Scheduled for April 10th

A SPED Professional Piping Designer Review and Test is scheduled for the following Saturday, April 10th, 2010.

The technical program of the Kickoff Chapter Meeting is being organized by Paul Bowers of www.pipingdesign.com and Richard Beale, noted Industry author. Current plans call for technical presentations by SPED and ASET. SPED will be discussing the state of the piper market, the Society and Certification. ASET will be discussing the recent decision by Alberta to give technology professionals the right to self-regulate, and practice engineering independently.

The Society of Piping Engineers and Designers (SPED) is an international society established to promote excellence and quality in the practice of Piping Engineering and Design. SPED emphasizes education and training to advance the employability and competitiveness if its members. The SPED Calgary Chapter is being organized to support Pipers in the Calgary, Alberta and surrounding areas.

A SPED PPD Level III Review and Test will be held on Saturday, April 10, 2010 hosted by WorleyParsons MEC at their South Calgary office location. SPED's Professional Piping Designer (PPD) Certification program is designed to meet the specific requirements of the Process Piping Industry. There are four levels of Certification:

Level I	Basic PPD, Properly Trained for Inline Pipe Routing
Level II	Advanced PPD, Organize Work
Level III	Senior PPD, Independent Producer and Equipment Layout
Level IV	Lead PPD, Manage, Assure work

SPED PPD certification documents skills and competency, increases employability at higher pay, improves professional recognition, and defines the Certified Piper's professional development path. For more information, go to www.spedweb.com.

Only experienced pipers are encouraged to take the one-day PPD Level III review and test on April 10th. The focus of the exam will be on equipment layout and related piping. The review will cover 20 topics in about 6 hours, followed by the PPD Level III Exam.

More details about both events will be posted to www.spedweb.com.

To RSVP for the SPED Calgary Review Session, please send your confirmation to the attention of Tracey Nabe at tracey.nabe@aveva.com.

http://www.spedweb.com
http://www.AVEVA.com
http://www.worleyparsons.com
http://www.aset.ab.ca/

THIS ISSUE'S HIGHLIGHTS

Executive Director's Notes: Get a 2010 Credential Now!

A Message from SPED's U.K. Chapter

Enter the 2010 Golden Valve Awards Competition

The AutoCAD Plant 3D (code name "Hadrian") Beta date is set to start Today! Feb 5, 2010

Executive Director's Notes: Get a 2010 Credential Now!

We are now in the second decade of a new century and Pipers everywhere are either wondering how to get a job or how to keep the one they've got. Pipers are CAPEX (Capital Expenditure) folks, not OPEX (Operational Expenditure) folks and when the industry is contracting, CAPEX is down. So, naturally, a CAPEX professional is going to get a little stressed right now. What should you do?

Do Nothing Option

One option is to do nothing. Let's say that you are working and you come home tired to a stack of bills and a sink full of dirty dishes. Maybe you have saved or are saving a little money for a rainy day or a vacation if things get better.

If you are laid off, you are in rainy day mode and are trying to cover bills and not lose the car or worse, the house. We know some folks in this mode: they are holding tight to every dollar and trying to wait it out.

If you are afraid, there are low cost things you can do. If your company is afraid there are some low or no cost things they can do. If you are laid off, there are some government funded things you can do now.

What Piping Managers are Saying

SPED did a quick survey of 14 hiring managers at 13 Houston EPC firms or EPC departments at owner/operators asking about the value of the two year Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree. Yes, their hiring plans are bleak because their project backlogs are down. Most have been cutting deeper and deeper into their best qualified talent and should things improve, those folks will be called first about returning. Previously, we have discussed that hiring managers value task experience, productivity and professional attitude most in retaining employees and that will be most remembered in call backs. Of all these, CAD-Specific Task Experience was the most mentioned attribute for new hire or rehire.

For newbies with little experience, eight of the 14 respondents said that AAS degree holders would be preferred. Most of the respondents cautioned that this year will be mostly call backs and very experienced hires. Only when that supply is exhausted, will newbies be considered.

In other words, just like always, the piping managers I have talked to still prefer on the job experience over classes taken and yes, SPED Certification. CAD-Specific Task Experience trumps Task Experience every time. So if you did it, it helps. If you did it on the CAD System they want to use, it helps more.

"Thanks a Lot but I'm Unemployed…How can I add Experience?"

Sorry, you can't add experience when you are not working. It's out of your control. If you are able to work for less, that is something you can control. But know that you will still lose out to a more experienced piper more times than not. Even if you offer to work for free (some have) you will still lose out to more experienced pipers.

You would be better off taking that crappy design job in Hell Frozen Over, Alberta or Five Dog Night, Alaska and add a few years to your resume.

In 2007, Mark Landry, Senior Director, Human Resources, Fluor Corporation estimated that:

> *A new college engineering graduate requires approximately 10 years of experience and training to attain the necessary credentials to provide the technical innovation and leadership required. Much of the training is accomplished through on-the-job assignments and rotational experience, exposing the employee to different industries, technologies, project complexities, and project life-cycle phases…. Designers typically require a 3- to 4-year investment, heavily focused on in house training utilizing design technology.*

Source NPC Global Oil & Gas Study TOPIC PAPER #23 HUMAN RESOURCES: http://www.npc.org. In other words, it will be hard to be taken seriously as a designer until you acquire 3-4 years experience and as an engineer until you log 10 years experience. In a down economy, this is hard to do. Otherwise, add to your credentials.

What are the best credentials?

Roughly, the table on page 4 lists the credentials in order of importance.

This table is compiled from our survey of hiring managers and has been formatted in an 'action item' configuration.

What should you do?

First, if you have a job, do it right and fight to keep it. If you get offered that 3-6 month task in Wretchistan, maybe you should take it. If you have to work a little extra before that review on Friday, try hard to be available and get the job done. If there are in-house training classes, take them. If there is tuition reimbursement, start college classes at night. In short, be professional, reasonable, and proactive.

If you don't have a job, it's going to be hard to add task experience. The good news is that there are government programs in nearly every local to get you trained, degreed and certified. Almost every state and country has money for training right now. SPED has been developing options in Houston and they are usually fundable (with extra paperwork) in other states and countries. The same applies to community colleges and short courses.

continued on page 4

U.K. CHAPTER NEWS

SPED in the U.K. and Ireland

by Norman Harris

We have been trying to develop interest in SPED in the UK & Ireland for some months now. In doing so, like most of the industrialised world, we are facing extremely adverse economic conditions.

However the whole of Europe is looking to invest in Carbon, Capture & Storage, CCS technology. There is also the UK Governments intention of building 10 new nuclear power stations. Interest in LNG installations is high and they are building now.

As the politicians realise that there are no votes in enforced power rationing, there will also be a developing background activity of life extending refurbishments of off-shore platforms and nuclear stations in prospect as the UK faces an increasing gap in its energy supplies.

The piper training environment is different in the UK compared to the USA, but that is a topic for the next piece.

If you are interested in joining the U.K. Chapter of SPED, contact Norm at n.harris04@btconnect.com.

SPED UPDATE ADVERTISING AND PRESS RELEASES
spedsrvs@spedweb.com

SPED COURSES AND GRANT PARTICIPATION
spedadmin@spedweb.com

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Telephone 832-286-3404

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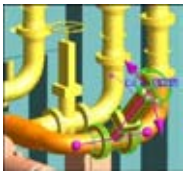
SPED PIPER VIDEO SALES
videos@spedweb.com

Since 2007, more than 200 engineers and designers have already benefited from the advantages of on line learning

Would you like to become one of them?

Piping masters degree
(1 year)

Instrumentation
(1 month)


3D Design with PDMS
(1 month)

ASME B31.3 process piping
(2 months)

More information: http://piping.unizar.es

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Finally, I want to close with a thought. Now, we are in 2010, a new year. It is important to put something on your resume dated 2010 that was totally under your control. Employers want to see that you are still growing and developing. They want to know that you also will invest in your career.

Credentials matter. ✍

The table below (referenced on page 2) is compiled from SPED's survey of hiring managers and has been been formatted in an action item configuration.

William G Beazley, PhD
Executive Director, SPED

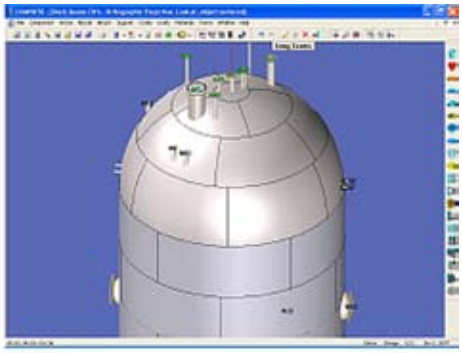
CODEWARE'S COMPRESS Build 6310 Released

Includes New Shell Seams Feature

We are pleased to announce the release of COMPRESS Build 6310. Codeware's pressure vessel and heat exchanger design software now includes:

- A shell seams feature
- A shell rollout sketch, included in the seams report
- The COMPRESS Project backup tool

To read more, visit http://www.codeware.com/compress/highlights.html.



Credential	PROS	CONS
CAD-Specific Task Experience	• Extremely attractive to Employers • Survives keyword screening by HR software	• Requires employment to obtain • Requires specific task • Requires specific software (vendor and version) to obtain • Often exaggerated by prospect
Task Experience	• Very attractive to Employers • Survives keyword screening by HR software	• Requires employment to obtain • Requires specific task • Often exaggerated by prospect
College Degrees	• Meets minimum requirements at many firms • Generalized expertise applicable to many tasks • Employment not needed	• Takes years to obtain • Foreign degrees often impossible to assess and confirm, so not valued • Degrees often miss job discipline required
Licenses, Certifications	• 3rd Party credential • Conveys credibility and professionalism • Certification, Licensing levels an indication of expertise level • Employment not always needed	• Requires study and testing to obtain • Requires renewal and professional development (also a “pro”) • Requires understanding by hiring manager and HR to value • Work experience is frequently required
Short Courses	• 3rd Party credential • Conveys credibility and professionalism • Employment not needed • Survives keyword screening by HR software (i.e., CAD System)	• Sometimes valued as certificate of attendance • Poorly valued if not followed by task application. • Few credible providers (Vendors best)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RMC Research & Education Foundation

Foundation Releases Sustainable Concrete Plant Guidelines

Silver Spring, MD – January 28, 2010: The RMC Research & Education Foundation is proud to announce the release of a new tool for the concrete industry: Sustainable Concrete Plant Guidelines. The Guidelines were developed by West Main Consultants and William C. Twitty, Jr., with guidance from Lionel Lemay, senior vice president - sustainable construction, with the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association. The concept behind the development of the Guidelines was to further the efforts underway within the concrete industry in the sustainable development field and assist producers by providing additional resources on how to make their own plants and operations more sustainable. The Guidelines will be an evolving document and we seek comments from industry representatives on this released version and the supporting materials.

"Concrete by its very nature is a very sustainable material. These Guidelines are a great tool for producers to identify ways to enhance their manufacturing processes to make concrete even more sustainable," said James Repman, Foundation Chairman. Repman also noted "These Guidelines complement the other environmental and sustainability initiatives already established within the industry and allow producers to augment those efforts." Foundation Executive Director Julie Garbini agreed, adding "This document gives producers performance-based metrics by which to measure and demonstrate the sustainability of their operations. It provides specific guidance on how to assess energy and resource consumption for continuous improvement. We are proud to add this new deliverable to the many other sustainable development-related research studies, reports and tools available from the Foundation."

The Sustainable Concrete Plant Guidelines document and supporting materials are available for download from the Foundation's website at www.rmc-foundation.org. Comments on the Guidelines and materials may be directed to NRMCA's Lionel Lemay at llemay@nrmca.org. Additional resources are available on the Foundation's Research to Support Sustainable Development CD. The mission of the RMC Research & Education Foundation is to support research and educational programs that will increase professionalism and quality in the concrete industry.

Contact: Jennifer LeFevre
240-485-1151
jlefevre@rmc-foundation.org

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Houston, TX 77051

Review and Testing for Experienced Piping Professionals at SPAR 2010

It's not too late to participate in these Great Package Deals!

Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at SPAR 2010 to be held at the The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel, Waterway Ballroom 3

PPD Level III Certification Review and Exam

taught by Dr. William Beazley, SPED Executive Director

Don't need to take a course? Here's a chance to document your experience and skills in one day! SPED will conduct this unique, one-day Review and Exam for SPED Members* only during SPAR 2010 at the Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel. For more information, visit www.spedweb.com. To register, visit www.sparllc.com.

$295 Registration Includes:

- Onsite 6 Hour Review Session with Dr. Beazley
- Testing Fee and Certification Application Fee - a $400 Value
- Three Month Introductory Membership in SPED*
- $100 Discount Off SPAR 2010**

PPD Level I Certification Review and Onsite Exam

taught by Dr. William Beazley, SPED Executive Director

Both tests will be given in the afternoon on February 10, 2010. Course material for Level I, prepared by Dr. William Beazley is online and available for review at your own convenience, then take the exam on February 10, 2010. For more information, visit www.spedweb.com. To register, visit www.sparllc.com.

$295 Registration Includes:

- Online Review for Level I Exam
- Testing at Level III Test Session
- Three Month Introductory Membership in SPED*
- $100 Discount Off SPAR 2010**

SCHEDULE FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH	
8:00 A.M. - 11:30 P.M.	Level III Review
11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.	Break for Lunch
12:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.	Level III Review, conclusion
3:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Level I & III Exam

BONUS!

**SPAR Point is offering participants of this Review and Test an additional discount of $100 off the Conference Fee. For more information, and to register go to their website at http://www.sparllc.com/.

Enter the 2010 Golden Valve Awards Competition

You could win US$1,000 and complimentary registration for the Intergraph® 2011 International Users' Conference!

Intergraph Process, Power & Marine and the International Process & Power Client Community (P2C2) invite you to enter your application art in the 2010 Golden Valve Awards Computer Art Competition.

The 2010 Golden Valve Awards Competition will recognize the most innovative and well-executed uses of software supported by Intergraph Process, Power & Marine.

All entries must be received by March 26 – so prepare yours today! Winners will be announced at Intergraph 2010 in Nashville, Tennessee, U.S., June 14-17.

Entries must be images or animations created using Intergraph Process, Power & Marine software as the primary tool. Subject matter should relate to the process, power, offshore, or shipbuilding industries. There are four different categories for entries:

- Visually Complex
- Discipline-specific
- Rendering and Ray Traces
- Animation

For complete details about each category, submission requirements, and award information, visit www.intergraph.com/p2c2/gv2010.aspx. (Downloadable entry forms and release forms are available at this site.)

Last year, we received a record number of entries. In 2010, we expect to see even more amazing artwork.

Good luck, and we look forward to receiving your entry!

Download Q1 of the 2010 Golden Valve Awards Desktop Calendar.

This year, in addition to the printed wall calendar, you can take advantage of a convenient 2010 Golden Valve Awards Desktop Calendar. Select your favorite winning image of the first quarter:

- Keppel FELS – Best of Show
- Samsung Heavy Industries – 1st Place Working Views
- ECM S.A. Projetos Industriais – 2nd Place Working Views

Each image features a three-month calendar and can be set as your desktop background. Download the zip file to receive all three images. The calendars are available in two sizes: 800x600 and 1024x768. http://www.intergraph.com/ppm/desktopcalendar.aspx?elq=eaafecf9d7404115acad2ab69d1778e7

The Q2 images will be available for download in March.

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Official Publications:
Chemical Engineering
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SPED Online Courses

Society of Piping Engineers and Designers offers the following online courses:

PPD Piper BootCamp

Ends in Level I Exam: Testing and Textbook Included

Process Plant Layout and Piping Design

Ends in Level III Exam: Testing and Textbook Included

SESSION II 2010
February 22nd - May 2nd
Register early and get $100 off
(Offer ends February 12, 2010)

SESSION III 2010
March 22nd - May 30th
Register early and get $100 off
(Offer ends March 12, 2010)

Register online at www.spedweb.com
Email spedadmin@spedweb.com or Call 832.286.3404

New project?
Staffing issues?

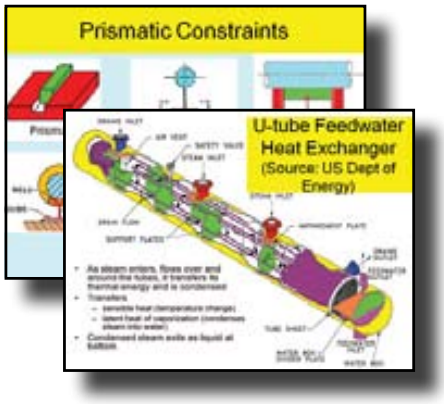
THE SPED PIPER VIDEO SERIES IS YOUR ANSWER.

"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.



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.

The AutoCAD Plant 3D (code name "Hadrian") Beta date is set to start Febrauary 5, 2010!

To sign up for the Autodesk beta site, visit http://beta.autodesk.com. Complete your profile, and indicate your interest in AutoCAD Plant 3D. You'll receive an email when the beta software is ready for download. The notice should go out today, Friday February 5th. We look forward to your participation and feedback!

Also, if you are interested in keeping up-to-date on our Autodesk Plant Solutions products, please visit www.autodesk.com/plantexchange. There are a lot of networking opportunities and product videos that you can view.

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Global Leader in Producing Thin-film Silicon Solar Modules Selects Intergraph® SmartPlant® 3D and P&ID

Oerlikon Solar, the leading supplier of solutions for cost-effective mass production of thin-film silicon solar modules, has selected Intergraph® SmartPlant® 3D and P&ID engineering design software to increase productivity and accelerate plant project completion. Oerlikon Solar, ranked "global number one solar turnkey line supplier" by VLSI Research Inc., has seen its business double in just two years and has outgrown its previous CAD 2D design software. To meet growth demands, the company chose SmartPlant 3D, combined with SmartPlant P&ID, for their next-generation end-to-end manufacturing lines. These production lines are complete systems, yet modular and upgradeable in both throughput and process technology.

"After realizing the limitations of our previous design system, we expect to have measurable improvements in the quality of our designs with SmartPlant 3D and P&ID," said Orlando Derungs, project manager Fabrication Engineering & Planning for Oerlikon Solar, which is headquartered in Switzerland. "Our growth necessitates that we maintain a more organized and productive design environment, and we look forward to working with Intergraph to improve our Basic and Detail Engineering."

SmartPlant 3D engineering design software is the most productive, highest quality, multi-discipline 3D modeling environment in the world for global multi-office execution of process and power projects. Customers using SmartPlant 3D typically realize 25- to 35-percent initial increases in productivity compared to other systems, higher quality deliverables and shorter schedules.

For more, go to www.intergraph.com.

SPAR 2010

February 8-10, 2010
The Woodlands Waterway
Marriott Hotel & Convention Center,
The Woodlands (Houston), Texas

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Images courtesy Intergraph Corporation, Pointools, Rio Tinto Coal Australia and Maptek, Certainty 3D LLC

Take the Pledge!

100% CLUB
SPED Professional Piping Designers

Join the SPED PPD 100% Club

SPED PPD 100% Club members pledge that 100% of their Piping Designers will become certified as Professional Piping Designers (PPD). Documenting staff credentials are simple:

- 100% of current Piping Designers get PPD Certified within one year of joining the program.
- New hires become PPD Certified within one year of employment.

Once you sign up and become a member of the PPD 100% Club, you can display the Club logo.

The PPD 100% is exclusively for SPED Corporate Members. SPED supports PPD 100% Club Members by providing the following:

- A copy of the PPD Review Video to help Piping Designers prepare for PPD exams.
- On-Call testing at the SPED office. (Fees apply.)
- Onsite testing review with 20 or more participants. (Fees apply.)
- Assistance to members in applying for State Funds to defray training and testing costs.

The PPD 100% Club Benefits EPC Employers, Clients and Piping Designers!

Contact us for more information.

SOCIETY OF PIPING ENGINEERS AND DESIGNERS
SPED

www.spedweb.com • Phone 832.286.3404 • spedexec@spedweb.com

Calendar of Events for February 2010 through April 2010

Dates and Times	Day(s)	Location	Cost	Membership
SPAR 2010, February 8-10, 2010 http://www.sparllc.com/spar2010.php	M-W	Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel Houston, TX	See webiste	Registration via SPAR POINT webiste
DIGITAL PLANT 2010 (daratech/PLANT) March 1-3, 2010 http://www.daratech-plant.com/	M-W	Hilton Americas Houston, TX	See website	Registration via Digital Plant webiste
CERA Week 2010, March 8-10, 2010 http://www2.cera.com/ceraweek2010/	M-W	Hilton Americas Houston, TX	See website	Registration via CERAWeek 2010 web-site-Early Registration options
FIATECH Technology Conference and Showcase, March 29-31, 2010 http://fiatech.org/2010.html	M-W	Austin, TX	See website	Registration via FIATECH website
ECC 2010 - 42nd Annual ECC Conference, Semptember 1-4, 2010 http://www.ecc-conference.org/	W-S	Riz Carlton, Orlando Great Lakes Orlando, FL	See website	Registration via ECC website
COADE User Conference 2010 September 20-22, 2010, http://www.coad-euserconference.com/2010/	M-W	Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel, Houston, TX	See website	Registration via COADE website
SPED 2010 Annual General Business Meeting and Corporate Member Showcase	TBD	Omni Houston Hotel at Westside, Houston, TX	TBD	Open to Members and their Guests

Join SPED Today!

Join us and enjoy discounts and other benefits.
Visit www.spedweb.com.

Individual Professional Membership	$70 USD
Student Membership	$20 USD
Small Corporate Membership	$500 USD
Large Corporate Membership	$1000 USD
Global Corporate Membership	$10,000 USD
Academic Institution Membership	$500 USD

SPED Staff

Dr. William Beazley, Executive Director, Treasurer, Editorial Contributor

Andrea Macejak, Manager of Operations

Sarah Evans, Membership, SPED Update Editor, Advertising Sales

Amy Voss-Foster, Education Specialist

Training Calendar for February 2010 through April 2010				
Dates and Times	**Day(s)**	**Location**	**Cost**	**Membership/PDU's**
FIATAECH Tech Tuesday Webinar Sieries Register @ info@fiatech.org http://fiatech.org/tech-connections/techtuesday.html	T	Online	FREE	1 PDU earned for each Webinar
ECE Solutions Webinar February 12th, 12:00pm CST: Managing Pipe Support Details http://coade.typepad.com/cadworx/2009/02/index.html	F	Online	FREE	1 PDU earned for each Webinar
COADE Caesar II User Group February 18th, 5:30 - 7:30 P.M., CST Houston, TX http://www.coade.com/events.shtml#COADEUsergroup	M	COADE	FREE	1 PDU earned for each Webinar
CADWorx FieldPipe and Leica CloudWorx for AutoCAD Webinar, February 19th, 12:00pm CST: Manipulating laser scans using CADWorx FieldPIpe and Leica CloudWorx http://coade.typepad.com/cadworx/2009/02/index.html	F	Online	FREE	1 PDU earned for each Webinar
PPD Piper BootCamp Online February 22nd - May 2nd Early Registration Discount		Online	$1,500 $1,400	SPED Members Only Registration by Feb 12th
PPD Process Plant Layout Online February 22ND - MAY 2ND Early Registration Discount		Online	$1,500 $1,400	SPED Members Only Registration by March 12th
PPD Piper BootCamp Online March 22nd - May 30th Early Registration Discount		Online	$1,500 $1,400	SPED Members Only Registration by March 12th
PPD Process Plant Layout Online March 22nd - May 10th Early Registration Discount		Online	$1,500 $1,400	SPED Members Only Registration by March 12th
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