

# CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGE

**Don't wait to involve your students in this exciting and action packed education event!**

**Act Now and sign up a team for the 2009 Construction Challenge.**

Visit [www.constructionchallenge.org](http://www.constructionchallenge.org)

- The average age of the construction industry worker is 52.
- The construction industry will add 1,000,000 jobs by 2012.

AEM has partnered with Destination ImagiNation Inc. to develop and implement the Construction Challenge to help influence the future workforce. The Construction Challenge is an ongoing effort to attract the best and brightest young people to the construction industry, specifically in manufacturing and in-the-field careers.

#### What is the Construction Challenge?

- An exciting and educational experience that brings together middle and high school students from across the United States and Canada to learn more about construction careers, construction equipment, creative problem solving and teamwork.
- There are two phases to the Construction Challenge: Regional Qualifying Rallies and the Finals Tournament.
- All teams must compete in the Regional Qualifying Rally on February 7, 2009 in order to advance to the Finals Tournament.
- Each of the 16 Regional Rally sites will have 25-50 five to seven student teams, which is approximately 175 -350 students.
- Only 50 teams will advance to the Finals Tournament in Knoxville, Tennessee on May 20-23, 2009.

#### In 2009 three challenges have been developed to enlighten students to the amazing opportunities within the construction industry.

- Research local, national, and international infrastructure issues, and develop and present a marketing/advertising piece to bring attention to that issue.
- Design and manufacture a piece of equipment to perform a specific construction task, create detailed schematic drawings, create a safety manual, and construct and test a model.
- Read schematics, inspect equipment, diagnose problems, make repairs, perform tasks, and communicate with technical support.

#### Register a team of middle or high school students for any of the following Rally locations!

Phoenix, AZ; Sacramento, CA; Toronto, Ontario; Denver, CO; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Boston, MA; Minneapolis, MN; Kansas City, MO; Charlotte, NC; Cincinnati, OH; Oklahoma City, OK; Philadelphia, PA; Dallas, TX; Seattle, WA; and Milwaukee, WI.

Please visit : [www.constructionchallenge.org](http://www.constructionchallenge.org) for more information!

## Career Profiles

**Ronnie Lowe, is the Department Head and Instructor** in the Heavy Equipment and Transport Technology Department (HEATT) at **Wake Technical Community College** in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Wake Technical Community College is engaged in green efforts such as a recycling program and an energy committee. Additionally, the new North Campus meets LEED certification standards. For more information visit: <http://energy.waketech.edu>.

Ronnie is certified with CSA America as a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Cylinder Inspector. He inspects cylinders for the U.S. Army, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Institute of Environmental Health Services, and an occasional municipality during his fuel class. Ronnie said, "We have a guest speaker who comes in once a year to lecture to the students on bio-diesel, fuel cells, and other current alternative fuels. We have been one of University of West Virginia (UWV) training centers for alternative fuels for the past seven years." With the high fuel prices, interest has increased, in fact this past month, his department has started working toward and/or strengthening relationships with other alternative partners and construction manufacturers. "Besides UWV, some of our manufacturer/dealership partners include John Deere Agricultural Division, and John Deere C&F Division (through our Deere programs), Gregory Poole Equipment (Caterpillar dealer), and ASC (Volvo dealer)" said Ronnie. The program has a state wide lecture scheduled for the Fall Instructor's conference with alternative fuels as the main topic for HEATT instructors.

Besides inspecting CNG vehicles, Ronnie assigns HEATT personnel, to work toward the departmental goal of increasing alternative fuel training for instructors and students. Ronnie stated, "My biggest role would be to get as much information out to our students as possible. Alternative fuels are reasonably new and have their ups and downs. Students need to be able to recognize safety issues as well as drivability issues."

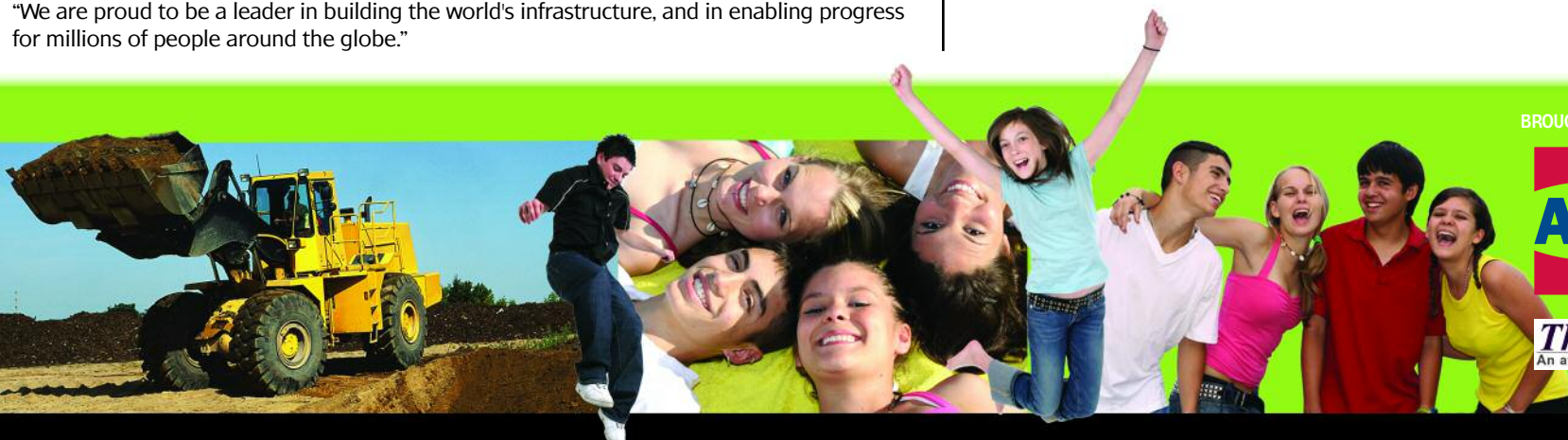
**Handy Truitt, is the Division Manager for Global Facilities Services at Caterpillar Inc.** Since its inception over 80 years ago, Caterpillar has grown to be the world's largest maker of construction and mining equipment, diesel and natural gas engines, and industrial gas turbines. Our dealer network enables us to drive positive and sustainable change on every continent through our products, services and technologies in three principal lines of business: Machinery, Engines and Financial Products," said Handy. As a global, diverse technology leader, Caterpillar commits to excellence in all that they do. Handy explains, "We are proud to be a leader in building the world's infrastructure, and in enabling progress for millions of people around the globe."

Handy says, "My division is responsible for the design and construction of new facilities. Therefore, it is our responsibility to ensure that our new buildings comply with the Sustainable Facilities Policy." In 2007, Caterpillar launched a sustainable facilities policy that requires all new Caterpillar facilities to be designed to include sustainable features enabling them to be certifiable under Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) or equivalent international standards. LEED, a program developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, is a widely accepted benchmark for design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. "In 2008, Caterpillar is implementing several projects that apply LEED standards to our existing buildings including one at the Caterpillar corporate headquarters in Peoria, IL." said Handy. It is anticipated that the energy improvement phase of this project will reduce greenhouse gases by 4,500 tons a year and reduce energy usage by as much as 30 percent.

**Pamela Murray Johnson, is a Project Manager with Turner Construction Company** located in Arlington, Virginia. Turner Construction is a general contractor and construction manager that builds private and public facilities in the United States and abroad.

Turner Construction Company is a leader in green construction, having worked on many green school buildings. The company encourages all its professionals to become certified in LEED. Pamela says, "We try to educate clients about the benefits of sustainable design. We believe it's the way of the future and the only way to make sure that America is taken care of."

On Pamela's role in green and sustainability, she said, "I'm a naturalist personally anyway. One of the projects I'm doing right now is being LEED-for-school certified. I'm very familiar with green building and LEED requirements, I haven't yet gone through the formal steps to become LEED certified but it is a process that I will undertake. I've overseen the construction of sustainable design for years. I've always been a supporter of energy-efficient buildings and sustainability. Buildings are a part of our society and they need to fit in with our environment. When I renovate a building, I'm preserving what's already there and making it better. I recycle urban areas. The goal is to bring into inner-cities and urban areas a more environmentally friendly area. It only serves to help the community. I think I'm doing something good."

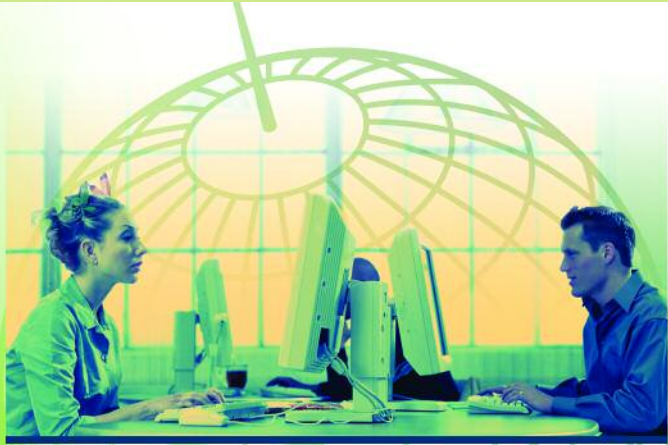


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# ConstructMyFuture.com



## What's on CFM

- Database of technical schools and universities
- Links to industry sites, resources, and job boards
- An overview of construction and its three major segments: constructing, manufacturing, and distributing
- Listing of industry scholarships
- Career descriptions
- Industry leaders willing to host field trips, speak to your class, donate materials for your class to work on, and more

Be sure to check out all of the cool information the construction industry has to offer and visit [www.ConstructMyFuture.com](http://www.ConstructMyFuture.com)

Looking for a rewarding and exciting career in construction? Maybe you should be!  
Check Out National Salary Ranges for 15 Careers in Construction

Carpenters.....	\$23,400 - \$65,900*
Civil Engineering Technicians.....	\$25,400 - \$65,000*
Civil Engineers .....	\$46,000 - \$109,100*
Construction Laborers .....	\$17,400 - \$51,800*
Construction Managers .....	\$44,000 - \$142,000*
Designers .....	\$21,000 - \$88,500*
Diesel Engine Specialists .....	\$25,200 - \$56,800*
Electricians.....	\$27,300 - \$76,000*
Environmental Engineering Technicians.....	\$25,400 - \$67,600*
Environmental Engineers.....	\$44,100 - \$108,700*
Heavy Equipment Technicians.....	\$27,200 - \$61,700*
Mechanical Engineering Technicians	\$31,000 - \$72,100*
Mechanical Engineers .....	\$46,400 - \$108,700*
Parts Managers .....	\$28,100 - \$47,800*
Welders .....	\$21,700 - \$49,000*

\*2007 information provided by Careeronestop.org

## 10 Scholarships!

In 2009 ConstructMyFuture.com is offering an additional seven \$1,000 scholarships sponsored by:



**KOBELCO CRANES NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

*Reliability is the History of Quality*

# \$10,000

### APPLY NOW

Applications for the 2009 ConstructMyFuture Scholarships are being accepted NOW through February 3, 2009. Make sure you visit: [www.ConstructMyFuture.com](http://www.ConstructMyFuture.com) to fill out your application.

The ConstructMyFuture scholarship is open to students and construction industry professionals and can be used for higher education or can be applied to the purchase price of tools by those already working in the construction industry. To apply for the 2009 scholarships, log on to [www.ConstructMyFuture.com](http://www.ConstructMyFuture.com) to download this year's scholarship application.

## ConstructMyFuture.com awarded three \$1,000 scholarship winners for 2008.

This year's winners are William Gumbert of Allenport, PA; John Adam Lynch of Fort Mills, SC and Andrew Retzlaff of Mankato, MN. These three individuals were chosen because they best demonstrated their interest and determination to succeed in the construction field.

### 2008 Scholarship Winners!

**\$1,000** awarded to William Gumbert. He will be attending the Heavy Equipment - Technician and Operator program at Penn College of Technology.



**\$1,000** awarded to John Adam Lynch. He will pursue Construction Management at Clemson University.



**\$1,000** awarded to Andrew Retzlaff. He will be attending South Central College and will participate in the Heavy Construction Equipment - Diesel Mechanics and Hydraulics program.

