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GBA NEWSlog

A publication of the Geoprofessional Business Association

OCTOBER 28, 2026

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New Case History Shows How to Keep Project Concerns from Becoming Disputes

GBA's new Case History #119: Shake, Rattle, Heads Might Roll shows how prompt action, objective data, and clear communication helped keep construction-vibration concerns from escalating into a significant dispute. This new resource is **free for GBA members.**

Download

Not a member? Explore GBA member benefits.

More GBA News

Registration Is Open for the 2027 GBA Annual Conference

It's time to go ALL IN for GBA and the geoprofessions! Registration is now open for the 2027 GBA Annual Conference, April 15-17 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Join geoprofessional leaders and emerging talent for thought-provoking keynotes, practical sessions, candid peer exchange, and valuable opportunities to build relationships across the GBA community. Come ready to learn, connect, and leave with actionable ideas. Early bird registration ends January 31, so register now and be ALL IN for Vancouver.



Register Now

Tomorrow! Navigate the Risks and Rewards of Building Software

Custom software can address a firm's specific needs, but it can also introduce overlooked concerns involving security, compliance, maintenance, privacy, quality assurance, and return on investment. Join Seequent's Mark Skinner and Carl Grice on October 29 at 2 p.m. Eastern Time for a practical discussion of when firms should build, buy, integrate, or extend their software tools. Attendees will earn 0.5 PDHs.



Sign Up

Applications Open for the 2027 Woodward L. Vogt Project Excellence Award

GBA is now accepting applications for the 2027 Woodward L. Vogt Project Excellence Award, recognizing outstanding projects that demonstrate how GBA member firms put risk management, innovation, quality, and other GBA principles into practice. Projects of all types and sizes are eligible, giving member firms an opportunity to showcase exceptional work, recognize their teams, and highlight the value they deliver to clients and communities. Applications are due January 15, 2027, but firms are encouraged to submit early.



Learn More/Apply

New Case History Podcast: When Site Characterization Misses the Mark

In the latest episode of the GBA Podcast Case History Series, hosts Elizabeth Brown, P.E. (*JLT Consultants*) and Abi Corbett (*SME*) discuss Case History #111, in which incomplete site characterization contributed to costly challenges and project disputes. Listen to gain insights into investigation planning and risk management, and learn what every geoprofessional consultant should take away from this cautionary case.



Listen Now

Download Case History #111

Welcome Back Thurber!

GBA is pleased to welcome Thurber Engineering Ltd. back to membership! Founded in Canada and recognized as a leader in geotechnical, environmental, construction materials, and specialty engineering services, Thurber has been helping clients solve complex engineering challenges for decades. With offices across Canada and a strong reputation for technical excellence, collaboration, and client service, Thurber brings valuable expertise and perspective to the GBA community.

"Thurber's return reflects the value of bringing geoprofessionals together to share ideas, learn from one another, and strengthen our industry," said GBA Business Development Manager Nikki Scalia. "It also highlights the growing connection between GBA and the Canadian geoprofessional community. We look forward to reconnecting Thurber's professionals with the people, resources, and conversations that help firms thrive."



Give Thurber a Welcome Message

Learn More

Committee Spotlight: Resource Collaboration

GBA committees are where much of the association's member value gets built, and the Resource Collaboration Committee (RCC) helps review, improve, repurpose, and track reference materials so strong ideas become polished, usable resources. A recent example of

the committee's work is supporting the review, editing, and branding of GBA publications, with the committee also having created tools such as the Case History Digest.

Committee leadership: Chair Chuck Gregory, P.E., F.GBA (*Terracon*) and Vice Chair Travis Wambeke, P.E. (*GeoProfessional Innovation Corporation (dba GPI)*).

While RCC meeting cadence varies, most GBA committee meetings are open to all members and are typically held virtually each month. Members can contact GBA Committee Coordinator Stacey Moore at stacey@geoprofessional.org to ask about getting involved and to request the current schedule.



One of the Most Downloaded Resources in GBA History

GBA's **Best Practices guide: Taboo Words** spotlights high-risk terms—like certify, inspect, monitor, safety, and supervise—that can expand liability when interpreted in a legal framework. It explains why context matters and why many risk managers recommend avoiding these words except by exception.



Download

Future GBA Events

Knowledge Sharing Webinar
October 29, 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

LANGAN

Ryan Linthicum Named the Next CEO

Langan announced that Ryan C. Linthicum will become CEO of the firm effective January 1, 2027. The selection followed a two-year succession planning process led by David T. Gockel, current CEO and Executive Chair of the Langan Board of Managers. Linthicum has spent his entire 30-year career at Langan. **READ MORE**

HDR Appoints Erin Hunt President, COO

HDR named Erin Hunt as the company's next president and chief operating officer, replacing Neil Graff, who retires at the end of the year. **READ MORE**

GFT Acquires Iron Horse Architects, Inc.

GFT announced the acquisition of the assets of Iron Horse Architects, Inc., a Denver-based architecture firm specializing in aviation, transit, federal, and civic design services. **READ MORE**

Executive Leadership Promotions in Growth and National Accounts

ECS Group of Companies announced two executive leadership promotions: Grant Walker, P.E., has been promoted to Chief Growth Officer, and Rylan Farr has been promoted to Senior Director of National Accounts. **READ MORE**

Troy Schmidt Joins Freese and Nichols to Advance Applied Technology

As Freese and Nichols continues to expand how it applies technology to solve complex client challenges, Troy Schmidt will help guide that work as the firm’s Strategic Initiatives and Applied Technology Director. Troy will work closely with Chief Growth and Technical Officer Chuck Wolf to coordinate strategic initiatives, guide the Applied Technologies team and support the firm’s efforts to incorporate artificial intelligence into project delivery. **READ MORE**

Jarod Johnson Joins CEC Nashville as Water Resources Principal

Civil & Environmental Consultants (CEC) Nashville welcomed Jarod Johnson, P.E., to the team as a Principal in Construction Engineering and Inspection within its Water Resources practice. **READ MORE**



What We're Reading



An Overview of Risks in Adjacent Demolition and Construction

With effective planning and communication, the risks of demolition and construction next to existing buildings can be evaluated and managed, reducing the likelihood of damage and disputes.

RELATED GBA RESOURCE
Case History #119: Shake, Rattle, Heads Might Roll



Is Your Firm Currently Providing Services on a Data Center Project?

Can you do the same with this link: In the October 14 issue of NEWSlog, we asked readers whether their firms are currently providing services on a data center project. More than 73% said yes. Thanks to everyone who participated; your responses help shape the topics, resources, and information we feature in future issues of NEWSlog.



How to Respond When Employees Ignore Minor Rules at Work

Ignoring them creates frustration for coworkers, uncertainty about what you actually expect, and can undermine your team's trust and performance. Here's a practical, human-centered approach to responding.



Stop Doing Everything Yourself and Start Building Leaders

Delegation isn't about getting rid of work. It's about building capacity and capability in others through essential leadership skills, so you can focus on what only you can do. Here are seven practical ways to delegate more effectively.

More Industry Headlines

Minnesota Case Puts P.E. Responsibility in Focus

How to Get Promoted at Work (25 Great Tips)

According to this Geoscientist, Aging Brings Chance for Adventure in Nature and Work



"Thinking will not overcome fear but action will." - *W. Clement Stone*

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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.

GEOPROFESSIONAL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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