



# THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

## FORT WORTH CHAPTER

[www.seaot.org](http://www.seaot.org)

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Volume 13, Issue 2

# SEAoT Fort Worth News

February 2020

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

### Presentation:

### Development of New Technologies for Structural Inspection of Existing Bridges

*Speaker: Dr. Suyun Ham*

*Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Arlington*

The University of Texas at Arlington has received funding from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to use a testing system invented by a UTA researcher to inspect bridges for repairs without disrupting Texas commuters. This grant will go towards using Dr. Ham's non-contact testing system to make faster, easier and more accurate determinations about when and where bridge repairs are needed. Dr. Ham's system uses sensors mounted to a moving platform that can be pulled behind a vehicle. It detects mechanical waves created by an automatic impacting instrument striking the surface of the bridge. The waves can penetrate the bridge surface up to three feet deep and be mapped to a 3D image, similar to an MRI, to show hidden damage. Current methods require workers to drag or tap on the surface and listen for hollow sounds that could indicate potential problems. Because the system is mounted on a trailer and operates on a particular frequency, it is not necessary to close lanes for testing, and it can give engineers better insight into the entire structure, which can be difficult to access.

## President's Message

Ronald Ishmael, P.E.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our February meeting. As we all know February is the month for E-Week. As engineers we get so involved with our projects and laser focused, we forgot to highlight the achievements and the necessity of our profession. Why did you become a structural engineer and what passions do you have about our profession? I challenge you to find a way to promote the profession over the next few weeks. Some suggestions include mentoring a young engineer, presenting to K-12 or higher education students, get involved with your companies marketing and help spread the news on our profession, or get involved with engineering organizations such as SEAoT. If we don't inspire the next generation of engineers who will?

*Continued on page 3*

### Lunch Meeting Information

**February 26, 2020**

Freese and Nichols Building  
 Ground Floor Training Room  
 4055 International Plaza  
 Fort Worth, TX 76109

### **Meeting Sponsor:**

VoidForm

### **Catering:**

TBD

<b>Check-In:</b>	11:30 AM – 11:50 AM
<b>Chapter News:</b>	11:50 AM – 12:00 AM
<b>Lunch &amp; Program:</b>	12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

*Map to meeting is provided at end of newsletter.*

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## **SPEAKER BIO:**

Dr. Ham is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Arlington. He finished his Ph. D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Before that, he worked in industries for seven years as a researcher and a structural engineer on projects of more than 100 buildings and infrastructures design. His research expertise and interests with infrastructure damage assessment field and laboratory-testing includes rail structures, bridge structures, and nuclear power plants. Dr. Ham is also an expert in full-scale structural experiment testing, advanced numerical analysis, and innovative sensing techniques.

## **SPONSOR INFO:**

### **VoidForm**

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VoidForm further realizes that innovation and testing are critical to our combined success. We believe fostering relationship by sharing information with Architects and Engineers, we can specify the right product to meet new applications. As a void superstore we intend to incorporate the latest technologies and materials available into our product. We still offer comprehensive corrugated paper products under our SureVoid line but also a molded pulp alternative called WaveVoid. For contractors dealing with inclement weather we offer both a polypropylene box type, StormVoid, and an EPS Foam, GridFoam. We welcome the opportunity to discuss your application.

## **Lunch Catering**

This month's meeting will be catered by TBD.

## **Newsletter Advertisement Policy**

The Fort Worth Chapter of SEAoT would like to invite all prospective advertisers to contribute to the newsletter. We will definitely appreciate your support. You may support SEAoT by advertising in the newsletter. Space is available to structural engineering firms, vendors, and suppliers starting at \$175.00 for one year of advertisement (8 newsletters). If interested, please contact the newsletter editor, Misty Thomison, via phone at (817) 735-7240 or email at [fortworthseao@gmail.com](mailto:fortworthseao@gmail.com).

The newsletter editor is also looking for articles and announcements for publication. Submissions may be sent to the editor at [fortworthseao@gmail.com](mailto:fortworthseao@gmail.com). Articles and ads to be included in the newsletter must be received by the first Wednesday of the month the article or ad is to first appear. The newsletter is loaded on the SEAoT website, so you will get exposure to the entire state of Texas and more.

## **Reservations for Lunch Meeting**

To reserve a place at this month's meeting, please **RSVP by 5:00 PM on Monday February 24, 2020**. You may make your reservations via email at [fortworthseao@gmail.com](mailto:fortworthseao@gmail.com) or by phone to Misty Thomison at (817) 735-7240. Indicate the name of each attendant when making a reservation for several people. Also, specify if vegetarian meals are required. Lunch will be served at the meeting. The cost is \$20.00 for members and \$40.00 for non-members. The cost for students is \$10.00. Reservations are required to ensure adequate seating. A map of the location of 4055 International Plaza is included at the end of the newsletter for your use. Follow the signs to the Training Room.

President's Message continued from page 1

As a reminder and to build off the challenge above, we are putting together committees to assist us with chapter scholarship, 2021 State Convention in Fort Worth, and young membership events. If you have any interest in helping with these please let a Board member know and we will include you in the contacts. The idea of these committees progressing show growth of our chapter which is great for SEAOt, our community, and our members. We appreciate all the support you give to this chapter to make these things possible.

If there is anything the Board or chapter can do better, please do not hesitate to let us know.

## Cancellations

Please note that cancellations must be made by **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 2020**, to be honored. SEAOt reserves the right to decline cancellations made after the cut-off and to invoice no-shows.

## Editor's Notes

Reminder: Please make sure you RSVP by the deadline so we can ensure there is enough food for everyone.

## Membership Announcements

Current SEAOt members who would like to be transferred to this chapter are invited to do so by logging in with their user name and password and updating their chapter selection from their membership profile. Please email [fortworthseaot@gmail.com](mailto:fortworthseaot@gmail.com) for additional information. ❖

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEAOt FORT WORTH LUNCH MEETINGS FOR 2020:

### CHAPTER MEETINGS - FORT WORTH, TX

January 22, 2020

February 26, 2020

March 25, 2020

April 22, 2020

May 20, 2020

August 26, 2020

September 30, 2020

October 21, 2020

State Conference: October 22-23, 2020

November 18, 2020

### Upcoming Seminars:

- [SJI Seminars](#)
- [ACI/PCA Seminars](#)
- [AISC Seminars](#)

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## 2020 Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs

### Chapter Positions

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Treasurer	Ralph Benson, P.E.	(817) 944-2497	<a href="mailto:seaotftreasurer@gmail.com">seaotftreasurer@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Misty Thomison, P.E.	(817) 735-7240	<a href="mailto:fortworthseaot@gmail.com">fortworthseaot@gmail.com</a>
Past President	Steven Hodridge, P.E.	(817) 649-1544	<a href="mailto:Steven@DIengineers.com">Steven@DIengineers.com</a>
State Director	Ronald Ishmael, P.E.	(817) 505-4309	<a href="mailto:rishmael@bhbinc.com">rishmael@bhbinc.com</a>
State Director	Steven Hodridge, P.E.	(817) 649-1544	<a href="mailto:Steven@DIengineers.com">Steven@DIengineers.com</a>
Membership	Open		
Political Action Liaison	Open		
Young Members	Oke Orieka		<a href="mailto:oorieka@dunawayassociates.com">oorieka@dunawayassociates.com</a>

# Map to Freese and Nichols Building

4055 International Plaza

Fort Worth, TX 76109

