

2013 Vernon B. Spalding Leadership Award

Doug Watson, PE

President & CEO, Wade Trim



Doug Watson has demonstrated a strong commitment to support and advance ACEC on both the state and national levels. During the past 28 years, Doug has contributed to ACEC of Michigan's success as President, Chair of the Management Development and New Leader Committees, and as Director. His work has focused on developing and improving relationships with related organizations and groups, increasing legislative activities, providing input and service to a changing MDOT and the transportation community, and strengthening the QBS facilitative programs. He has also been involved in strategic planning initiatives and securing leadership nominations for the organization. On the national level, Doug has chaired the ACEC National Management Practices Committee and served as ACEC Vice Chairman and a member of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and Design Professionals Coalition. He was heavily involved in developing the QBS Policy Statement, Construction Management At Risk Handbook, and Model Legislation for Alternative Delivery Systems.

At Wade Trim, Doug's 40-year career has spanned from Project Engineer to Chairman of the Board. He provides overall leadership to the firm by overseeing operations, administrative quality and business development and marketing divisions as well as strategic and annual business planning activities. His management experience includes development of Wade Trim's master specification system, preparation of contract documents, development of a management training program, principal-in-charge assignments, corporate quality control, chief operating officer, and financial assignments.

Doug's technical contributions to the engineering profession include major stormwater, wastewater, and wet weather projects for Wayne County, the City of Detroit, and multiple Downriver communities. He served as Principal-in-Charge for Greenfield Village's infrastructure restoration, site development for a major industrial facility, Wayne County's Downriver Regional Storage and Transport System, and the City of Taylor's Sportsplex. He also participated on the Joint Venture Control Board and Risk Management Committee for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's program to rehabilitate their wastewater treatment plant.