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NSPS Serves the Profession

NSPS is the voice of the professional surveying community for interaction with legislators in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, as well as with their respective staff; with federal agencies; with organizations representing other professional and non-professional groups; and to the general public through its outreach programs.

NSPS is a member of the NCEES Participating Organizations Liaison Council (POLC), and collaborates routinely with NCEES on a number of initiatives, including the development and distribution of promotional materials related to the surveying profession.

NSPS is an active member of the Council on Federal Procurement of Architectural/Engineering Services (COPAES), and is routinely successful in getting improper procurement solicitations for professional surveying services turned around. In the context of federal procurement, the term “architectural/engineering services” includes surveying and mapping services.

NSPS works very closely with other organizations on business issues affecting private-practice surveying and mapping firms through the Business Coalition for Fair Competition.

NSPS is a founding member of the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) which is collectively engaged in issues affecting the entire geospatial community. COGO is a unanimous consent organization, and cannot state a position as COGO unless all parties agree. When there is disagreement, COGO member groups can speak to issues on their own, or in concert with other COGO members, but not on behalf of COGO.

NSPS nominees were selected for recent appointments to both the FEMA Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC), which was re-instituted by the Biggert-Waters Act, and on the FGDC National Geospatial Advisory Council (NGAC).

NSPS serves as the Lead Society within ABET for the evaluation of university/college programs which provide surveying/geomatics education and are seeking accreditation, or reaccreditation. There are currently 30 such programs for which NSPS is responsible.

NSPS is often asked to coordinate the feedback to an entity known as O*Net which works with the Department of Labor in providing, among others, the definitions for surveying occupations/activities.

NSPS routinely meets with staff at federal agencies, among which are NGS, BLM, FEMA, and others on matters related to surveying practice, and provides exposure for the initiatives of these agencies in *NSPS News & Views* and on the NSPS website.

NSPS is also actively involved in the international surveyor’s organization, FIG. The NSPS delegation attends and participates in FIG Congress meetings (every four years) and FIG Working Week meetings (during years between COFPAES Congress meetings). The delegation has members on all FIG Commissions that are directly focused on surveying activities.