



Meghal Bhatt

2011 Young Engineer Of the Year

Meghal Bhatt has worked with SNC-Lavalin Engineers & Constructors since 2006, and is currently assigned to the fixed equipment group for capital and expense projects at the ExxonMobil Refinery & Petrochemical Plant in Baytown, Texas. He is tasked with design and detailed engineering of complex pressure vessel repairs and authoring procurement specifications for new equipment.

Meghal received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC) in 2006, and holds an Engineer-in-Training (EIT) certification from the State of North Carolina. In 2003, he became an active member of the ASME student chapter at UNCC and served in a number of leadership positions, including Chair in 2005. He competed for the Old Guard Prize (Oral Presentation Competition) at IMECE 2005 as a representative of the Blue Ridge Region (currently – District F). Meghal was selected for internships at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and OrthoCarolina Research Institute (OCRI) during his career at UNCC. He was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi and Tau Beta Pi, and participated in volunteering activities organized by the honor societies around the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community.

Since moving Houston in 2006, Meghal has been actively involved in the events of the Plant Engineering and Maintenance (PEM) chapter of the South Texas Section (STS). He joined the steering committee of the chapter in 2007, and has served as Committee Chair for ASME-PEM Tradeshow in 2009 and 2010. Since its inception, the tradeshow has provided Houston Ship Channel and Gulf Coast area professionals a forum to share knowledge about all aspects of engineering, inspection and maintenance of refinery / petrochemical fixed and rotating equipment. Proceeds from the event benefit STS Scholarship Awards for mechanical engineering students at the five local universities that offer mechanical engineering. The role as Tradeshow Chair gives him the opportunity to work closely with the chapter Chair, Treasurer, and several dedicated volunteers to host over 90 exhibitors and 550 attendees at the day-long event in Pasadena, Texas. The tradeshow offers 15 technical seminars on a wide range of topics of interest to our industry at the tradeshow. Additionally, in keeping with the statement of purpose to share knowledge in the hand-on aspects of mechanical engineering, each year PEM invites high-quality speakers to the Plant Engineering monthly meetings in the Ship Channel area. Each of these meetings qualifies for 1.5 PE Credits per requirements as established by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers. Meghal has helped organize and host a number of these meetings over the course of his involvement with the chapter.

Editors note: Meghal is Chairman of the Plant Engineering Trade Show to be held on April 14th, for the third year in a row. Through the Trade Shows, this year he will have raised \$200,000 for the Scholarship Fund.

He also serves as Secretary to South Texas Section, and in an advisory capacity as well.