**Background on this training event:**

It became apparent to the MNSEA SEER (Structural Engineering Emergency Response) Committee that structural engineers and other design professionals should have an adequate understanding of good practices when visiting job sites or responding to emergencies. Some individuals have solid formal training for entering jobsites, while others learn as they go. Some are trained by contractors for specific site requirements. OSHA regulations are often not part of training offered on site, but all design professionals should be aware of the requirements such that serious dangers on sites are avoided. This is a concern not only for those entering emergency sites, but more often for those entering typical construction sites as well. Other design professionals (architects, mechanical engineers, civil engineers, electrical engineers, building inspectors/officials, etc.) visiting construction sites and assisting with emergency situations should also be aware of these steps to assure their safety..

The MNSEA SEER Committee identified three categories of training for site visits as **“Basic Training”** (covering basic topics for typical construction and jobsite visits), **“Intermediate Training”** (covering more topics in greater detail, lending itself for construction jobsites with additional concerns for emergency sites), and **“Advanced Training”** (covering primarily emergency sites with many serious issues including known unstable structures and possible environmental issues). With full support of the MNSEA Steering Committee, the MNSEA SEER Committee has created the **“Basic Training for Design Professional Site Visits”** program.

The intent is to make available the “Basic Training” program as soon as possible to establish a strong baseline for design professionals to enter jobsites. The “Intermediate” and “Advanced” training programs will be provided in the future for those needing advanced training for specific jobsite visits.

This training will be beneficial to anyone performing site observations at typical construction sites and jobsites. This may include architects, engineers (all disciplines), building inspectors, building officials, city engineers and/or technicians, government officials, property managers, and others who would benefit by gaining the knowledge and understanding of appropriate steps to be taken to be at a construction site or a jobsite.

**Providing 3 PDHs for Minnesota professional engineers attending this seminar!**

**Example Situations Where Basic Training Recommendations may be appropriate:**

* Normal jobsite visit/construction site/observation
* Routine visits of jobsites that may require particular safety measures
* Minor/localized building impact damage
* Small/localized partial collapse of building with no apparent potential for larger progressive collapse
* Minor/localized cracks or deflection of building structure
* Low potential for physical harm to those on the site
* Conditions where the use of a harness, ladder or manlift may be required to observe
* Very small localized fire damage
* There are not any hazardous environmental conditions or potentially explosive situations (such as disturbance of gas lines, leaking gasoline or oil or other hazardous materials, chemical spills) nor are there any situations that may constitute a confined space

**Basic Training Objectives:**

1. General introduction to OSHA requirements as it may pertain to design professionals visiting jobsites
2. Ladder safety training
3. Fall protection training
4. Basic Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) training, (hard hats, boots, hi-vis wear, gloves, eye protection, hearing protection, etc.)
5. Site visit documentation, (field notes, PlanGrid type products, photos, drones, videos)
6. Introduction to some Intermediate and Advanced Training topics to be covered in future events

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding this unique training opportunity.

I look forward to seeing you at the seminar.

**Space is limited!. Please sign up early to reserve your place!**

Douglas L. Fell, PE

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**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):**

1. Q: **Why me? Why my firm? Why should we take this training?**

A: This training is intended to benefit all design professionals who enter jobsites (either existing facilities or construction jobsites). It is a high value for information that is being presented.

1. Q: **We know what we’re doing for performing routine site visits!**

**Why should we take this training?**

A: This training covers many different aspects of performing site visits that every design professional should know. We believe “the way it’s been done it for 30 years” doesn’t always suffice.

1. Q: **We don’t often go to jobsites!** **Why should we take this training?**

A: The question should be, “do you ever go to a jobsite and what formal training do you or your employees have to be properly prepared for the dangers at the jobsite?”. The material covered in this training are applicable to all types of jobsites.

1. Q: **We don’t go to new construction jobsites, only to existing facilities! Why should we take**

**this training?**

A: The information provided within this seminar is not limited to just new construction, it is also very applicable to existing facilities and is highly applicable for other locations.

1. Q: **We never respond to a disaster! Why should we take this training?**

A: This training is not designed strictly for emergency sites or disasters. It is more aligned to existing facilities and construction sites that do not contain excessive amounts of damage caused by some disaster event. However, it is very common to be requested to assist at a “disaster” in the form of a car that has impacted a building or a forklift that ran into a building column and they need help performing assessments of the damage. Being prepared to enter a site is essential for the safety of you, your employees and the public.

1. Q: **We feel we are trained enough. Why should we take this training?**

A: This training covers the proper way to perform site visits and covers equipment, procedures, safety and other factors. Most professionals will leave having learned something new or reinforcing something they already know.

1. Q: **Is your training appropriate? Why should we take this training?**

A: This training is very appropriate for performing site visits. It gives attendees a baseline of knowledge to know that their training is in line with others that are performing site visits.

1. Q: **Is your training current? Why should we take this training?**

A: If your training in this area has not been recent then you should consider taking this training to be exposed to the most recent approaches to performing site visits.

1. Q: **We think we are using the correct equipment and procedures. Why should we take this**

**training?**

A: This training will present the most current established procedures and equipment to use for the performing site visits.

1. Q: **Do you know when you or your employees are getting into something they should not?**

A: This training helps managers and supervisors understand what appropriate training, procedures and equipment that their employees or others that they send in to perform site visits. This may be a “good thing to do” and it may also be a “requirement” that is your responsibility to know. Ignorance of these requirements is not a defense if something goes wrong.

1. Q: **Will there be information on sources of additional reference materials?**

A: There is exposure to excellent reference sources and materials that will be an ongoing source of information for the attendees.

1. Q: **This course takes a lot of time out of our workday. How will we get that back?**

A: The established approaches to performing site visits may increase efficiency for those utilizing them on future site visits. It also shows your clients and employees that you are perpetuating a safety culture, for your employees, your clients and the public.

1. Q: **I am a small company. Why should I take the training?**

A: This training will provide an economical basis for your site visit knowledge, so you know how other professionals are doing. Without the proper training, an individual or small firm may not be practicing within the regulation or recommendations that apply to your firm.

1. Q: **Are continuing education units offered for attending this seminar?**

A: A certificate for 3 PDHs will be provided to those Minnesota licensed professional engineers completing this seminar. Other professionals will need to determine if these PDHs apply to their profession.

**End of FAQ**