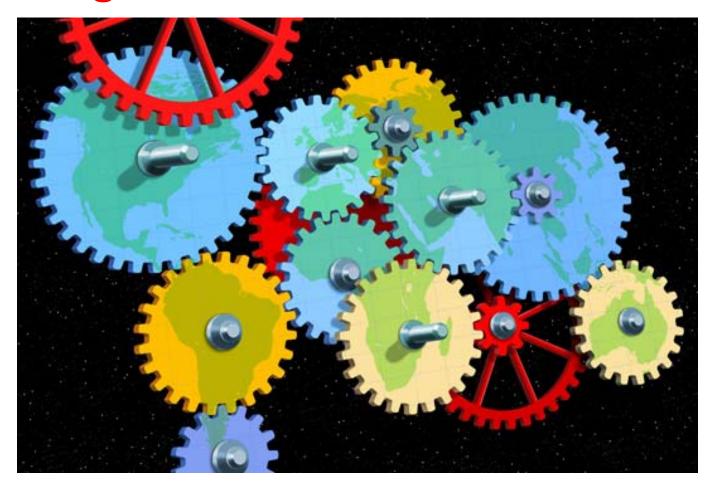
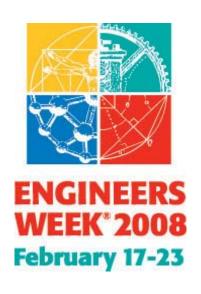
# **Engineers Make a World of Difference**





NHA 2009 Education Roundtable:
Taking Hydro into the Classroom
Greg Lewis, Duke Energy



## What is National Engineers Week?

- National Engineers Week or E-Week, takes place each year around the time of George Washington's birthday (mid-February). Sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE).
- E-Week is a volunteer program to increase public awareness of engineers' contributions to society by celebrating innovation and technology. (You do not have to be an engineer to volunteer!!!)
- Specifically promotes science & mathematic fields through in-school presentations and hands-on demonstrations. Targets middle school students and also promotes staying in school.
- A great opportunity to talk about hydro and hydro careers since the volunteers usually choose presentation topics based on their own personal careers!!!

## Getting Started in your Organization



- Eweek Leadership Team and Executive Sponsor.
- Develop volunteer solicitation process and communications with schools.
- Develop volunteer training packages and rollout.
- Develop resource materials and giveaways.

# Soliciting Volunteers by Explaining the Importance



- Educational research shows that middle school is the time when many students withdraw from math and science.
- We want to put somebody in front of students that has been successful in a technical area as an example of the importance & benefits of studying math and science.
- An early recruiting tool to help develop new engineers and technical people that may one day replace us!





#### Helping Volunteers Gain Confidence

- Offer training sessions where experienced classroom speakers share tips
  - Hands-on projects work well at all Grade Levels
  - Grab the attention at the start, avoid long lectures (7 minute rule), be interactive!
  - The teachers LOVE real life examples that connect to the subjects that they are teaching!!! (See standard course of study) And teachers can learn too!!!

### Helping Volunteers Gain Confidence (aka what is an extroverted engineer?)



- Preparing volunteers for the "tough" questions
  - Elementary School Will hang onto your every word. No worries.
  - Middle School Do we have a sub teacher today? (aka Why is that old guy here?)
  - High School How much do you make? I'm going to be an NBA superstar!!!
- Share a "how-to" classroom plan template that has worked well
- Provide web links, interesting video clips, handouts, brochures, trinkets, etc.
- Be prepared, be enthusiastic, and have FUN!!!



## Helpful Websites

- www.eweek.org (National Engineers Week Foundation of National Society of Professional Engineers)
- www.hydro.org (National Hydropower Association)
- www.hydrofoundation.org/hydropower/links.html (Hydro Research Foundation)
- www.fwee.org/hotlinks.html (Foundation for Water and Energy Education)
- www.need.org (National Energy Education Development Program)

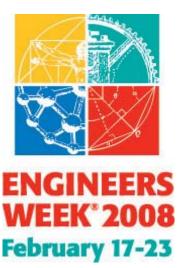


## Making a Difference

- In 2008, over 130 Duke Energy volunteers gave presentations to more than 11,000 students in the Carolinas.
- Duke Energy's Eweek program has grown steadily reaching over 50,000 students in the first eight years.
- Teachers call back year after year with many volunteers presenting to multiple classes and hundreds of students sometimes at different schools.
- Paying forward a full-circle testimonial.

# **YOU** Can Make a World of Difference





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