

FROM PCI HEADQUARTERS



PCI announced its 2011 Board of Directors and officers in September 2010 at Committee Days in Chicago, Ill. Courtesy of Paul Grigonis.

PCI names 2011 Board of Directors

PCI recently announced its 2011 Board of Directors and officers. Leading the way are chairman Donna S. Reuter of Oldcastle Precast Inc., vice chairman Gregory F. Force of Tindall Corp., secretary-treasurer Thomas H. Kelley of EnCon United, and immediate past chairman James E. Sorenson of EnCon United.

Other members of the Board of Directors include educational activities council chair C. Douglas Sutton of Purdue University, marketing council chair Jay M. Cariveau of Metromont Corp., quality assurance council chair Keith E. Wallis Jr. of Prestressed Casting Co., research and development council chair Harry A. Gleich of Metromont Corp., technical activities council chair Larbi Sennour of The Consulting Engineers Group Inc., zone 1 Producer Member directors Edward S. Knowles of Walters and Wolf Precast and Chuck Prussack of Central Pre-Mix Prestress Co., zone 2 Producer Member directors Charles R. Lowe of Lowe Precast Inc. and Paul J. Lautenbach of Rocky Mountain Prestress, zone 3 Producer Member directors John Rivisto of Wells Concrete and Todd Culp of Coreslab Structures (OMAHA) Inc., zone 4 Producer Member directors Daniel L. Kennedy of Sidley Precast and Daniel P. Kolb of Prestress Engineering Corp., zone 5 Producer Member directors Leon H. Grant of Coreslab Structures (CONN) Inc. and Christopher J. Pastorius of Oldcastle Precast Building Systems, zone 6 Producer Member directors Dean Gwin of Gate Construction Materials Group and Mason Hardaway Lampton of Standard Concrete Products Inc., Supplier Associate Member directors Michael Baez of Cresset Chemical Co. and Marianne Methven of Hamilton Form Co., Erector Associate Member directors Bohdan Kuszniir of Precast Services Inc. and Francesco J. Genoese of High Concrete Group LLC, Professional Member directors Alexander G. Mihaylov of BergerABAM Engineers Inc. and Keith G. Allen of The Consulting Engineers Group Inc., Regional Council director Marty McIntyre of PCI of Illinois & Wisconsin, and Canadian PCI chairman Malcolm Hachborn of RES Precast Inc.

PCI webinars now available online to members

PCI webinars are now available to members. Presentations are posted to the new Marketing Resources section in the Members Only menu of the PCI website, www.pci.org.

Each slide contains speaker notes describing the intent, photo, or illustration information (if applicable), and key points to mention. Each presentation has been registered for 1 LU with the American Institute of Architects and 1 PDH with NCEES.

For more information, contact Brian Miller at bmiller@pci.org.

PCI Membership Directory and *Ascent* magazine to return in 2011

The PCI Membership Directory and *Ascent* magazine will be printed in the first quarter of 2011. *Ascent* returns to quarterly publication in 2011. The magazine will be distributed at several trade shows.

Productivity resources website launched

PCI's Productivity Committee has provided a forum to communicate best practices and productivity improvement ideas by launching Productivity Resources in the Members Only section of www.pci.org.

The site is being populated with ideas, information, and articles aimed at both productivity and safety improvement. New material is added to the site often.



Aaron Fischer



Clay Ingram



Zachary Melton

ASCC awards 2010 CIM scholarships

The American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC) Education, Research and Development Foundation awarded three scholarships to Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) students in the Concrete Industry Management program.

The recipients are Aaron Fischer, Clay Ingram, and Zachary Melton, all from Tennessee. The students received \$5000 each and received free attendance to the 2010 ASCC Annual Conference.

To qualify for the scholarship, a student must be enrolled full time at MTSU, have a concentration in concrete contracting, and maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA.

PCI plants host 2010 Productivity Tour

The 2010 Productivity Tour and Workshop visited several PCI Producer Member plants in the Midwest in October. In addition to the plant visits, attendees had an opportunity to share their own innovative processes and ideas in the Ideas that Pay Off contest. A workshop that addressed OSHA regulations and an interactive session led by Mike Strain about the success rate and challenges surrounding the lean improvement process wrapped up the workshop.

Concrete Industries Inc. of Lincoln, Neb.; CXT Inc. of Grand Island, Neb.; Enterprise Precast Concrete Inc. of Omaha, Neb.; and Gage Brothers Concrete Products Inc. of Sioux Falls, S.Dak., opened their plants and demonstrated their production practices and equipment for the tour.

Krohn speaks at seminar in Portugal

PCI's managing director of technical activities, Jason Krohn, recently presented on behalf of PCI at an international seminar in Portugal.

The International Seminar on Precast Concrete Structures was held October 21, 2010, in Lisbon at Ordem dos Engenheiros. The theme of the seminar was Precast Structures in the World, and its aim was to disseminate knowledge concerning worldwide developments in precast concrete design and production. Krohn's presentation was "Structural Precast Concrete Structures in Seismic Areas: USA Experience" and was focused on the PCI Diaphragm Seismic Design Methodology research program.

The International Seminar on Precast Concrete Structures was organized jointly by the *fib* Portuguese National Group (GPBE), the Portuguese National Association of Engineers, the Portuguese National Association of Precasters, and the faculty of Sciences and Technology of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, and it falls within the work of the Commission 6 (Prefabrication) of *fib*. For more information regarding the seminar, go to www.dec.fct.unl.pt/ispcs/ISPCS.htm.

PCI launches new e-newsletter for architects, buildings industry

PCI has teamed up with SmartBrief to provide a free weekly e-newsletter targeted toward architects and other A/E/C professionals in the buildings industry. This newsletter will create a new channel to reach influencers and decision makers and raise awareness of the benefits of precast concrete and PCI. It will also serve as a conduit to build relationships with members of the target audience, attracting them to other industry activities, such as webinars. The newsletter is planned to launch in early 2011.

Certification promotion kits available

PCI's certification promotion kits are now available to PCI Producer Members. This kit contains a variety of promotional tools and resources to help members educate specifiers and decision makers locally as well as help prevent the waiver of PCI certification. If you would like to receive a kit and have not signed up, please contact Jennifer Peters at jpeters@pci.org or (312) 583-6780.

Free parking structure snow removal guidelines available on PCI website

In cold-weather regions, removal of excess snow and ice from parking structures is essential for functional performance, public safety, and long-term durability. PCI would like to remind precast concrete producers with parking-structure customers of the snow-removal guidelines found in PCI's *Maintenance Manual for Precast Parking Structures*, section 2.2. This section gives explicit details on snow and ice removal, including planning, proper equipment, chemical deicers, written procedures, and how-to instruction for snow-removal personnel.

This section is online as a free download at www.pci.org/publications/parking.

New architect, specifier market research available to PCI members on website

The second phase of the 2010 market research project on architect and specifier preferences for finding information is now complete and available to PCI members. The PCI Market Research and Metrics Committee sponsored the research to better understand which channels are most effective in reaching architects and specifiers.

This research was conducted in two phases. The first phase examined their use of the internet and social media. The final report from this phase, "Architect and Specifier Use of the Internet and New Media/Social Media," is available in the Marketing Resources section of the PCI website.

The second phase, "Architect and Specifier Preferences for Advertising and Promotional Media," is also now available in that section.

To learn more about the Marketing Council and its committees, other market research, and projects under way, go to www.pci.org and click on Marketing Resources in the Members Only section.

High-Speed Rail Workshop materials online

More than 100 engineers, contractors, concessionaires, design-build teams, and others involved with the Florida High-Speed Rail (HSR) project attended a High-Speed Rail Workshop organized by PCI on November 9, 2010, in Orlando, Fla.

The handouts and materials from the workshop are now available online to PCI members. Materials include workshop presentations, details of the precast concrete traffic-barrier noise wall and spliced precast U-beam systems, an HSR video, and the attendee list.

PCI provided information and education on the applications and advantages of precast concrete, particularly as applied to the HSR project. The workshop introduced two new technologies that offer precast concrete an expanded role in this and similar projects: an innovative barrier wall system and a family of long-span precast concrete curved U-girders.

PCI president Jim Toscas kicked off the workshop, and William Nickas, Gregg Reese, and Brian Miller made presentations. PCI teamed up with Georgia/Carolinas PCI and the Florida Prestressed Concrete Association to plan and host the event, and PCI Associate Members Elematic, JVI, Meadow Burke, MCT Supply, and NMB Splice Sleeve cosponsored the event. PCI plans to hold similar workshops as other regional projects get organized.

To access the HSR materials visit the High-Speed Rail Resources section in the Members Only area of the PCI website, www.pci.org. For more information about HSR, contact William Nickas at wnickas@pci.org.

CIM Program to hold sixth annual World of Concrete auction

The Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program will host its sixth annual auction on Thursday, January 20, 2011, at World of Concrete in the Las Vegas Convention Center.

The 2010 auction raised about \$386,000. The money raised from both the live and silent auctions will benefit the CIM National Steering Committee and support the CIM programs at Middle Tennessee State University, Arizona State University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, California State University Chico, and Texas State University.

Once again this year, internet bidding will be available on the Ritchie Brothers website, www.rbauction.com. To participate in the auction, bidders must register a week in advance.

Those interested in making a donation should contact CIM Auction Committee chairman Peter Brewin at peter.brewin@gmail.com or (214) 693-6669.

Code consultant represents PCI at seismic design provisions meeting

The PCI structures code consultant, S. K. Ghosh, represented PCI at a 2014 Provisions Update Committee (PUC) meeting held in San Francisco, Calif. This was the kick-off meeting for the 2014 update cycle of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program's *NEHRP Recommended Seismic Provisions for New Buildings and Other Structures*.

The 2014 edition of the NEHRP provisions will influence the seismic design provisions of ASCE 7-15, which will then be adopted by the 2018 International Building Code. For the complete report by S. K. Ghosh, an agenda for the meeting, or the PUC membership roster, contact Jason Krohn at jkrohn@pci.org.

PCI, *fib* team up for series of CPI articles

Concrete Plant International (CPI) published the first of a series of articles written jointly between PCI and *fib* in its May 2010 issue. S. K. Ghosh was the coauthor from PCI, and Marco Menegotto was the *fib* coauthor.

This joint activity between PCI and *fib* Commission 6 "Prefabrication" was first proposed in 2007, and it materialized with a meeting in May 2008 in Amsterdam, Netherlands, that was specially organized in conjunction with a *fib* Symposium and a C6 meeting.

The object of the articles is to compare European and American standards and practice related to structural prefabrication. The articles cover areas of mutual interest to PCI and *fib*. Article subjects will vary and include topics such as accidental loading, connections, bridges, hollow-core, and affordable housing.

The next paper, on connections, is scheduled to be published in the April 2011 issue of CPI.

Seminars offer advanced precast concrete design education to engineers

Engineers had the opportunity this past fall to participate in PCI Structural Design Seminars in various locations throughout the country, coordinated by PCI regional directors.

The PCI Structural Design Seminar is an advanced course for engineers who have designed with precast/prestressed concrete in the past. Participants learned about engineering precast concrete using the most up-to-date tools available.

The course guided participants through the design of a three-story, integrated precast concrete office building using the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete* as a reference. Attendees ran calculations, reviewed erection drawings, and learned how collaborations with the producer of structural concrete products can streamline the relay of technical information to the production floor to ensure a final product that strictly adheres to specification and design.

Attendees received a copy of the seventh edition of the *PCI Design Handbook*, a seminar notebook, and additional materials. They also earned 7.5 professional development hours or 7.5 HSW learning units.

If you are interested in offering this seminar or for more information, contact Alex Morales at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219. 



More than 50 engineers attend the PCI Structural Design Seminar coordinated by PCI of Illinois & Wisconsin director Marty McIntyre on November 10, 2010, at the University Center in Chicago, Ill. Courtesy of Marty McIntyre.

PCI Calendar

Events

For the most current information on PCI events, visit www.pci.org/events. For industry events, visit www.pci.org/news/events.

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| Zones 1 and 2 Meeting | January 18–19, 2011 |
| Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, Nev. | |
| 2011 PCI Winter Conference | February 3–7, 2011 |
| San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter, San Antonio, Tex. | |
| Zone 3 Meeting | February 24–25, 2011 |
| Crowne Plaza, Bloomington, Minn. | |
| Zone 5 Meeting | March 17–18, 2011 |
| Hilton Philadelphia Airport, Philadelphia, Pa. | |
| PCI Committee Days | March 24–27, 2011 |
| Wyndham Chicago, Chicago, Ill. | |
| Zone 6 Meeting | March 31–April 1, 2011 |
| Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. | |
| Georgia/Carolinas PCI Annual Meeting | June 16–19, 2011 |
| Sea Pines Resort, Hilton Head Island, S.C. | |
| Western Bridge Engineers' Seminar | September 25–28, 2011 |
| Arizona Grand Hotel, Phoenix, Ariz. | |
| PCI Annual Convention and Exhibition and National Bridge Conference | October 22–25, 2011 |
| Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown and Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah | |
| 2012 PCI Winter Conference | January 19–22, 2012 |
| San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter, San Antonio, Tex. | |
| PCI Annual Convention and Exhibition and National Bridge Conference | September 29–October 2, 2012 |
| Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, Tenn. | |
| PCI Annual Convention and Exhibition and National Bridge Conference | September 21–September 24, 2013 |
| Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center, Grapevine, Tex. | |
| PCI Annual Convention and Exhibition and National Bridge Conference | September 6–September 9, 2014 |
| Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Md. | |
| PCI Annual Convention and Exhibition and National Bridge Conference | September 20–September 25, 2015 |
| Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, Tenn. | |

PCI Personnel Training and Certification Schools

If you have any questions about the Quality Control School schedule, would like information on any of our Spanish-language exams, or need help completing a registration form, please contact PCI's director of learning and performance management, Alex Morales, at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219. Registration forms are available at www.pci.org/schools.

Level I/II

January 17–19, 2011
Las Vegas, Nev.

March 28–30, 2011
Nashville, Tenn.

Level III

March 30–April 2, 2011
Nashville, Tenn.

Certified Field Auditor (CFA)/Industry Erection Standards (IES)

January 17–19, 2011
Las Vegas, Nev.

March 28–30, 2011
Nashville, Tenn.

CCA

March 31, 2011
Nashville, Tenn.

ENGINEERING STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION: BIG BEAM CONTEST CALL FOR ENTRIES

The PCI Student Education Committee invites entries from engineering students to participate in PCI's 2010–2011 Engineering Design Competition. With the help of local PCI Producer Members, students will construct and test precast, prestressed concrete beams. The awards program, sponsored by Sika Corp., will include cash prizes for the most efficient design, highest load capacity, best report, and other categories. Applications are due at PCI headquarters by March 15, 2011, and reports by June 15, 2011. PCI Producer Members are urged to encourage their local engineering schools to participate in this program. For information on official rules and application forms, go to pci.org or contact Alex Morales at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219.

YOUNG EDUCATOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The PCI Student Education Committee invites nominations from PCI members for PCI's 2011 Young Educator Achievement Award. The objective is to recognize young educators in the fields of engineering, architecture, and construction technology who have made significant contributions in their early careers to the precast/prestressed concrete industry. Nominations must be received at PCI headquarters by March 1, 2011. For nomination forms and additional information, contact Alex Morales at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219.

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The PCI Student Education Committee invites nominations from PCI members for PCI's 2011 Distinguished Educator Award. The objective is to recognize distinguished educators in the fields of engineering, architecture, and construction technology who have made significant contributions to the precast/prestressed concrete industry. Nominations must be received at PCI headquarters by March 1, 2011. For nomination forms and additional information, contact Alex Morales at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219.

Survey on high-priority topics for research at PCI

To: PCI Producer, Associate, and Professional Members

Do you know that each year PCI allocates 7% of Producer Member and Associate Member dues for projects conducted under the auspices of the PCI Research and Development Committee? Despite this commitment by PCI, total industry expenditures for research conducted on topics of specific interest to the precast concrete industry are still relatively low compared with those for competitor industries. It is especially important that we spend PCI's research dollars wisely. Accordingly, we are asking for your help.

Periodically, we solicit input from the entire PCI community regarding your opinions on technical research activities that could produce knowledge that would benefit your organization and the industry's market share. We then summarize these data in the form of a prioritized listing titled "Top 10 PCI Research Topics." This list is shared with prospective researchers to assist them as they develop research proposals to be funded as regular PCI (major) projects and/or PCI (Daniel P. Jenny) Research Fellowships, as well as those to be funded entirely or in part by other research agencies, such as the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards & Technology, and the Federal Highway Administration.

We have designed a survey form to facilitate your providing us with your opinions regarding current technical research needs. In addition, we are requesting that you tell us about your company's current and recent (nonproprietary) research and development activities.

Please send your response to Roger Becker at PCI as indicated on the survey form.

Harry Gleich
Chair, PCI Research &
Development Committee

Research & Development Survey

Please list below the four most pressing technical problems that, in your opinion, confront the precast/prestressed concrete industry today. Provide a brief statement of scope and objective(s) of research that would address each proposed topic. Attach additional sheets as required.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Please describe your company's current and recent (past 5 years) nonproprietary research and/or testing. Attach additional sheets as required.

Additional comments. Attach additional sheets as required.

Please mail/email/fax this sheet to

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Name (please print)

Position

Company

Telephone

Fax

Email