

NA ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES INC.

NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 10 | ISSUE 1

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The staff raise more than \$10,000 with a popular weekly initiative.





designing and building barns with john ernewein ltd.

NA Engineering Associates Inc. has worked on more than 20 projects for John Ernewein Ltd's Building Division in the past year and over fifty in the past three years. The Walkerton-based company is an independently-owned grain handling distributor and agricultural constructor which has been in business for more than half-a-century.

Our work with John Ernewein's Building Division has primarily consisted of structural design and site reviews for large barns all over Ontario. Each facility is tailored to house a specific type of livestock (primarily poultry and hogs) and often there are related support buildings required in addition to the primary one.

These utilitarian structures are typically constructed of wood framing with pre-engineered trusses, concrete floors and foundations. The barns must be both well-insulated and well-ventilated. Occasionally, the buildings

require unique methods of construction such as Nuform concrete walls — a system in which a plastic form also acts as a finish for poured concrete.

The barns are sited according to very specific provincial regulations. Manure storage must also be incorporated effectively into the building's design. Our firm has worked closely with John Ernewein Ltd. in order to comply with all of these requirements, while providing effective and efficient design solutions. "Farmers feed cities," and we are proud of our work with John Ernewein Ltd.

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a new project with OPG

Our firm was recently asked to provide Civil and Structural design for a new vehicle screening facility at Ontario Power Generation's Darlington site. The new facility will increase security's capacity for vehicle inspection, able to accommodate a greater number of vehicles as they are checked by security personnel.

The completed facility will help maintain the already high standard for safety and security on the Darlington site, while reducing the time it takes vehicles to be cleared for site access. The project also involved the removal of an existing weigh-scale for trucks that had been installed on-site.

Detailed design for the project is nearing completion. Construction should begin in early 2014.

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keeping on the cutting-edge of 3D design software

At NA Engineering Associates Inc, we pride ourselves on our ability to add significant benefit to our projects by using cutting-edge industry technology.

Our firm continues to invest in new software that provides an exciting set of tools for addressing various aspects of design and modeling. For clients, this provides a fast, practical, and easy-to-understand visualization of how a proposed design will work when applied in the real world.

As an example, Autodesk's Infraworks provides our firm the ability to quickly produce detailed three-dimensional models for projects that involve the design of civil infrastructure. The software can be used to demonstrate design within the context of an existing space, illustrating everything from overall site layout, to the way the area will receive light throughout a day.

On recent projects, the firm has also used Autodesk's Showcase 3D visualization software as a means of producing interactive presentations and realistic "walk-throughs" from our own CAD-developed models.

Our application of this software provides our clients with a dynamic, literal way of viewing their project as it evolves through the design process. This suite of tools is also used to provide clash detection, and integrated simulation and analysis reviews. This provides clients with very high quality design and construction documents, testing the way a project functions within its context before ever being built.

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food drive 2013

Towards the end of December, the firm wrapped its annual Food Drive, taking the money that staff had raised and buying several carloads of groceries for donation to local food banks.

After the firm matched the donations from the staff, the grand total raised was more than \$2,300. This beat last year's total by more than \$700, and made it the Food Drive's most successful year so far.

The annual Food Drive is one of many charity events undertaken by the staff at NA Engineering Associates Inc. Staff donate both food and cash in support of food banks in Stratford, London, and Kincardine. Thanks to all who participated.

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the firm's award

In late November, Jim Culliton presented our firm's annual NA Engineering Associates Inc. Award at Western University's Engineering Fall Awards Ceremony. The award is presented to a 3rd or 4th year engineering student who has excelled academically in the civil, environmental, or structural disciplines. The award was established through Foundation Western by Nick Aroutzidis (a Western graduate himself).

This year, the award was presented to Daniel Fox, an engineering student from Barrie, Ontario. Daniel is an active participant in Western's Society of Civil Engineers, acting as this year's Treasurer and Year-Representative. Daniel has also participated in the polar stick bridge competition and Movember fundraising activities.

NA Engineering Associates Inc. wishes to congratulate Daniel and wishes him the best for his future as an engineer.

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a new year, a greener newsletter

As part of our firm's commitment to both innovation and more environmentally-friendly practices, we have converted our newsletter to a fully-digital document. This change will not only allow us to save paper, it allows us to provide unique features (such as in text [hyperlinks](#) and document navigation that works with the [click of a mouse](#)).

Fun changes aside, we plan to continue using the newsletter to highlight our firm's exciting catalogue of projects, as well as our ongoing commitment to improving the communities where we work.

Thanks for reading and Happy New Year!

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dressing down raises \$10,000 since 2011

Every week of the past year, NA Engineering Associates Inc. has continued to celebrate Dress Down Friday, an initiative in which staff members make a \$2 donation in return for dressing casually.

This year marked a significant landmark for Dress Down Friday. Since 2011, the initiative has raised more than \$10,000 for a variety of local charities.

In 2013, the staff raised \$2,200. The company matched these donations, bringing the year's total to \$4,400. The money will be donated to The Sunshine Foundation of Canada: Dreams for Kids, an organization providing individual support to children with severe physical disabilities and life-threatening illnesses.

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get ready for the golf tournament

Mark your calendars! NA Engineering Associates Inc's Annual Charity Golf Tournament is being held on Monday, June 16th of this year.

The event will take place at the Stratford Country Club. The Annual Charity Golf Tournament is a longtime favorite fundraiser of our firm. The tournament has supported many different causes over the years. This year, the event will be in support of both the Children's Sunshine Foundation of Canada and the Stratford Soccer Association.

The tournament has raised more than \$350,000 for various charities since its inception. We look forward to seeing everybody for another year of this fundraising tradition.

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20 YEARS

SAVE THE DATE

To celebrate NA Engineering Associates Inc's 20th Anniversary, the firm is holding an open house on June 4th of this year. Mark your calendars! We would love to see you there!

**"THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
INTEREST AND COMMITMENT.**

**WHEN YOU'RE INTERESTED IN DOING SOMETHING, YOU DO IT
ONLY WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT.**

**WHEN YOU'RE COMMITTED TO SOMETHING,
YOU ACCEPT NO EXCUSES; ONLY RESULTS."**

- KENNETH BLANCHARD