

COLLINS ENGINEERS^{INC}

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THOMAS J. COLLINS RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CHICAGO, May 27, 2004 – Thomas J. Collins was selected as the recipient of the 2004 American Society of Civil Engineers, Illinois Section, Structural Group Lifetime Achievement Award. The award honors Collins' lifetime contribution to the field of civil engineering as a consultant, author and educator. The award was presented at a dinner held in his honor on May 19th at the Como Restaurant in Chicago.



Thomas Collins is the President and Founder of Collins Engineers, Inc., headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. He is an American Society of Civil Engineers Fellow, a registered Professional Engineer in 29 states, a registered Structural Engineer in Illinois, and a Chartered Engineer in the international community. Collins' career has included: time in Vietnam with the Army Corps of Engineers; two advanced degrees – an MBA from the University of Connecticut (1976) and an MS in Geotechnical Engineering from Kansas State University (2003); a library of published articles and manuals; and a 25 year old company that has grown into nine offices in the United States and one in Dublin, Ireland.

Collins has served as an expert witness in cases involving damage to structures, provided testimony at National Transportation Safety Board hearings regarding bridge collapses, authored several papers, and lectured on the inspection, scour assessment and repair of bridges, and the need for better inspection guidelines. Notable contributions to this cause include the development and presentation of courses and manuals for the FHWA, including "Demonstration Project 80 – Bridge Inspection Techniques and Equipment," which was presented to departments of transportation throughout the United States, and received two awards for engineering excellence and is regarded by the FHWA as one of the most successful demonstration projects to date.

Mr. Collins has been a strong advocate of Qualification Based Selection, in addition to the use of engineer-divers for underwater inspection services, a role that he pioneered. Throughout his career, he has worked closely with the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Council of Engineering Companies, and many governmental agencies in order to improve the level of quality in underwater inspections of our nation's infrastructure. Mr. Collins has consistently sought to acknowledge and strengthen the role of the profession in both public interaction and in working with the government.

About Collins Engineers, Inc.

Founded in Chicago in 1979 by Thomas J. Collins, P.E., S.E., Collins Engineers, Inc. is a civil and structural engineering firm with nine offices in the United States, and one in Dublin, Ireland. Collins provides structural analysis and design services in the fields of transportation, water resources, marine, and construction engineering. A pioneer in the field of underwater engineering, and, in particular, the use of professional engineer-divers for inspections, Collins has performed over 10,000 underwater facility evaluations, providing design of repairs or replacements for many. As experts in the field, Collins' engineer-divers are in a unique position to immediately assess the condition of underwater structures.

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