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GBA NEWSlog

A publication of the Geoprofessional Business Association

SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

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Two New Resources

Protect Yourself from Heat Stress

Heat Illness Prevention and Regulatory Landscape

Free Download for GBA Members

New Best Practices Address Heat Illness Prevention and Heat Stress

The GBA Safety Committee has released two new Best Practices resources: *Heat Illness Prevention and Regulatory Landscape* and *Protect Yourself from Heat Stress*. While temperatures may be cooling in some regions, heat hazards have not disappeared. Indoor environments, southern climates, equipment-generated heat, and unexpected warm days can still create risk. Now is also a good time for firms to evaluate what worked, identify gaps, and prepare for the next warm season.

Protect Yourself from Heat Stress[DOWNLOAD](#)**Heat Illness Prevention**[DOWNLOAD](#)[More GBA News](#)

Next Week: Geotechnical and GIS Integration Webinar

Join us September 24 for the first installment of GBA's Knowledge Sharing Webinar Series in 2026. Esri Product Manager Michael Davidson, Ph.D., P.E., will explore how project teams can

move beyond static reports by integrating geotechnical information with GIS workflows to create actionable 3D insights and improve decision-making. Reserve your spot today.


[LEARN MORE](#)
[REGISTER NOW](#)

Become a GCAP Subject Matter Expert

GBA is seeking subject matter experts (SMEs) for future [Geoprofessional Career Ascent Program](#) (GCAP) classes. Selected applicants receive training on participant-centered learning and modern adult-learning techniques before leading an Embark or Ascend session alongside GBA's adult learning consultant. GBA already has a group of 20 SMEs and is expanding this volunteer group to support GCAP sessions starting in 2027.

This is a unique opportunity to share your expertise and strengthen your training and facilitation skills. Current SMEs consistently describe the experience as both energizing and rewarding, and the facilitation skills gained through the workshop are highly transferable to leadership and professional settings beyond GBA. Apply today to be considered for future cohorts and help shape the next generation of geoprofessional leaders!


[APPLY NOW](#)

2026 Photo Contest Winners

GBA is proud to announce the winners of our 2026 Photo and Video Contest, which demonstrated what it means to be ALL IN with an unwavering commitment to the geoprofessions. Thank you to EVERYONE who submitted an entry!

Overall Grand Prize Winner

Chloe Bjerklie, EIT | DOWL

Yakutat, Alaska

The Ankau Bridge at sunset. This photo was taken during the geotechnical exploration that supported design of a new bridge for the Yakutat community. The old timber bridge provides access to recreational and culturally significant land, and the community is ready to replace it with a new, safer structure.

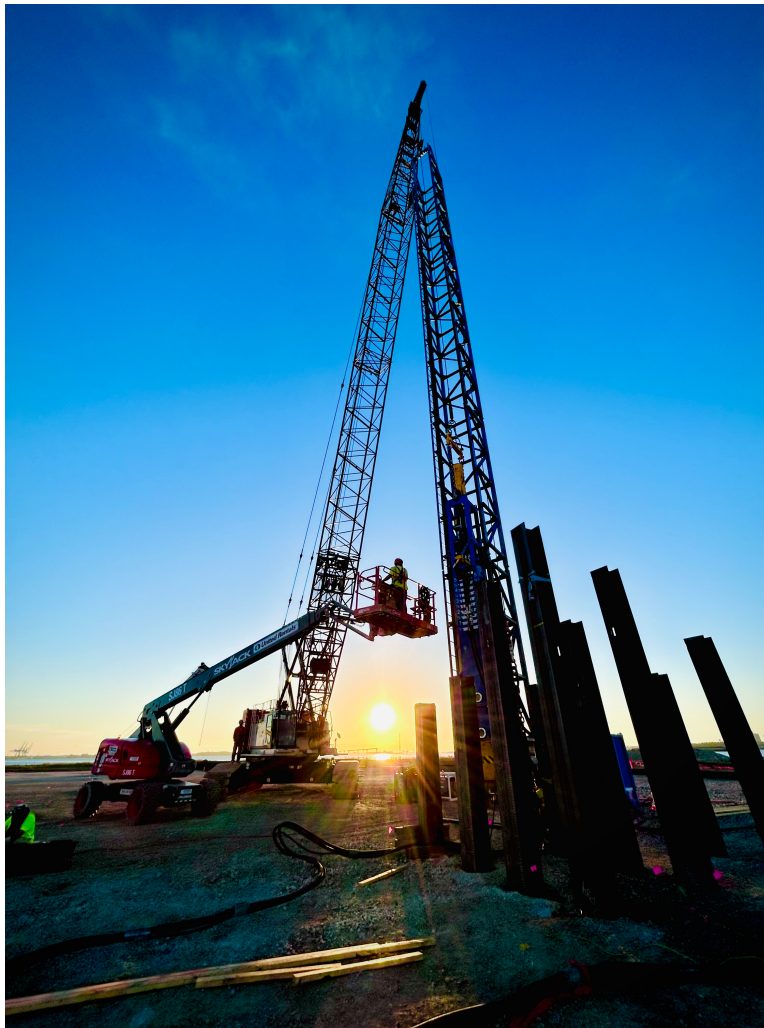


Overall Runner-up

Chamath Senevirathna, P.E. | D.W. Kozera

Baltimore, Maryland

Dynamic testing of H-piles at the Hellenic Cables Manufacturing Facility project site, where safety was prioritized without compromising productivity. Rather than climbing the hammer leads to position the pile hammer, the crew used a manlift while wearing full fall-protection harnesses to safely access the work area. This proactive approach minimized fall hazards and demonstrated a strong commitment to safe work practices. The image highlights how thoughtful planning, proper equipment, and a safety-first mindset protect workers while ensuring the successful execution of complex construction activities.



Overall Second Runner-up

Andy Siemens, P.E., G.E. | Siemens & Associates

Oregon

Seismic crew recording a shot as part of a geophysical exploration of a landslide that closed an important Oregon highway. The Siemens crew is working with the state to characterize the landslide and develop re-opening plans to restore service for local residents who have been economically damaged by the closure in many ways.



Click on image to view full video with sound.

Committee Spotlight: Inclusion Advancement

Committees are central to how GBA advances member learning and leadership, and the Inclusion Advancement Committee (IAC) helps member firms build workplaces where people feel a sense of belonging. A recent initiative is the committee's [Inclusive Speech Best Practices](#) article and [Communication Basics](#) episode on the GBA Podcast.

Committee leadership: Chair Rob Howard, P.E., (*Geo-Technology Associates*) and Vice Chair Peter Suah, P.E. (*Antillian Engineering Associates*).

IAC meetings are open to all members and are held virtually each month. Members can contact GBA Committee Coordinator Stacey Moore at stacey@geoprofessional.org to ask about joining and request the schedule.



Best Practices: Project Records Retention

This resource helps firms set clear, defensible retention rules. It discusses what to retain or discard, how inconsistent deletion can create legal risk, and why a simple, well-followed policy is better than a complex one.



[DOWNLOAD](#)

Future GBA Events

[Knowledge Sharing
Webinar
September 24, 2026, 2
p.m. ET](#)

[CEO Summit 2026
October 29-30, 2026 - San
Francisco, CA](#)

[2026 Fall Leadership
Summit
November 5-6, 2026 -
Denver, CO](#)

GBA Member News



UES Expands Thermal Resistivity Expertise with Addition of Geotherm

UES announced the acquisition of Geotherm on September 2. Based out of Katy, Texas, Geotherm provides thermal resistivity testing with proprietary, industry-leading technology for energy clients across North America. [READ MORE](#)



Innovation At SME: Technology Is The Tool, Better Problem-Solving Is the Goal

The most powerful innovation often starts with a small improvement. SME focuses on creating a culture where ideas become action that lead to meaningful results. Learn how SME employees are turning everyday challenges into lasting improvements. [READ MORE](#)



Apex Announces New Chief People Officer

Apex welcomed Janel O'Connor, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, as its new Chief People Officer on September 1. Janel's expertise and people-centered leadership will help strengthen Apex's organization and foster a culture where employees can build long, rewarding careers. [READ MORE](#)



Max Ho Promoted to Senior Associate

Grounded Engineering is thrilled to announce the promotion of Max Ho to Senior Associate. Since joining Grounded, Max has consistently demonstrated dedication, strong leadership, and a commitment to design excellence. [READ MORE](#)

Have a story tip? Send it to us!



What We're Reading



5 Steps for Employers to Combat Sophisticated AI-enhanced Phishing Scams

Your existing phishing training and verification practices may be out of date, even if you updated them as recently as last year. Here's what's happening and five steps you should consider taking.

Data Centers: Opportunity—and a New Risk Profile for Contractors

Data centers represent a significant growth opportunity; this article highlights the risk management and contract considerations firms should weigh before entering this high-stakes market.



Decision Traps Every Leader Should Recognize

Even experienced professionals fall victim to predictable thinking errors that can distort decisions and blind us to risk.



The Best Leaders Ask for Help: Why It Works

The best leaders leave their pride at the door, recognizing that collaboration often produces better decisions and more innovative solutions than going it alone.

GBA Related Resource: *Looking for a trusted group of peers to discuss challenges, share ideas, and gain fresh perspectives? [Contact GBA Staff](#) to learn about CEO and executive Peer Groups and how to get involved.*

More Industry Headlines

Your AI Tool Could Be Your Next Breach of Contract

GBA Related Resource: [Business Brief: Utilizing Artificial Intelligence: Is Your Firm Adequately Insured?](#)

Deeper Bedrock Adds \$800 Million: A Lesson in Subsurface Uncertainty

What Triggered Nepal's Catastrophic Debris Flow?

After Three Landslides, a Canadian Community Wants Answers



"The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones." - Confucius

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About GBA

The Geoprofessional Business Association (GBA) helps its members and their clients confront risk and optimize business performance by delivering unique professional resources, programs, and services that make them stronger and more successful.



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