

the news



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Our 81st Year

August, 1994

ASCE - OCEA "RAILWORKS" AWARD CEREMONY

DATE: September 19, 1994 @ 11:30 A.M.

**LOCATION: Pennsylvania Convention Center
Grand Hall**

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RAILWORKS WINS OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING AWARD OF MERIT

This Section is proud to announce that the SEPTA Railworks Project was cited by ASCE as a recipient of the 1994 Award of Merit in the Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) competition. The project is described in detail in the July issue of Civil Engineering.

The effort, which had a construction cost of nearly \$150 million, basically rebuilt the former Reading Railroad main trunk line from the eastern end of the Center City Commuter Connection (the 1985 OCEA Award winner) at Fairmount Avenue to Wayne Junction. The work was performed during the summers of 1992 and 1993 with a total shutdown of service on the affected rail routes to facilitate construction. Rail patrons were diverted via the Broad Street Subway and several other interim bus shuttle routes. A total of 21 bridges were completely replaced and five others installed. Comprehensive work on walls and fences to protect the rights of way was also undertaken, and a new Temple Station was constructed at Berks Street to replace the former station located at Columbia Avenue. The net result of this effort was the continued reliability of this vital section of railroad for its over 90,000 daily patrons.

To cite this accomplishment and the award, the Section is planning a dedication and reception to be held in the Reading Terminal trainshed at the Pennsylvania Convention Center on Monday, September 19, starting at 11:30 AM. Among the invited speakers are Louis Gambaccini, General Manager of SEPTA, Mayor Ed Rendell, and representatives of the Federal Transit Administration, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and City of Philadelphia. National ASCE officers have also been requested to participate.

All Section members are invited to attend the festivities and share in this great honor. If you plan to attend, please respond to the Section Hotline (215-934-3639) by September 12 to allow us to plan accordingly. We hope to see you there!

WILLIAM T. THOMSEN, P.E.
PRESIDENT