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Wireless monitoring promises safer railroad bridges

As interest gains in implementing high-speed rail in North America, CEE researchers are developing innovative ways to monitor existing railroad infrastructure to ensure safety for this new traffic. In a new project for the Federal Railroad Administration led by Professor Bill Spencer, two CEE research centers, the Smart Structures Technology Laboratory (SSTL) and the Rail Transportation and Engineering Center (RailTEC) are working together to develop a portable, cost-effective and practical wireless structural health monitoring system for railroad bridges in North America. More about the wireless monitoring project

Computer model predicts spread of Asian carp eggs

Asian carp are knocking on the door of the Great Lakes, but managers now can better pinpoint strategies to control their rapidly increasing population, according to a new model for tracking carp eggs developed by researchers at the University of Illinois and the United States Geological Survey. The model, called Fluvial Egg Drift Simulator (FluEgg), follows a clutch of eggs over time as they travel downstream. More about FluEgg



TrafficTurk takes on epic traffic jams of popular annual event

The throngs of visitors to the popular annual Farm Progress Show

in Decatur, Ill., typically bring equally sizeable traffic jams. But help is on the way in the form of a study being conducted by CEE researchers on behalf of the Illinois Department of Transportation. During this year's event, held in late August, researchers deployed a new system, TrafficTurk, to study traffic patterns around the show with the goal of improving traffic management plans in the years to come. More about the TrafficTurk study



CEE at Illinois realizes growth in faculty, enrollment, research

CEE at Illinois has undergone significant growth in recent years in faculty size, research expenditures and enrollment. The department also has seen meaningful improvement in a number of other areas, including diversity, student quality and more. "We were not deterred by the economic downturn of 2008-2009—quite the opposite," said Amr S. Elnashai, Professor and Head. More on CEE growth



Research Highlights booklet now online

A selection of current CEE at Illinois research projects in the areas of Sustainable Infrastructure Systems, Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency, Risk Management and Resilience, and Safe and Plentiful Water is highlighted in the new department publication Research Highlights 2013-2014. The booklet is now available online. View the research highlights booklet



Alumni celebrate 50 years of CEE alumni board

CEE alumni returned to campus September 6-7 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the CEE Alumni Association board. The celebration began Friday night with a reception in the M.T. Geoffrey Yeh Student Center. On Saturday the department hosted a pre-game brunch at the Activities and Recreations Center, followed by the football game against Cincinnati, at which CEE alumni enjoyed the game together in a reserved block of seats. Pictures from the 50th anniversary celebration



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