

Bridge Engineer Opens Finley Engineering Group

R. Craig Finley, a prominent figure in the bridge engineering and construction industry for more than two decades, in December announced the creation of Finley



Finley

Engineering Group (FEG), a new bridge engineering and consulting company based in Tallahassee, Fla., dedicated to providing high-level expertise to all aspects and phases of major bridge construction projects throughout the United States.

Finley, a 1980 civil engineering graduate, was previously with Parsons Corp., the sixth-largest design company in the United States, where he served

as senior vice president in charge of the Bridge & Tunnel Division. He joined Parsons in 2001 when it acquired Finley McNary Engineering, Inc., the company he co-founded in 1989.

“I learned a lot at Parsons,” Finley said. “I met some great people and worked on some very good projects. But with my own smaller company, I’m able to lend my experience and expertise more directly to bridge projects. That’s where my heart is.”

Finley said FEG’s niche is providing a link between engineering and construction on major bridge projects.

“I see the company as an engineering ‘special forces’ group that can work either side of the fence,” he said. “Our strength is that we understand both sides; we don’t see a line

spanning the globe

In November 2004, Finley was honored with the American Segmental Bridge Institute’s Leadership Award at the group’s annual convention in Tampa Bay, Fla. ASBI gives the award each year for outstanding contributions to the segmental bridge industry. Finley received the award in recognition of his service as ASBI president in 2003 and 2004. He is the only two-time winner of the ASBI Leadership Award. His previous award came in 1995 as president of Finley-McNary.

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FEG differs from Finley McNary in two key ways, he said.

First, the new company is focused on providing high-level expertise to bridge construction projects, rather than a wide range of services. This allows FEG’s clients to better leverage the company’s depth of knowledge and experience, resulting in a more efficient and ultimately superior project overall.

Second, unlike Finley McNary, growth is not a pri-

mary goal of FEG. “We’ve got a core group with high-end technical expertise in engineering, as well as a great understanding of the construction process and how to apply that expertise,” Finley said. “We’ll grow, but I’m not doing this to build a bigger company. I’m doing it because it’s what I like to do and because we fill a need in the bridge construction industry.”

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