Wednesday, August 19, 2026

SEAOI Member Spotlight

We want to feature you in a future SEAOI Member Spotlight! Please briefly answer a few of the questions below. While you may answer all questions if you wish, we may not be able to feature all responses due to space limitations.

Name: Rami Asfahani

Credentials: PE SE

Years in the SE profession: 13

Role in SEAOI: Bridge Symposium VP

What's your favorite building and/or bridge? Tribune Tower | Michigan Ave Bridge

What is your favorite project you have personally worked on?

41st Street Pedestrian bridge. Designing a single-tube S-curved approach span with only 1 year of experience in the industry was a beautiful challenge and really helped me understand Finite Element Analysis.

When did you know you wanted to become an SE?

During COVID. I wanted to take advantage of staying at home to study. The SE exam had other plans though!

What advice would you give to your former self, just starting out in the profession?

Re-do what I did to the T. Worked with some amazing people and got to learn a lot on various projects. Do not hesitate to say yes to a project and do not hesitate to step into a challenge knowing NOTHING, because one thing I learned, is that everyone knows nothing when getting into any project and you learn by asking the right questions.

If you're a senior engineer, what advice would you give to current junior engineers?

Don't try to perfect your task. Expect comments. Expect to mess up. You only learn by putting yourself out there and providing the calculation/CAD sheet to the best of your knowledge within a good time frame. Trying to perfect your product or task will only cause delays, overtime, anxiety but you will still see comments since you're in the learning stages of this career.

Don't be scared to raise the red flag on items you don't understand or need help. We do NOT expect junior engineers to know everything.

If you're a junior engineer, what advice would you give to current senior engineers?

Be easy on Junior Engineers and make sure to rotate tasks between staff. It's easy to get sucked into the idea of having one person doing Load Rating for the next 3 years but then the company is bottlenecked with that one person and that person is not going to enjoy working for much longer.

Why are you a member of SEAOI?

Great people, great events, awesome community.

What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment, technical or otherwise?

Passing all four SE exams in one year with two kids after failing the exams multiple times. Have a feeling

the chaos at home made the exam atmosphere a cozy space!

I consent to having my responses published, in whole or in part, in a future SEAOI Tuesday Update email.	I agree.