Section 1 - Purpose
Certain providers of goods and services commonly employed by members in conduct of their work are known to be highly reliable sources of information useful to consulting engineers. The same providers are in a position to act as informal liaisons between ACEC-SC and organizations and individuals with whom they work. By permitting appropriate representatives of provider organizations to participate more substantially in ACEC-SC activities, the potential for enhanced communication, cooperation and coordination can be realized. Accordingly, ACEC-SC has established an affiliate membership category.

Section 2 - Eligibility
Any organization, other than consulting engineering firms, which provides products and/or services routinely used, specified or recommended to clients by members of ACEC-SC may be eligible for affiliate membership.

Section 3 - Election to Affiliate Membership
1. Procedure. Any organization desirous of becoming an affiliate member of ACEC-SC may make its wishes known in writing to the Board. Before being considered, such organization shall provide the name of at least one ACEC-SC member who shall sponsor the potential affiliate member. Each such request for affiliate membership shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors. If the Board believes that granting affiliate membership to the interested party will be in the best interest of ACEC-SC, members shall be advised in writing and shall be given a period of three weeks to comment on the applicant. Failing any negative comment, an invitation to become an Affiliate member of ACEC-SC shall be issued to the interested party.
2. Review Considerations. In reviewing the desirability of issuing an invitation to any given prospective affiliate member firm, a member of the board shall first speak with the sponsoring ACEC-SC member to determine the basis for such sponsorship. The board shall review the composition of the current affiliate membership to determine the extent to which a given product or service category already is represented by existing affiliate membership, to help assure that any available affiliate memberships are used to enhance diversity of services and products represented by affiliate members. If the review indicates it would be desirable to include the prospect among the ACEC-SC affiliate membership, the Board shall contact other ACEC-SC members and nonmembers identified as
references by the prospect, to help assure the
prospect is known for conducting itself in a professional manner.
3. Member Comment. If after notification, a board member shall voice negative comments about the prospective affiliate member within the time period provided, an invitation shall not be issued to the prospective affiliate member until the Board obtains more information about the basis of the negative comment.
4. Rejection. If for any reason an invitation shall not be extended to an organization seeking affiliate membership in ACEC-SC, the organization shall be so informed.

Section 4 - Duration of Membership
An organization's affiliate membership shall continue only through the last day of the fiscal year during which affiliate membership was conferred. The Board shall
issue invitations for annual affiliate membership renewal only to those organizations which, in the opinion of the Board, enrich the value of membership for ACEC-SC members.

Section 5 - Limited Number
The number of affiliate members permitted to belong to ACEC-SC at any given time shall be determined by the Board on an annual basis and as a general rule should not exceed 25-35 percent

of the number of ACEC-SC member firms. No affiliate member shall be asked to leave during a fiscal year solely because a loss of ACEC-SC members reduces the number of affiliate members who may belong to ACEC-SC.

Section 6 - Representation
Each affiliate member shall be permitted three representatives. As part of the review process, prospective affiliate member shall identify who these three representatives shall be, and provide biographical information about each. At such time as representatives are changed, biographical information shall be furnished to and reviewed and approved by the Board before the replacement is accorded official representative status.

Section 7 - Participation in ACEC-SC Affairs
An affiliate member representative may serve on any ACEC-SC committee, and may attend and participate in ACEC-SC membership meetings. In all such activities, however, the affiliate member representative involved shall serve without vote, in an advisory capacity only.

Section 8 - Dues and Fees
There shall be no affiliate membership application fee because organizations may become members and maintain membership from year-to-year only at the invitation of the Board. However, affiliate members shall be required to pay dues to the ACEC-SC. Such dues shall be established each year by the Board of Directors.

Section 9 - Relationship to ACEC
ACEC-SC is a member organization of the American Consulting Engineers Council, and as such, each ACEC-SC member also is a member of the American Consulting Engineers Council. Affiliate members may not belong to the American Consulting Engineers Council, however, and therefore no benefits accorded to members of the American Consulting Engineers Council shall be afforded to affiliate members of ACEC-SC.

Section 10 - Notice of Affiliate Membership
An affiliate member may not use affiliate membership status in the organization for any commercial purpose, except it may list its affiliate membership in proposals and similar documents of short-term longevity. In that affiliate membership in ACEC-SC may not be renewed by the Board from one year to the next, use of symbols and/or words indicating affiliate membership on or in materials such as brochures, letterheads, and business cards is expressly forbidden. In all cases, an affiliate member shall obtain permission for a specific application or category of application prior to implementing such application, and shall receive written permission for the application prior to implementing it.