

News Release

David Winter Named ACEC Washington's 2017 Engineer of the Year

Seattle--The American Council of Engineering Companies of Washington honored David Winter, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hart Crowser, Inc., with the prestigious Engineer of the Year Award during ACEC's annual Engineering Excellence Awards presentation on January 20, 2017.

Winter has more than 35 years experience in geotechnical engineering, 27 of those years with Hart Crowser, Inc. Over the years, as he rose from staff engineer to leadership positions, he has won and worked on projects in 12 states in the U.S. and 10 countries around the world. His accomplishments have included designing a field water management system for Husky Stadium allowing the playing surface to be lowered four feet, and designing the first soil nail/soldier pile and tieback hybrid wall for the 39-story Olive8 building in downtown Seattle. He has solved geotechnical challenges with offshore foundations for Naval Station Everett that reduced costs by 20 percent and developed award-winning use of geothermal energy piles and an earthquake cutoff wall for Federal Center South, a 4.6-acre Brownfield site in Seattle that was transformed into regional headquarters for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

At Hart Crowser, Winter has organized and led many company initiatives, targeted and overseen expansion into new geographic regions and into new technical disciplines, negotiated and integrated acquisitions, and mentored young staff in business, project management and client development.

His federal government work included surveying lead-based paint and asbestos building materials for all living units at Ft. Lewis (now JBLM), design of infrastructure upgrades for 48 Minuteman II missile launch facilities, 6 launch control facilities, and the airfield tank farm at Malmstrom AFB, Montana; and site assessments for 54 locations in the remote Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea. His work has ranged from helping Devon Energy in Brazil drilling 30 miles offshore in 300 feet of water using a custom-made drill, and conducting geotechnical, geophysics investigations for Shell Oil of seven offshore leases during a narrow ice breakup period, and geophysics investigations for Apache Energy in the Gulf of Mexico to composite materials design that allowed an 80-ft-tall sculpted hill and surrounding 42-acre park to be built on 100 feet of poor soil on Governors Island, New York, adjacent to New York Harbor.

"David's ability to analyze complex foundation conditions and then communicate his ideas and recommendations clearly is among the best in the world," said Ron Klemencic, Chairman and CEO of Magnusson Klemencic Associates, and also ACEC Washington's 2008 Engineer of the year. "I count David among the very best geotechnical engineers."

Winter's technical expertise is focused in four important areas: (1) deep foundations, (2) excavation shoring, (3) environmental cleanup and education, and (4) sustainability. His work with deep

foundations focuses on theory, load tests and project monitoring to develop new criteria for driven offshore piles, a task he originally tackled for the American Petroleum Institute but which extended to piles of all types.

Many of Winter's most important contributions have been related to improvements and efficiencies in excavation shoring for deep excavations in the Puget Sound area. His innovative techniques have saved owners and contractors millions of dollars in shoring costs. Specifically, he has published papers detailing his work for the IDX Tower, the Pacific First Center and the Olive8 building in Seattle and Bellevue Place, Bravern, Microsoft Tower, and Two & Three Bellevue Center in Bellevue.

In environmental cleanup and education, Winter currently leads Hart Crowser's Environmental Remediation Division and Federal Government Programs. He has helped clients navigate through the new and complex regulations guiding cleanup of their sites, and he has developed programs to make environmental education more accessible through online learning. He was involved in environmental cleanups on Alaska's North Slope that required mobilization of teams to two sites that were accessible only by small plane or barge. He also investigated fatal rock fall hazards in the Andes Mountain of Peru, requiring a 40-kilometer trip over a one-lane mountain road to reach the sites.

In sustainability, Winter is LEED-accredited, a prestigious designation from the U.S. Green Building Council. Winter developed low-impact design and construction elements as project manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Federal Center South building, which has been named one of the top 10 green projects in the United States.

"David has contributed his leadership skills and talents to developing Hart Crowser into the preeminent geotechnical engineering practice in the Pacific Northwest," said Klemencic. "His work represents the best of our industry each and every day and he is an incredible asset to the engineering community."

Winter earned his bachelor-of-science degree in civil engineering in 1978 from the University of Missouri, then his master's degree in civil and geotechnical engineering from the University of Texas in 1981. He is a registered engineer in Texas, New York, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington. Winter currently is a national director of the Washington, D.C.-based American Council of Engineering Companies, and also chairs ACEC's Geotechnical Roundtable. He is past chairman of the board of the Washington state chapter of ACEC, as well as chairman of the Business Practices, Governance and Membership Committees, and he restarted the Leadership Development Group for young engineers and the Senior Principals Roundtable for firm leaders. He also is very active in the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), where he is a national director and past Seattle President, plus Chairman and founder of the Design Excellence Award for Military Projects.

Winter has published numerous articles and papers regarding his work in the geotechnical engineering arena, including "Excavation Shoring and Dewatering in Pioneer Square," "Creative Shoring Solutions for a Tight Urban Site," and "Hidden Costs of Remediation," which was presented to the Seattle chapter of the Washington State Bar Association.

Winter has been married for 31 years and he and his wife Linda have three daughters. He has been a high school basketball official, and led company softball and basketball teams. He helped organize and then led Hart Crowser's Charity Golf Classic which began in 1992 and was one of the first of its kind in the area. Over the years, the tournament has raised nearly \$150,000 for local charities.

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Washington has selected an Engineer of the Year every year since 1959. ACEC Washington is a professional trade association representing consulting engineering, land surveying and affiliated scientific and planning firms statewide.

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