

# Construction CPM Conference News

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San Luis Resort, Galveston Island, Texas

JANUARY 17 – 20, 2021

Six meeting rooms over three full days

Two keynotes – Seventy-plus breakouts – Six networking events – One conference

## Planning & Scheduling 2021 From Lemon to Lemonade

***From our host Fred Plotnick:***

***How to run a railroad if not knowing which way the trains are going?***

***Plan two tracks! Plan two sets of tracks!***

We continue to plan for two concurrent conferences – LIVE and VIRTUAL. In our last newsletter, we noted that Judge Marshall had visited Galveston staying at and further scoping out our [San Luis host hotel](#), and reporting “Galveston is open for business.” We expect continued progress, perhaps new challenges, but a return to a safer new normal by January. We face threats and risks ahead, but also see opportunities and rewards.

Perhaps Covid-19 or other black swan events may force cancellation of a live event for 2021. Our contingency plan is to provide for both live and virtual experiences so that those who feel comfortable attending in person will enjoy our best-of-class event, while those who cannot attend for any number of reasons (black swan, but also job requirements, employer budget, travel restrictions, or personal family) may attend our Construction CPM Conference version of a virtual event.

This is far more than watching a screen of recorded or even live presentations.

We are now watching how others are handling the switch to a virtual experience. My colleagues at Drexel and Temple Universities are trying a variety of platforms and protocols. Some are trying pre-recorded lectures for watching asynchronous viewing on student’s own schedule and posted Q&A with the professor. Some with smaller class size are trying Zoom for synchronous lectures with limited live Q&A. Many variations.

I will be attending the [AAACE \(Association for Advancement of Cost Engineers\) Annual Conference](#) now converted to be provided in virtual mode and in a mix of these formats.

The conference originally June 28 to July 1 is now to be June 28 to July 3 and beyond. [Each day three sessions will be broadcast live](#) (at 1100am, 1230pm, 200pm.) Topics will range from our typical Planning & Scheduling and Claims Resolution to those of greater interest to practitioners focused upon Estimating and Cost and Earned Value.

I highly recommend this event to our Attendees. Many of you are already Members of AACE. Rate for AACE Members is \$400. Rate for non-members is \$500 – still a bargain – [for 18 hours of live presentations plus 68 hours of prerecorded](#) voice-over-slide presentations. My prerecorded presentation PS-3486 Writing the CPM Specification to Support the Writer is included.

So our challenge at Construction CPM Conference is to watch and learn, watch others and learn, improve upon and offer our CCC format to our Attendees at an affordable price. We will start assuming we will have our live conference – but now with improvements. Our six concurrent meeting rooms ensure at least one “gotta see” for each session. But now we will also provide this full spectrum of service to those who cannot attend in person. We will be live streaming from each of our six concurrent rooms and all (live and virtual) attendees get to participate in polls and Q&A. All will be recorded for later visiting the other five concurrent presentations.

Both Live and Virtual Attendees will be offered to TEXT Questions from phone or personal device, these collected for each speaker as received. Some speakers may break presentation to answer as received, others will hold for Q&A period at end. Similar technologies are being considered to facilitate voiced conversations between Speaker and live or virtual members of our audience.

[See our last newsletter](#) for our thoughts on bringing our Exhibit Hall experience to our virtual audience, and expansion of our signature [Dine with Five New Friends™](#) experience to allow our Virtual Attendees to network via CCC Virtual Receptions.

I hope to see you in the flesh or on-screen in January.

**KEEP SAFE – KEEP HEALTHY – KEEP ACTIVE – KEEP ENGAGED**

**Save the Date and Get Pre-Approval for Budget**

**January 17-20 2021 San Luis Resort Galveston Island Texas**