



NORTHWEST CONSTRUCTION CONSUMER COUNCIL

2018 Annual Conference Speaker Biographies *“Success Through Innovation and Technology”*



Jerad Hicks of Western Refinery Services (WRS) is the lead UAV pilot. Jerad obtained an associate degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Bellingham Technical College in 2012. His professional background includes working in the aerospace industry as a technical designer and in the industrial maintenance field as a maintenance manager. Jerad has most recently joined WRS as their lead pilot for UAV solutions.



Sam Kloes of Western Refinery Services (WRS) is the Construction Technology Manager. Sam holds 15+ years' experience in heavy civil construction. He has modeled and surveyed large infrastructure projects ranging from water and wastewater treatment to heavy highways and runways. As Construction Technology Manager at WRS, Sam is constantly finding new ways to employ technology and delivering projects with more accuracy and efficiency to our customers.



Bassem Hamdy is the Co-Founder and CEO of Brickschain. With over 19 years of construction software experience Bassem Hamdy is bringing harmony to the construction supply chain. Brickschain solves this issue by bringing blockchain to construction and sewing together every company's devices, systems, and processes into a fabric that connects these 100s of organizations, as well as the entire construction supply chain. All without issues of data ownership or changing the systems each company uses to successfully complete a construction project. Brickschain is here to integrate every construction project to save all companies time, money and lower their risk.



Don Bender is Weyerhaeuser Professor of Civil Engineering and Director of the Composite Materials & Engineering Center at WSU-Pullman. He is an expert in testing, design and construction of timber structures. Don teaches university and outreach courses in structural engineering and is active in national building code and standards development. He led efforts to change national building codes to improve deck safety, and is a voting member of the committees responsible for the national timber design code and consensus standards promulgated by the American National Standards Institute, American Society for Testing & Materials, and the National Institute for Standards &

Technology. Bender was appointed by the US Secretary of Commerce to the American Lumber Standard Committee, which oversees all lumber grading and preservative treatment agencies in North America.



Stephen P. Mulva, Ph.D. is the Director of the Construction Industry Institute (CII) at The University of Texas at Austin. Stephen directs CII, a research component of the University of Texas at Austin. His current research projects are focused on the performance assessment and productivity of capital projects in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, healthcare, transportation, power generation/transmission, metals/mining and oil and gas industries. In addition to his research responsibilities at CII, Stephen teaches graduate courses in Construction Engineering and Project Management at the University of Texas. Before coming to CII in 2007, Stephen was an Assistant Professor of Construction Management at Texas State University. He has also worked in

industry at Fluor, Bechtel, and Phillips Petroleum and as a project management consultant for Austin, Texas-based ePM. Stephen holds a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering (Construction Engineering and Management) from the Georgia Institute of Technology (2004) and two degrees from the University of Texas at Austin: a M.S. in Civil Engineering (1996) and a B.S. in Architectural Engineering (1995).