



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 12th, 2008

PREMIER U.S. ENGINEERING FIRM OPENS SECOND CANADIAN OFFICE

Shaker Heights, Ohio... The Equity Engineering Group, Inc. (E²G) announced today that it has opened a second Canadian branch office in Ottawa, Ontario. In February 2008, E²G opened their inaugural Canadian office in Edmonton, Alberta.

E²G is an 80-person U.S.-based engineering services firm that is internationally recognized as a leader in developing fixed equipment engineering standards and advanced technologies that keep oil refining and petrochemical plants safe and operating at top capacity. Jennifer Crowdis-Philopoulos, a Canadian citizen, will represent the Company in Ottawa.

"Expanding into Canada is an important part of our business strategy because Canada offers significant growth opportunities," said E²G CEO & President David Osage. "Canada will be one of the premier world-wide producers of crude oil within a decade, and the facilities used to produce synthetic crude are very similar to oil refineries. We have developed many of the standards and best practices used by U.S plants today, and our technologies help them maximize equipment availability, manage risk, and control inspection costs through the equipment lifecycle."

E²G commits significant time to developing technologies through industry committees such as the American Petroleum Institute (API), ASME, NACE and PVRC, and the Company has developed a strong reputation for leadership in developing industry standards for Risk-Based Inspection, Fitness-for-Service, and Materials/Corrosion disciplines, which are the company's core business areas.

Mr. Osage, the principal author of API 579, is internationally recognized as an industry expert and leader in the development and use of FFS technology. He is the chairman of the API/ASME Joint Committee on Fitness-For-Service and was instrumental in completing API 579-1/ASME FFS-1 *Fitness-For-Service*, the standard under which most Fitness-For-Service projects are performed today. He recently completed the re-write of the ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code, Section VIII, Division 2, an international industry standard for pressure vessel design.

E²G clients include the major U.S. oil and petrochemical companies who use E²G software and consulting services to manage risk at the plant level. Software products include *VCESage*, the benchmark design/analysis program; API RBI, the standard for Risk-Based Inspection; and *VCEDamage Mechanisms*, a quick reference guide for identifying problems that can cause costly equipment failure.

The Equity Engineering Group, Inc.

20600 Chagrin Blvd. • Suite 1200 • Cleveland, OH 44122 • Phone: 214-283-9519 • Fax: 216-283-6022
www.equityeng.com

Mr. Osage says that the company's employees are its strongest asset. "People say Equity is a great company to work for, so we attract the best people in the business – many are internationally recognized in their area of technical expertise. Jennifer is an example of the high talent Equity attracts. We are delighted to have her representing us in Canada."

Ms. Crowdis-Philopoulos is an experienced plant materials and corrosion engineer for refineries, specifically heavy oil upgrading facilities. Her experience includes troubleshooting corrosion issues and developing corrosion control plans; providing damage mechanism identification and shutdown work scope reviews using Risk-Based Inspection techniques; and providing material selection for upgrades to existing facilities and new projects.

She has facilitated and provided lead technical roles in Root Cause Analysis of equipment failures as well as maintenance reliability issues. She also has extensive expertise with erosion resistant coatings and their applications in various operating conditions.

Her other areas of experience include developing Corrosion Control Documents for refining facilities, as well as establishing Materials Operating Envelopes based on damage mechanisms and plant operation. Ms. Crowdis-Philopoulos has also taught materials and corrosion training courses for various audiences. She previously worked for Shell Canada Ltd.

Ms. Crowdis-Philopoulos holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Metallurgical Engineering from Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada.

E²G's Canadian branch offices operate in Ontario and Ottawa as The Equity Engineering Group, Canada.

Contacts:

In the U.S.:

Kathy Powers, Marketing & Communications Director
1-203-938-3284

In Canada:

Jennifer Crowdis-Philopoulos, P.Eng
Office: 1-613-321-0019
Fax: 1-613-249-7409
Cell: 1-613-218-4030