Welcome to the inaugural issue of the ECC Chairman’s Corner!

The ECC Association has enjoyed nearly 52 years of leadership in the capital projects industry by sharing thought-provoking concepts aimed at improving our collective performance. By keeping focus on the relentless need for continuous improvement, our annual conference has been a unique venue for owners, contractors and suppliers to exchange ideas and establish relationships that create value for each of our organizations.

The first and most important activity undertaken by your Board of Directors was to define the 2020 conference theme to ensure it was responsive to the challenges facing our industry. Addressing the dual challenge of needing to quickly improve project outcomes while keeping an eye on how innovation and technology could change the future of our industry was our overriding objective. In addition, since the August 2019 conference, we have been reviewing attendee feedback to ensure we’re reflecting your suggestions and ideas in this year’s conference agenda. We have identified the following improvement suggestions:

1) Increase focus on topics that can be quickly be applied by your organizations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of capital project delivery.

2) Improve networking opportunities to establish both new connections and renew existing ones.

3) Identify options that increase owner participation and engagement in the ECC Association.

4) Look for ways to increase owner / contractor / supplier discussions on the critically important topic of craft labor skill development.

Based on your feedback, the 2020 Conference theme “The Future is Now: Moving from Talk to Traction” was adopted by the ECC Board of Directors. For years, the Capital Projects Industry has discussed and developed the concepts required to transform and improve execution delivery and talent management. Many of us have implemented these new tools or programs with the end results falling short of expectations. We made the investments but the deployment of more capital and hours returned little to no improvement in project delivery. Our teams reverted back to the status quo.

Unfortunately, cautiously participating in the conversation won’t get us there. It will require intentional and collaborative action by owners, contractors and suppliers, creating a “one team” collaborative environment. This year’s conference will address what it takes to move great ideas into action and look at the organizational infrastructure and behaviors required to provide meaningful and sustainable results. The future is now. It is time to get traction!

In the coming months, leading up to our annual Conference on September 4-6 at Marco Island, Florida, I will be sharing some of the great work your Board of Directors is doing to develop a high-impact and content-rich agenda to carry on this long ECC tradition.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank our conference attendees for your continued support of the ECC Association and our hard working Board of Directors for making this the go-to industry conference for capital projects!

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