

## **PCI Announces 2012 Big Beam Contest Winners**

The Student Education Judging Committee recently selected the winners of the Engineering Student Design Award, also known as the Big Beam Contest. First-place winners from each of the six PCI zones, along with the international entries considered as zone 7, competed for the overall championship.

PCI's Student Education Committee (Dr. Richard Miller, Chair) organizes the Big Beam Contest, sponsored by SIKA corp. The objective is for teams of students to fabricate and test a precast, prestressed concrete beam with the help of local precast concrete Producer Members. Prizes are awarded in consideration of efficient design, highest load capacity, and other categories.

The first-place winner in each zone enters the national competition. The overall winners and zonal results are listed below.

### **National Competition**

#### **First place: University of Texas–Austin (Team 3); Austin, Tex. (Zone 2)**

Faculty advisor: Michael Brown, PhD

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc. (Texas), Cedar Park, Tex. (Nick Faerber)

*Student team Scott McCord, Vasilis Samaras, Hemal V. Patel, Kostas Belivanis, Federico Aguayo, Candice Kou, James Felan, and Trey Dondrea*

Award: \$1000

#### **Second place: University of Kansas / CEAE (Team 1); Lawrence, Kans. (Zone 3)**

Faculty advisor: Bob Lyon

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc., Kansas City, Kans. (Mark Simpson)

*Student team: Eric Bonat, Tyrone Poller, Kimberly Hannon, and Michael Whitson*

Award: \$750

#### **Third place: University of Notre Dame (Team 1); Notre Dame, Ind. (Zone 4)**

Faculty advisor: Yahya Kurama, PhD, P.E.

PCI producer: Strescore Inc, Notre Dame, Ind. (John Reihl)

*Student team: Eric Herbert, Allison Madden, Matthew Sushinsky, Michael Wilbur, Jenna Falsone, Ian Graham, Brad Geyer, and Kelsey Haddad*

Award: \$500

#### **Fourth place: University of North Florida / Civil Engineering; Jacksonville, Fla. (Zone 6)**

Faculty advisor: Adel El Safty

PCI producer: Gate Precast Company, Jacksonville, Fla. (Tom Newton)

*Student team: Andrew Isildar, Matthew Graeff, Adam Dooley, Fernando Paredes, Hugo Lerma, and Gregory Spelios*

Award: \$250

## National Competition (cont.)

**Fifth place: California State University, Chico / Civil Engineering Department (Zone 1)**

Faculty advisor: Charles Roberts, P.E.

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc. (Texas), Cedar Park, Tex. (Bill Doughty)

*Student team: Nick David, Ashley Dumais, Karla Kruse, Joshua Ramirez, Nickie Ramm, Katie Schmidt, Zack Stutts, David Wald, and Jordan Woodson*

**Sixth place: Lehigh University / Civil and Environmental Engineering (Team 1); Lehigh, Pa. (Zone 5)**

Faculty advisor: Clay Naito, PhD, P.E.

PCI producer: Northeast Prestressed Products LLC, Cressona, Pa. (Michael Ridge)

*Student team: Dan Foiles, Matt Fustine, Jeremy Corrigan*

**Seventh place: University of Western Ontario / Civil and Environmental Engineering; London, ON, Canada (Zone 7)**

Faculty advisor: Maged Youssef, PhD

PCI producer: PSI Prestressed Systems, Inc., Widsor, London, ON (Nebojsa Mladenovic)

*Student team: Aiham Adawi, Muhammad Diab, Zixiao Wang, Zach McNeil, Ahmed Elansary, Yamen Elbahi, Ahmed Musa, Mohamed Monir, and Eric Gerald*

## Zone 1

**First place: California State University, Chico / Civil Engineering Department**

Faculty advisor: Charles Roberts, P.E., MS

PCI producer: Clark Pacific; West Sacramento, Cal. (Glenn Underwood S.E.)

*Student team: Ian Buchanan, Sarah McKay, and Bryan Perkins*

Award: \$1000

**Second place: Oregon State University / School of Civil & Construction Engineering (Team 2) Corvallis, Ore.**

Faculty advisor: Keith Kaufman

PCI producer: Knife River Corporation – Northwest, Harrisburg, Ore. (Keith Kaufman)

*Student team: Alabbas Al-Aukaily, John Buehler, Sri Benson, Amrutha Das, Jake Taylor, and Benjamin Sundberg*

Award: \$500

**Third place: Oregon State University / School of Civil & Construction Engineering (Team 1) Corvallis, Ore.**

Faculty advisor: Keith Kaufman

PCI producer: Knife River Corporation – Northwest, Harrisburg, Ore. (Keith Kaufman)

*Student team: Tim Link, Jiaming Chen, Pat Goodman, Gregory Hendrix, Travis Smith, and Therese Pflaum*

Award: \$500

## Zone 2

**First place: University of Texas–Austin (Team 3); Austin, Tex.**

Faculty advisor: Michael Brown, PhD

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc. (Texas), Cedar Park, Tex. (Nick Faerber)

*Student team Scott McCord, Vasilis Samaras, Hemal V. Patel, Kostas Belivanis, Federico Aguayo, Candice Kou, James Felan, and Trey Dondrea*

Award: \$1000 and other prizes

**Second place: University of Texas–Austin (Team 1); Austin, Tex.**

Faculty advisor: Michael Brown, PhD

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc. (Texas), Cedar Park, Tex. (Nick Faerber)

*Student team: Alissa Neuhausen, Samuel Gold, Lindsay Hull, Jeff Krummel, Daryl Barone, Nick Dassow, Whitney Lee and, Jose Zuniga*

Award: \$500

**Third place: University of Texas–Austin (Team 2); Austin, Tex.**

Faculty advisor: Michael Brown, PhD

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc. (Texas), Cedar Park, Tex. (Nick Faerber)

*Student team: Eric Bonat, Tyrone Poller, Kimberly Hannon, and Michael Whitson*

Award: \$500

## Zone 3

**First place: University of Kansas / CEAE (Team 1); Lawrence, Kans.**

Faculty advisor: Bob Lyon

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc., Kansas City, Kans. (Mark Simpson)

*Student team: Eric Bonat, Tyrone Poller, Kimberly Hannon, and Michael Whitson*

Award: \$1000 and other prizes

**Second place: University of Kansas / CEAE (Team 2); Lawrence, Kans.**

Faculty advisor: Bob Lyon

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc., Kansas City, Kans. (Mark Simpson)

*Student team: Nathaniel Searle, Zachary Yakel, and Michael Smith*

Award: \$500

**Third place: University of Nebraska - Lincoln / Construction Engineering; Lincoln, Neb.**

Faculty advisor: George Morcoux, PhD, P.Eng., P.E.

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures (Omaha) Inc. (Brian L. Peterson)

*Student team: Andrew Nelson, Melissa Letak, Afshin Hatami, Ramin Taghinezhad, and Peter Samir*

Award: \$500

### Zone 3 (cont.)

**Fourth place: University of Missouri Kansas City / Civil Engineering; Kansas City, Kans.**

Faculty advisor: Ganesh Thiagarajan

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures Inc., Kansas City, Kans. (Mark Simpson)

*Student team: Gunjan Shetye, Qiwei Cao, Jitesh Nalagotla, Kevin Buck, and Marc Phillips*

### Zone 4

**First place: University of Notre Dame (Team 1); Notre Dame, Ind.**

Faculty advisor: Yahya Kurama, PhD, P.E.

PCI producer: Strescore Inc, Notre Dame, Ind. (John Reihl)

*Student team: Eric Herbert, Allison Madden, Matthew Sushinsky, Michael Wilbur, Jenna Falsone, Ian Graham, Brad Geyer, and Kelsey Haddad*

Award: \$1000 and other prizes

**Second place: University of Illinois - Champaign Urbana; Urbana, Ill.**

Faculty advisor: Thomas Frankie

PCI producer: Prestress Engineering Company; Blackstone, Ill. (Bryan Essman)

*Student team: Qiwen Chen, Craig Cleland, and Braden Schwarz*

Award: \$500

**Third place: University of Notre Dame (Team 2); Notre Dame, Ind.**

Faculty advisor: Yahya Kurama, PhD, P.E.

PCI producer: Strescore Inc, Notre Dame, Ind. (John Reihl)

*Student team: Kelly Lynch, Jacob Mangum, Ricardo Romero, William Scott, Anthony Sikorski, Henry Sikorski, Nicholas Sikorski, and Allison Skow*

Award: \$500

**Fourth place: West Virginia University (WVU) / Civil Engineering; Morgantown, West Vga.**

Faculty advisor: Roger Chen, PhD

PCI producer: Sidley Precast, Youngwood, Pa. (Robert Narchus)

*Student team: Trevor Saas, Tyler Beaty, and Bryan Surface*

### Zone 5

**First place: Lehigh University / Civil and Environmental Engineering (Team 1); Lehigh, Pa.**

Faculty advisor: Clay Naito, PhD, P.E.

PCI producer: Northeast Prestressed Products LLC, Cressona, Pa. (Michael Ridge)

*Student team: Dan Foiles, Matt Fustine, Jeremy Corrigan*  
Award: \$1000

## Zone 5 (cont.)

**Second place: Lehigh University / Civil and Environmental Engineering (Team 2); Lehigh, Pa.**

Faculty advisor: Clay Naito, PhD, P.E.

PCI producer: Northeast Prestressed Products LLC, Cressona, Pa. (Michael Ridge)

*Student team: You Dong, Robert Stroup, Sonam Srivastava*

Award: \$500

**Third place: Pennsylvania State University / Civil & Environmental Engr; State College, Pa.**

Faculty advisor: Maria Lopez Murphy, PhD

PCI producer: Newcrete Products, Roaring Springs, Pa. (Russell Dickson)

*Student team: Gregg C. Taylor, Hunter Proctor, Justin O'Brien, and Ashok Venkittakaman*

Award: \$500

**Fourth place: Norwich University; Northfield, Vt.**

Faculty advisor: Edwin Schmeckpeper, PhD

PCI producer: J.P. Carrara & Sons, Middlebury, Vt. (Ben Cota)

*Student team: Logan Bessette, Fianna Barrows, Seth Knihtila, Adrian Luc, and Greg McKenney*

**Fifth place: University of Massachusetts Amherst / Civil Engineering; Amherst, Mass.**

Faculty advisor: Sergio Brena, PhD

PCI producer: Unistress Corporation, Pittsfield, Mass. (Rick Petricca)

*Student team: Ameh Fioklou, B Smih, Elise Rotkiewicz, and Kimberly Garvey*

**Sixth place: Pennsylvania State University / Civil / Arch Engr; University Park, Pa.**

Faculty advisor: Maria Lopez Murphy, PhD

PCI producer: Newcrete Products, Roaring Springs, Pa. (Russell Dickson)

*Student team: Brandon Newpher, Ben Barben, Mike Barr, and Eddie O'Hare*

**Seventh place: Tufts University; Medford, Mass.**

Faculty advisor: Professor Brian Brenner

PCI producer: Oldcastle Precast, Rehoboth, Mass. (Chris Fowler)

*Student team: Ed Ledoux, Ryan Marshall, Eric Johnson, Brandon Ching, Rob Keene, and Celey Schumer*

## Zone 6

**First place: University of North Florida / Civil Engineering; Jacksonville, Fla.**

Faculty advisor: Adel El Safty

PCI producer: Gate Precast Company, Jacksonville, Fla. (Tom Newton)

*Student team: Andrew Isildar, Matthew Graeff, Adam Dooley, Fernando Paredes, Hugo Lerma, and Gregory Spelios*

Award: \$1000 and other prizes

**Zone 6 (cont.)**

**Second place: University of South Florida / Civil & Environmental Engr (Team 1); Tampa, Fla.**

Faculty advisor: Rajan Sen, PhD, P.E.

PCI producer: Standard Concrete Products Inc., Tampa, Fla. (John Robertson P.E.)

*Student team: Andre Bien-Aime, Brian Danzis, Syed Kazimi, Shane Maxemow, and Marlon Orellana*

Award: \$500

**Third place: University of North Carolina at Charlotte / Civil and Environmental Engineering; Charlotte, N. Car.**

Faculty advisor: Brett Tempest

PCI producer: Prestress of the Carolinas, Charlotte, N. Car. (Frank Smith)

*Student team: Bradley Brown, Adam Osweiler, Joel Skinner, Daniel Morgan, and Javier Torres-Goitia*

Award: \$500

**Fourth place: University of Central Florida / College of Engineering and Computer Science; Orlando Fla.**

Faculty advisor: Hae Bum "Andrew" Yun

PCI producer: PENDING

*Student team: Nader Mehdawi, Mohamed Alrowaimi, Madani Hamed Walid S., Haider Darwash, Manar Fadul, Matthew Rohaus, Cody Asher, Jacqueline Petrozzino, Patricio Romero Cruz, Louis Mouser, Nyi Maung, and Jason Wilson*

**Zone 7**

**First place: University of Western Ontario / Civil and Environmental Engineering; London, ON, Canada**

Faculty advisor: Maged Youssef, PhD

PCI producer: PSI Prestressed Systems, Inc., Windsor, London, ON (Nebojsa Mladenovic)

*Student team: Aiham Adawi, Muhammad Diab, Zixiao Wang, Zach McNeil, Ahmed Elansary, Yamen Elbaky, Ahmed Musa, Mohamed Monir, and Eric Gerald*

Award: \$1000

**Second place: Red River College / Civil Engineering Technology; Winnepeg, ON, Canada**

Faculty advisor: Dr. Bahman Noruziaan

PCI producer: ARMTEC, Winnepeg, ON, Canada (Walter Meadus)

*Student team: William Motriuk, Aldina Hrvic, and Jason Nguyen*

Award: \$500

**Third place: Universidad Catolica Madre y Maestra; Santo Domingo, D.N.**

Faculty advisor: Rodolfo Bonetti, MS. P.E.

PCI producer: Samuel S. Conde & Asoc., Santo Domingo, D.N. (Fernando Perdomo)

*Student team: Gregorio Francisco Cano, Jean Carlos Perez, Johanna Rocio Estevez, and Ricardo Francisco Pierre*

Award: \$500

**Zone 7 (cont.)**

**Fourth place: Fanshawe College—Team 1; London, ON, Canada**

Faculty advisor: Dr. Soloman Asantey, Ph.D., P.Eng. and Amneh Kalloush, M.Eng, P.Eng.

PCI producer: The Prestressed Group (PSI), Windsor, ON, Canada (Nebojsa Mladenovic)

*Student team: Adam Mihm, Anna Pyzowski-Pach, and Jordan McIntyre*

**Fifth place: Fanshawe College—Team 2; London, ON, Canada**

Faculty advisor: Dr. Soloman Asantey, Ph.D., P.Eng. and Amneh Kalloush, M.Eng, P.Eng.

PCI producer: The Prestressed Group (PSI), Windsor, ON, Canada (Nebojsa Mladenovic)

*Student team: Miguel Piracoca, Issac Ferreira, and Bradley Decourcy*

**Best Video**

**Best Video:**

**University of Western Ontario / Civil and Environmental Engineering; London, ON, Canada**

Faculty advisor: Maged Youssef, PhD

PCI producer: PSI Prestressed Systems, Inc., Windsor, London, ON (Nebojsa Mladenovic)

*Student team: Aiham Adawi, Muhammad Diab, Zixiao Wang, Zach McNeil, Ahmed Elansary, Yamen Elbaky, Ahmed Musa, Mohamed Monir, and Eric Gerald*

Award: \$500

**Best Report**

**Best Report: University of South Florida / Civil & Environmental Engr (Team 1); Tampa, Fla.**

Faculty advisor: Rajan Sen, PhD, P.E.

PCI producer: Standard Concrete Products Inc., Tampa, Fla. (John Robertson P.E.)

*Student team: Andre Bien-Aime, Brian Danzis, Syed Kazimi, Shane Maxemow, and Marlon Orellana*

Award: \$500



Congratulations to all of the 2012 winners! Applications for the 2013 Big Beam Contest are available from PCI. For information on this program, contact Alex Morales at (312) 360-3219 or [amorales@pci.org](mailto:amorales@pci.org)