



# News Release

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## **INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE EXPERT COMBAULT JOINS FINLEY ENGINEERING GROUP**

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA — Jacques Combault, one of the world's leading experts in the design and construction engineering of cable-stayed and long-span bridges, has joined Finley Engineering Group (FINLEY) as Technical Director.

During his distinguished, award-winning career, Combault has played a major role in some of the most innovative bridge projects of the past several decades, including the Sunshine Skyway Bridge in Tampa, the Brotonne Bridge on the Seine River in France, the Rion-Antirion in the Gulf of Corinth, Greece, and the Sutong Bridge Project in China. A frequent collaborator with legendary bridge designer Jean Muller, Combault is a two-time nominee as ENR magazine's Man of the Year.

According to FINLEY president Craig Finley, the addition of Combault helps further his new firm's mission of providing high-end technical expertise to innovative bridge design and construction engineering projects in the U.S. and abroad.

"Having Jacques Combault on board is a tremendous step in the growth and evolution of Finley Engineering Group," says Finley. "He brings exceptional experience, innovation, and creativity to our firm. With his domestic and international knowledge and credibility, he also offers our engineering staff a unique learning opportunity."

In addition to his Man of the Year nominations from ENR, Combault's long list of honors and recognitions includes the Federation International du Beton Medal of Merit Award in 2004, the Award of L'Association Francaise pour la Construction in 1991, and three Innovation Awards from Groupe GTM. He also served as vice president of the International Association for Bridges and Structural Engineering (IABSE) and has been a keynote speaker at many industry conferences and meetings.

Combault says the opportunity to serve as technical director on major bridge projects with Finley and the FINLEY staff is exactly the challenge he is looking for at this stage of his career.

"The need for designing and building bridges in the U.S. is huge," says Combault. "As the leader of the



design department in three major construction companies, I gained a lot of experience in both design and construction methods. I also learned, a long time ago, that the close interaction between design and construction has to be taken into account from the very beginning in any significant project. I've been teaching this to my design teams and my students for many years, and I expect it will be one of the most fascinating tasks I will undertake with Craig and his staff."

In addition to serving in key design and technical advisory roles on some of the most complex bridge projects in the world, Combault is recognized for developing far-reaching innovations in the fields of pre-fabricated concrete and steel-concrete composite bridges. He has a master's degree in engineering from the Ecole Centrale de Lyon, spent many years as a professor at the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in the field of construction techniques, and has published more than 30 scientific and technical papers.

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