# Justin T. Kestner, P.E., MS, MBA

CEO, Principal Engineer

## Contact

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HaagGlobal.com

## Academic Background

Master of Business Administration, Villanova University
2004

Master of Science in Civil Engineering, Lehigh University
1998

Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Villanova University
1995

## Professional Licensure

**Registered Professional Engineer:** Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia

Justin Kestner, P.E., MS, MBA, serves as CEO of Haag Global, Inc., and President of its subsidiaries. In addition to leading Haag, Mr. Kestner continues to provide engineering consulting and expert witness services. He has provided expert testimony in cases involving roof and building envelope performance/damage, bridges, sinkhole and other foundation-related issues, building collapses, and more. He has evaluated thousands of roofs for storm damage, installation issues, alleged product defects, alleged intentionally caused damage, and general leak causation. Further, Mr. Kestner has evaluated over a thousand buildings for cause and extent of damage from foundation movement (sinkholes, expansive clay soils, organics, and/or inadequate fill/prep) and damage from stabilization efforts, including properties affected by catastrophic ground cover collapse.

Mr. Kestner has taught numerous continuing education courses for Haag Education, and he has co-developed and taught various sinkhole-related seminars and Haag's Certified Inspector programs for residential and commercial roofing damage assessment. He has also presented at various conferences, as well as to student chapters of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Prior to joining Haag, Mr. Kestner was primarily involved in the design, analysis, and inspection of bridges, culverts, overhead sign structures, strain poles, mast arms, and retaining, MSE, and sound barrier walls. He also performed third party design reviews for various transportation entities, inspections of piers and roads, and prepared foundation and hydraulics reports for bridges and culverts.

## Primary Areas of Consulting

Structural Evaluations

- Commercial, residential, and industrial buildings
- Bridges, culverts, and sign structures
- Wind damage
- Flood/surge damage
- Fire damage
- Structural collapse
- Settlement/heaving damage
- Impact damage from tree, vehicle
- Building code issues & code upgrades

Roofing System Evaluations

- Cause, nature, and extent of damage, particularly wind & hail
- Quality of manufacture & application of roofing
- Code issues

Geotechnical Evaluations

- Foundation and wall evaluations
- Sinkhole evaluations

Moisture Source Evaluations

Construction Defects Evaluations



Pictometry EX2033
Roofr v. Pictometry
IPR2023-00436

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## Professional Memberships & Activities

- Institute for Excellence in Corporate Governance (IEGC)
- National Association of Corporate Directors (past member)
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- Fritz Engineering Research Society
- Loss Executives Association
- National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying
- Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society

## Awards

Bridge engineer for replacement of historic stone arch bridge which was awarded the Association of State Highway Engineers (ASHE), Delaware Valley Section, 2006 Project of the Year (under $5M).

## Employment Background

**Haag Global, Inc.**

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| *President & CEO* | 2014 to Present |
| *Senior Vice President* | 2013 to 2014 |
| *Tampa Branch Manager* | 2006 to 2012 |
| *Principal Engineer* | 2015 to Present |
| *Senior Engineer* | 2008 to 2014 |
| *Associate Engineer* | 2006 to 2008 |

**Urban Engineers, Inc.**

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| *Project Manager, Senior Engineer, Project Engineer, E.I.T.* | 1998 to 2006 |

**Erdman Anthony Associates, Inc.**

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| E.I.T. | 1997 to 1998 |

**Center for Advanced Testing of Large Structural Systems (ATLSS)**

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| Graduate Research Assistant | 1995 to 1997 |

**Pennsylvania Department of Transportation District 6-0**

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| *Intern for pavement inspection and rating program* | 1994 to 1995 |

## Presentations and Lectures (Partial)

- *Haag Certified Inspector – Residential Roofing, 2008* - present; Instructor and Course Co-Developer
- *Haag Certified Inspector – Commercial Roofing, 2008* - present; Instructor and Course Co-Developer
- *Catastrophic Claims for Public Schools,* 2023 Loss Executives Conference
- M*ediating Construction Defect Cases: Tips and Tricks for Achieving Favorable Resolution,* 2023 CLM Construction Conference
- *Coordinating and Adjusting Large Catastrophic Claims for Public School Districts,* 2023 Loss Executives Alliance Conference
- *The Future is Here: Next Generation Scene Documentation, Evidence Presentation, & Case Presentation Using Matterport*, 2020 National Association of Subrogation Professionals Annual Conference
- *Because Sample Size Matters: The Use of Statistical Analysis in Attacking Unreliable Extrapolation Opinions*, 2019 DRI Construction Law Seminar
- *The Water Loss that Ate New Jersey*, 2017 PLRB Large Loss Conference
- *Catastrophic Construction Collapse: Critical Issues from an Adjusting, Engineering, and Legal Perspective*, 2017 Windstorm Conference
- *Determining the Cause of Loss with First Party Claims*, 2016 PLRB Eastern Regional Conference
- *Sinkholes in Florida: A Primer on Relevant Issues*, 2016 Eberl Claims Service Conference
- *Earth Shifting, Ground Collapses and Sinkhole Activity,* 2015 Windstorm Conference
- *Adjusting Sinkhole Losses in Florida: Practical Tips for Adjusters, Experts, and Attorneys in Light of Legislative Changes and Recent Court Orders*, 2014 Windstorm Conference
- *Sinkholes in Florida: Engineering and Legal Issues, 2010-2013*, Haag seminar series

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## Publications

- Kestner, Justin and Kennedy, Kevin. *Testing Your Mettle: What You Need to Know about Court Rulings on Cosmetic Hail Damage to Metal Roofs.* Claims Management Magazine, July 2016.
- Zisman, Ed, Wightman, Mike, and Kestner, Justin. *Sinkhole Investigation Methods – The Next Step After SP No. 57*. 12th Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkhole and Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst, 2011
- Marshall, Timothy P., Gilvary, Kenneth and Kestner, Justin. *Hurricane Andrew 20 years later: What have we learned?* 30th Conference on Hurricanes and tropical Meteorology, April 2012.
- ATLSS Report No. 97-07: *Rehabilitation of Reinforced Concrete Columns Using Fiber Reinforced Polymer Composite Jackets*, 1997

## Certifications and Training (Partial)

Haag Certified Inspector – Residential Roofs, 2008
Haag Certified Inspector – Commercial Roofs, 2009
Haag Certified Inspector – Wind, 2014
Roof Specific Rope Access Training, Level I, "Authorized Person", September 2012
Testifying and Forensic Report Writing Skills for Civil Engineers, ASCE
Seismic Design of Highway Bridges, ASCE
Bridge Inspection Refresher Course, National Highway Institute
Third Rail Safety Training, Southeast Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA)
Dale Carnegie Course

## Select Haag Project Profiles

A few of Mr. Kestner's consulting projects while at Haag are profiled below. A more detailed list expertise can be provided to include experience prior to Haag, upon request.

**Champlain Towers South Collapse.** Mr. Kestner is leading Haag's evaluation of the causes of the catastrophic building collapse in Surfside, Florida, that resulted in 98 fatalities.

**Bauxite Refinery Fire Damage Assessment.** The powerhouse for a bauxite refinery located in Jamaica and used in the manufacturing of aluminum caught fire and sustained substantial damage. Haag performed mechanical, electrical, and structural engineering services, as well as cost estimating, clerk of works, and other consulting. Mr. Kestner lead Haag's structural evaluation of the powerhouse, including required repairs and related estimated quantities and costs.

**Concrete Damage Assessment.** Mr. Kestner evaluated cracked sections of a slab-on-grade at a 2.8MM square-foot distribution center in Central Texas. The damage was reported to be the result of the record-setting deep freeze event of February 2021. The evaluation included inspections and site meetings, review of contract documents including concrete specifications, batch tickets, and existing materials testing results, as well as petrographic analysis and compression testing of cracked segments of concrete to be removed. The cost to remove and replace or repair all of the cracked concrete was on the order of $6.5MM.

**Catastrophic Tornado Damage to Dallas Schools.** Mr. Kestner led Haag's engineering evaluation of damage to three DISD schools – a high School, middle school, and elementary school – all within close proximity. Haag evaluated the extent of damage to the building envelopes, structural systems, mechanical systems, and electrical systems. Evaluation included code upgrades and repair vs. replacement analysis. Complicating matters was the presence of asbestos-based materials. Haag engineers worked closely with Haag construction consultants and meteorologists. The project utilized Matterport photogrammetry, UAV (drone) imagery, and GIS technology. The Haag team worked in close collaboration with experts representing DISD to expedite resolution of extent of damages and scopes of repairs.

**Asphalt Shingles Product Liability.** Mr. Kestner performed expert consulting and expert witness services in defense of a multi-district litigation case being brought against the manufacturer. Mr. Kestner inspected and supervised the inspections of hundreds of properties in 10 states, documenting roof conditions including storm damage, installation quality, attic ventilation and insulation, and shingle performance. Haag's client succeeded in defeating class certification.

**Parking Garage Collapse.** Mr. Kestner led a team of Haag engineers and construction consultants in evaluating the causes of collapse of a five-level parking garage under construction in Miami, FL. Mr. Kestner was on site within hours of the collapse and assisted local fire rescue and recovery teams in determining which areas of the collapse zone were safe to access in the days immediately after the accident. Haag performed engineering analysis, cost estimates for demolition and reconstruction, and 3D laser scans of the site before it was closed by OSHA. Haag's client was released from all liability. View the online case study here.

**Evaluation of Apartment Complex for Potential Sinkhole Damage.** Mr. Kestner led a team of Haag engineers and technicians in evaluating the cause and extent of damage to 13 two-story apartment buildings, a clubhouse, and swimming pool. Key issues were determining if buildings had sustained damage from potential sinkhole activity and if any such damage rose to the statutory definition of structural damage. The file eventually went into litigation. Haag's report and litigation support helped its client successfully resolve the matter.

**Hurricane Damage to Airport Hangars.** Mr. Kestner led the analysis of wind damage to four airport hangars damaged by winds from Hurricane Wilma. Analyses supported that not only were the metal buildings' roofs improperly installed, but the roofs also were inadequately designed to meet Florida Building Code wind pressures in two of the three wind zones on the roofs. Mr. Kestner's research also revealed that the manufacturer had later recognized a problem with this roof system in high wind areas following the 2004 and 2005 hurricanes and developed a more robust system to address these issues, after these subject roofs had been constructed and failed. Haag presented compelling evidence during mediations that led to successful resolution of the subrogation case. View the online case study here.

**Bridge Failure.** Mr. Kestner lead the analysis into the causes of why a newly constructed steel girder bridge experienced excessive girder rotations and was taken out of service by the Ohio Department of Transportation roughly one year after being opened to traffic. The bridge involved relatively flexible hybrid steel girders with non-standard cross-bracing connections and set on a sharp skew. Mr. Kestner later served as an expert witness for the Office of the Attorney General, State of Ohio, which secured a "favorable" settlement.

## Experience Prior to Haag

**Urban Engineers, Inc.**, Philadelphia, PA 9/98 – 1/06

- Design, analysis, and inspection of:
  1. Steel, reinforced and precast/prestressed concrete bridges
  2. Historic stone and brick masonry bridges
  3. Reinforced and precast concrete, metal pipe arch, and other culverts
  4. Full-height abutments on spread footers, piles, or drilled shafts
  5. Stub abutments on spread footers or piles
  6. Reinforced and precast concrete retaining walls
  7. Mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) walls
  8. Overhead and cantilever highway sign structures and strain poles
  9. Precast concrete sound barrier walls
- Inspected roughly 100 bridges and culverts in PA, NJ, and DE as part of bi-annual NBIS program. Inspection team leader.
- Reviewed and prepared numerous foundation reports and hydrological and hydraulic reports for bridge, culvert, and retaining wall structures.
- Performed third party reviews of design plans for bridges, culverts, retaining walls, sign structures, and sound barrier walls.
- Developed the standard designs and drawings for mast arms and strain poles for the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT).
- Inspected pier structures along the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers in Philadelphia.
- Inspected cantilever and overhead sign structures in Pennsylvania.
- Provided construction litigation support services by analyzing the validity of contractor claims for delays and cost over-runs.
- Bridge Inspection Refresher Course (National Highway Institute).
- Seismic Design of Highway Bridges Course (American Society of Civil Engineers).

**Erdman Anthony Associates**, Mechanicsburg, PA 6/97 – 9/98

- Design, analysis, and inspection of steel, reinforced and precast concrete, timber, and stone and brick masonry bridges and culverts.
- Inspected over 200 bridges and culverts in PA including several major bridges spanning the Monongahela and Cheat Rivers near Pittsburgh as part of bi-annual NBIS program.
- Performed load ratings calculations for numerous inspected bridges and culverts.

**Center for Advanced Technology for Large Structural Systems (ATLSS)**
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA 9/95 – 5/97

- Graduate research assistant responsible for testing, data reduction, and analysis of full- and small-scale specimens.
- Master's thesis involved modeling axial behavior of non-ductile reinforced concrete columns wrapped with fiber-reinforced polymer composite (FRP) jackets.

**Pennsylvania Department of Transportation District 6-0,** St. Davids, PA 7/94 – 8/95

- Inspected and rated roadway conditions for PADOT on numerous state routes as college intern.

**Springfield Township Engineering Department,** Springfield, PA 5/94 – 7/94

- Assisted Township Engineer with various projects including storm sewer flow capacity calculations for entire township system, parking studies, and construction site inspections as college intern.

*Testimony history available upon request.*