

2015 Vernon B. Spalding Leadership Award

Paul C. Wade, PE

Senior Vice President, Spalding DeDecker Associates



Paul C. Wade, PE is a licensed professional engineer with nearly 42 years of experience in the industry. He is experienced in design, project management, inspection, and construction management of civil engineering projects.

Mr. Wade earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1973 from Michigan Technological University. He then spent eight years working for contractors (four years as a construction superintendent) and four years as a consultant working in the areas of bridge and road design and construction engineering.

Paul began his career with Spalding DeDecker Associates, Inc. (SDA), a civil engineering and surveying firm, in 1985 as a Project Manager. During his almost 30-year tenure, Paul achieved progressive professional growth advancing to Vice President, and subsequently Sr. Vice President. He was elected Chairman of SDA's Board of Directors in March 2006. As Chairman, Paul planned and managed the firm's business development policies and objectives. His responsibilities included the development and implementation of short- and long-term initiatives to ensure profitability and growth for the firm. Paul retired in 2012 and continues to work part time for SDA.

Mr. Wade has been very active in the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)/Michigan. He has served as President of ACEC/Michigan and also served on the ACEC Board of Directors for 7 years. Paul has also served as Chair of the Transportation, Scholarship and Annual Meeting Committees for ACEC. Other activities of interest include serving on the Civil And Environmental Department Professional Advisory Committee for Michigan Tech, his community's Zoning Board of Appeals for 18 years, along with serving his community as a Director and vice chair on the Downtown Development Authority for the City of St. Clair. Other professional association involvement included: National Society of Professional Engineers, Michigan Society of Professional Engineers, and Chair of the Michigan YES Program for ACEC. Most recently Paul volunteered serving on the QBS Coalition.

Mr. Wade has worked with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) on many bridge, road, and pathway design and construction engineering projects serving as both a Project Engineer and Project Manager. Paul has worked with MDOT on several committees throughout the years and had served on the MDOT/ACEC Executive Committee for many years.