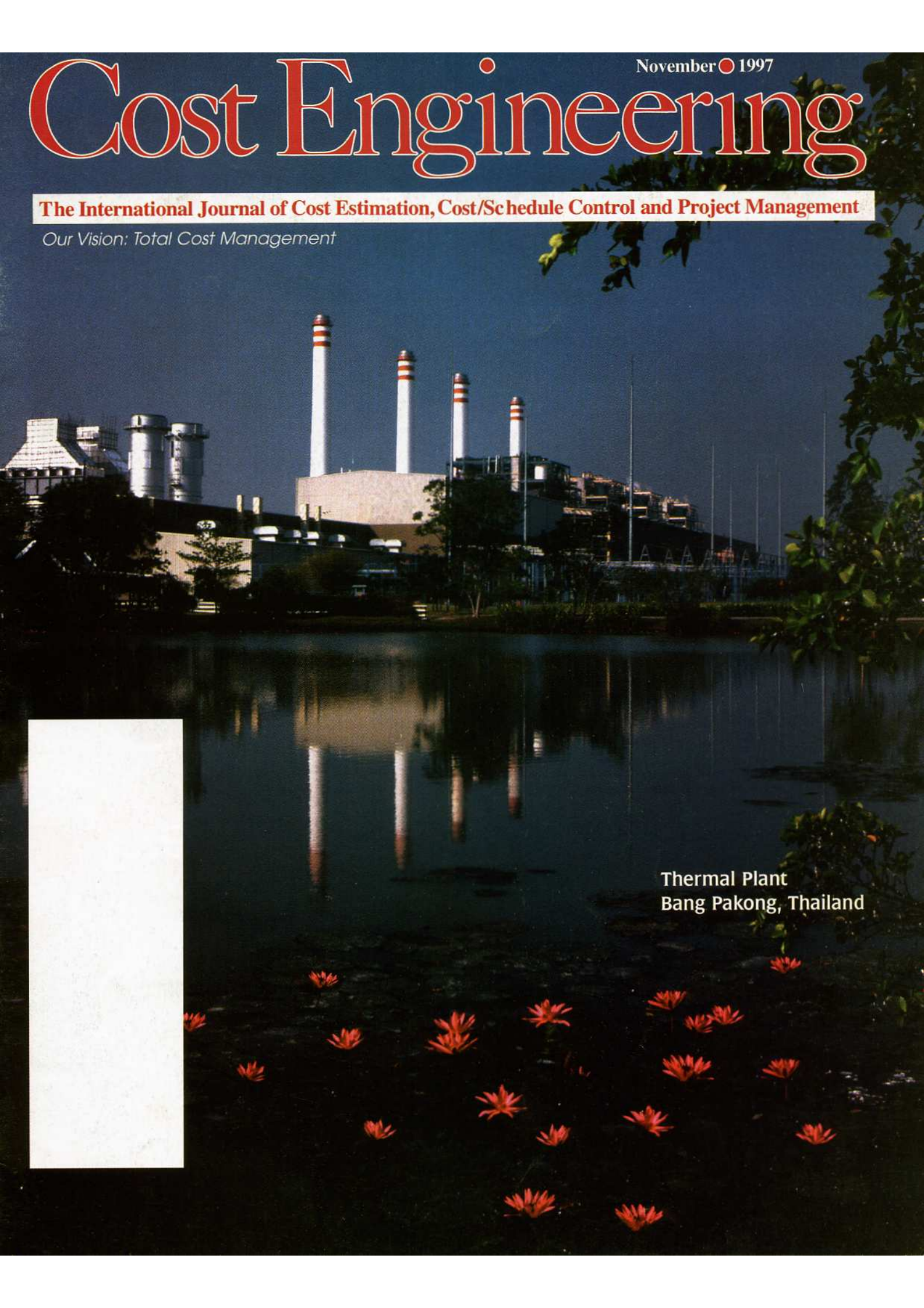


Cost Engineering

November 1997

The International Journal of Cost Estimation, Cost/Schedule Control and Project Management

Our Vision: Total Cost Management



Thermal Plant
Bang Pakong, Thailand

Letters to the Editor



To [Sarwar Samad](#):

Thank-you for sharing the article concerning the FAA's National Airspace System [**Cost Engineering**, August 1997]. It is most informative and provides a clear picture of the NAS and FAA goals.

Since the agency's inception in 1958, the FAA had been charged with the dual responsibilities of promoting aviation and ensuring safety. Last year, Congress approved the administration's request to alter the FAA's role in promoting aviation. Our only mission now is to ensure aviation safety.

The FAA is moving aggressively forward with several initiatives that will enhance safety and efficiency. One of our most ambitious programs, Flight 2000, will test cutting-edge air traffic management concepts in Alaska and Hawaii. Flight 2000 will greatly increase users' flexibility to plan flight routes through the use of [the] global positioning system (GPS) for navigation, [and] automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast (ADS-B) for surveillance and data link for communications. Flight 2000 will enhance both pilots' and controllers' situational awareness and allow for the increased and more efficient use of airspace while ensuring a safe operating environment for all users.

Personnel and procurement reforms also approved by Congress last year have given the FAA the tools needed to pro-

ceed more rapidly with the modernization of our traffic control system. New state-of-the-art radar data processing and voice communication systems are being installed at our enroute centers, terminal radar facilities, and control towers. This new equipment, and innovative programs like Flight 2000, will allow the FAA to meet the increased system demand while ensuring safety as we move into the next millennium.

Again, thanks for the information. Good work!

Sincerely,

William C. Withycombe
Regional Administrator/FAA/Western Pacific Region

Dear Editor:

The article entitled *Biopharmaceutical Construction, Costs, and Cost Controls* [**Cost Engineering**, September 1997] was of great interest, especially since our firm acts on behalf of many healthcare facilities.

However, I found several things confusing. Under the paragraph heading *Description of Facility*, it states that there is approximately 151,000 ft² of production area. When I look at table 1, it clearly shows the production area as included (not extra) in the total of 151,221.18 ft². The overall gross square footage is confirmed again in the paragraph entitled *Floor Area*. Possibly the earlier description should have read 151,000 ft² of floor area, including 38,000 ft² of production area?

Otherwise, Christopher Law wrote an article that was interesting, informative, and uncomplicated, something that many articles in **Cost Engineering** and **PM Network** are not.

Yours truly,

Norman H. Matthews
President, Construction Economists of America, Inc.

In Our Estimation continued . . .

Local Section Marketing

With a minimum amount of effort each month, you can correspond with many TV, radio, and print media sources regarding local and international AACE activities/announcements. If you don't have a section newsletter, start one. It's an excellent source of section revenue via advertising. Do you have people in the local section who should be more involved but are not? Ask someone to take photos at section meetings, to put together an e-mail announcement of your next meeting, or to have lunch with a decision-maker from a local contractor, bank, insurance company, or manufacturing company to talk about AACE International. You may be surprised at the number of people who are willing to talk about their work and listen to what AACE has to offer. Has your section considered developing Internet homepages? Be prepared to help market AACE at the section level.

Join the Marketing and Public Relations Committee

We have openings for a few dedicated and energetic people who want to bring their ideas to the forefront and work to turn ideas into reality. If you would like to get involved with AACE International's marketing and public relations activities or would like more information on our projects and goals, please contact me through e-mail (L_Aaron@compuserve.com) or call me during business hours at 702-295-5554, Pacific Daylight Time.

Ready troops? Be prepared: I'll look forward to seeing the fruits of our labor in the not-too-distant future.◆