



OUR MEMBERS



Mo Wright

Gate hires new sales and marketing representative for Alabama and Georgia

Gate Precast Co. has added Mo Wright to its sales and marketing staff.

Wright brings with him 15 years in the construction industry. For the past nine years, he worked in project management and sales management in the precast concrete industry. Wright will be responsible for sales and marketing of architectural precast concrete systems in Alabama and Georgia.

—Source: Gate Precast Co.

Bentley appoints three to new council

Bentley Systems Inc. has launched the Bentley Infrastructure Ambassadors Council. The newly appointed ambassadors will engage the global communities of practitioners, constituents, and organizations interested in the challenges of and opportunities resulting from sustaining infrastructure.

The ambassadors appointed by Bentley include Norbert Young, former leader of McGraw-Hill Construction; Jim Porter, former chief engineer and vice president of engineering and operations at DuPont; and Patrick McCrory, former mayor of Charlotte, N.C. Young will chair the council.

The ambassadors introduced a series of presentations, through Bentley's Be Connected online seminar series, on topics crucial to achieving sustainable infrastructure, including interoperability, prefabrication, safety, resilient operations, and nurturing a shared holistic vision across business professionals, engineers, infrastructure owner-operators, and the public.

—Source: Bentley Systems Inc.

Stresscon completes precast concrete installation for new Colorado Belmar Target store

Stresscon Corp. finalized the installation of precast concrete for the new Belmar Target store in Lakewood, Colo. A first of its kind in Colorado, this Target is built on a precast concrete elevated podium, allowing for parking underneath the store.

The store is situated on only 5 acres (2 ha). The “relatively small construction site dictated the need for this podium type of construction, and precast was the perfect solution,” says Dave Mahan, Stresscon's business development manager.

The use of regional materials for the precast concrete will contribute to the building owner's goal of LEED silver certification.

The precast concrete portion of the project included more than 130,000 ft² (12,000 m²) of double-tees, more than 2000 linear ft (610 m) of beams, 68 columns (two of which were 72-ft-tall [22 m] prestressed columns), more than 5600 ft² (520 m²) of spandrels, more than 56,000 ft² (5200 m²) of wall panels (more than half of which were insulated), and 15 precast concrete stairs.

The planned grand opening is March 2011.

—Source: EnCon Design LLC



Blakeslee Prestress Inc. hosts seniors from West Point on September 20, 2010. Courtesy of Blakeslee Prestress Inc.

Blakeslee hosts West Point seniors for fifth year

On September 20, 2010, for the fifth consecutive year, Blakeslee Prestress Inc. has been host to a plant visit by the senior class in the Civil and Mechanical Engineering program of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

A continental breakfast was served to the 42 cadets and 2 instructors. The group also participated in a plant tour, a three-dimensional Tekla demonstration, and a project management presentation. Rita Seraderian, PCI Northeast director, also gave a presentation on the use of precast concrete.

In addition, the cadets received Blakeslee baseball caps and decals to mount on their hard hats.

—Source: Blakeslee Prestress Inc.

Tindall completes Virginia parking structure as part of design-build project team

Tindall Corp. was part of the design-build project team that recently completed an 11-bay, 5-level, total precast concrete parking structure for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Serving a 2.4 million ft² (223,000 m²) office building, the fast-track, large-scale project was procured for NGA by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Baltimore District. The project was implemented using integrated design-build project delivery. Brought on board early by contractor Clark/Balfour Beatty of Springfield, Va., the Tindall Virginia Division in Petersburg, Va., assisted in a complete redesign of the construction concept from cast-in-place to total precast concrete for the 5130-space parking structure. Total precast concrete contributed in large part to a \$50 million reduction in the overall project cost.

Commencing in March 2009, the manufacture and erection of the structure required only six months. Comprising the 2920 pieces were 12-ft-wide × 31-in.-tall (3.7 m × 790 mm) double-tees, 8-in.-thick × 74-in.-tall (203 mm × 1880 mm) spandrels, 24-in.-square (610 mm) columns, 8-in.-thick wall panels, 13-ft-wide × 10-in.-thick (4.0 m × 254 mm) litewalls, 10-in.-thick shear walls, 40-in.-square (1016 mm) inverted-tee beams, 8-in.-thick flat slabs, and precast concrete stairs and landings. Design features in the RTKL/Kling Stubbins design were seven stair towers, a center wall supporting stairs, two elevator towers, and two concrete mix colors.

—Source: Tindall Corp.

Oldcastle segment of Amherst County detention center nearly complete

By the end of 2011, the New Amherst County Adult Detention Center, which cost about \$13 million less than expected, will be ready to open.

Oldcastle has completed the manufacture and erection of the prefinished precast concrete prison cells and shower modules that create the medium- and maximum-security housing units. Work will continue into 2011 on other portions of the detention center project.

Oldcastle Precast Modular contracted to engineer, manufacture, ship, and erect the 288 prefinished precast concrete prison cells and 9 precast concrete shower modules for the new detention center.

These unique prison cells have a rear chase. A rear chase is added to a precast concrete cell when the facility owner wants the maintenance personnel to have access to the mechanical systems without having to disrupt the prison population's daily routines. A rear chase area runs along the exterior back wall of a row of cells. An insulated exterior wall is then constructed to enclose the rear chase area.

HITT is the general contractor and the project architect of record is Moseley Architects.
—Source: Oldcastle Precast Modular

Spancrete attends Saudi Build Expo

Spancrete Machinery Corp. was a part of the Saudi Build Expo, which was held October 18–21, 2010, at the Riyadh International Exhibition Center in Saudi Arabia.

“Based on the success we have had in the Gulf Region with our production systems, we feel our machinery systems offer a total solution for the fast-growing construction market in the region,” says Paul Kero, vice president of Spancrete Machinery Corp.

—Source: Spancrete Machinery Corp.

Stresscon hosts plant tour for USGBC

Stresscon hosted a tour at their Colorado Springs, Colo., plant for the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) Colorado Southern Branch. Among the 18 participants were general contractors, including Mortenson and GH Phipps, and several design firms and owner's representatives.

Included in the plant tour and presentation was the insulated truss wall panel production for the Warrior in Transition project at Fort Carson, Colo. Topics included in Stresscon's presentation involved the sustainability of precast concrete.

—Source: EnCon Design LLC

Liquid Wall wins AIA design award

The Liquid Wall received first prize in the American Institute of Architects' Open Call for Innovative Curtain Wall Design. The full-scale prototype is on display through January 15, 2011, at the Center for Architecture in New York, N.Y.

Coreslab helped produce the curtain-wall unit conceived of by Peter Arbour of RFR Consulting Engineers. Using Ductal fiber-reinforced concrete, the units are lights, with windows and radiant heating cassette panels installed directly into the concrete frame.

—Source: RFR Consulting Engineers

Thermomass promotes McCaulley to national account manager

Thermomass has promoted Mitch McCaulley to national account manager. McCaulley joined Thermomass in 2006 as a regional sales manager responsible for sales in the upper Midwest.

—Source: Thermomass



Mitch McCaulley

Spancrete welcomes Illinois sales manager

Spancrete recently added Chuck Gilbert to the role of regional sales manager in Illinois, where he will oversee sales of Spancrete products and services throughout Illinois.

Gilbert will promote the company's products and capitalize on Spancrete's value-engineering and design-assist capabilities.

—Source: Spancrete



Chuck Gilbert

Rotondo Weirich hires Sexton to work in business development

Rotondo Weirich has hired Mike Sexton to work in business development. Sexton will work with Bill Franklin, Rotondo Weirich's director of business development, to develop relationships with clients and business partners.

—Source: Rotondo Weirich

T. HENRY CLARK



T. Henry Clark, a PCI Titan, died December 9, 2010. He was 66.

Clark was president of Ross Bryan Associates Inc. in Nashville, Tenn., where he worked for 43 years. In 1966, Clark received his bachelor of engineering degree in civil engineering from Vanderbilt University.

Clark was responsible for carrying out PCI's Plant Certification Program and managing Ross Bryan's auditing and inspections of precasting plants. Ross Bryan has been the manager of PCI's Plant Certification Program for more than 40 years. As a member of the Plant Certification Committee, he played a major role in developing the third edition of the *Quality Control Manual*. He also authored the *Quality Control Technician/Inspector Levels I and II Training Manual*. In 1983, as a member of the Quality Control Performance Criteria

Committee, he received the Certificate of Merit Award for his role in developing the reports on fabrication and shipment cracks that were published in *PCI Journal*.

Over the years, he also worked with a number of producers in designing plants, prestressing beds, and products. He served five terms of office on PCI's Board of Directors, and in 1996 he was the professional member director on the board. He also served on the Technical Activities Council from 1988 to 1991.

Clark was named president of Ross Bryan in 1983 after serving as architectural project manager and principal.



Oldcastle Precast provided precast concrete for a lake in George Poston Park in Gaston, N.C.
Courtesy of Oldcastle Precast Inc.

Oldcastle provides precast concrete for North Carolina lake project

Oldcastle Precast was responsible for the structural engineering, fabrication, and shipping of the precast concrete components for an 11-acre (4.5 ha) lake being constructed at George Poston Park in Gaston, N.C., the county's largest recreational facility. The lake will support several forms of recreation, including fishing, sand volleyball, picnicking, walking, and cross-country running.

The project has been the centerpiece of the Gaston County Public Works Department's master plan to upgrade the park for more than a decade. In 2009, the county applied to build the lake through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has oversight over all United States waterways.

The project involves the construction of a 44-ft-tall (13 m) earthen embankment and dam. An integral part of the dam construction is a 10 ft × 10 ft (3 m × 3 m) concrete riser discharging to a 6-ft-diameter (1.8 m) reinforced concrete pipe and three precast concrete, three-side bridge sections that make up the road crossing for the emergency spillway.

Oldcastle Precast of Concord, N.C., partnering with roadway consultant Robinson Sawyer and dam consultant S&ME, provided the 75 ft (23 m) precast concrete bridge, including wing walls, head walls, footings, and spillway that became an essential component of the dam. Oldcastle was able to assemble the entire structure in only four days.

—Source: Oldcastle Precast Inc.

Holcim Ste. Genevieve plant receives Jeffersonian Award

The Ste. Genevieve plant of Holcim (US) Inc., located in Bloomsdale, Mo., was recently awarded The Jeffersonian Award.

The Jefferson County Growth & Development Association gives this award every two years to businesses in Jefferson County, Mo. The award recognizes those businesses that display civic involvement, integrity, and exemplary service to the community and that make an impact on the lives of Jefferson County residents and businesses.

—Source: Holcim (US) Inc.



Finrock is providing complete design-build services for Surf Style Retail Management's new mixed-use facility in Clearwater Beach, Fla. Courtesy of Finrock.

Finrock signs mixed-use design-build contract

Finrock is providing complete design-build services for Surf Style Retail Management's new mixed-use facility in Clearwater Beach, Fla.

The \$11.5 million, 175,300 ft² (16,290 m²) retail and restaurant complex at the south end of Clearwater Beach includes parking for 344 cars. Of those spaces, 300 will be available to the public in an area that is in desperate need of parking. The building is expected to open May 16, 2011.

—Source: Finrock

Stresscon awarded Fort Carson contract

Stresscon Corp. was awarded a contract with Mortenson Construction in April 2010 for the Warrior in Transition Barracks project at Fort Carson, south of Colorado Springs, Colo. Erection of the building is currently under way.

This design-build project, intended for the Army's Wounded Warriors Program, has a split-face thin block that is cast into the prestressed insulated wall panels. Stresscon worked with its vendor to develop and improve the design of fabrication trays required to accommodate the uneven surface of the split-face block.

The primary product incorporated into this project is a prestressed 10-in.-thick (254 mm) insulated wall panel with cast-in split face and conventional thin brick, combined with an acid-etched exterior and thin brick and gray accent banding. These panels are typically 14 ft wide × 51 ft tall (4.3 m × 15.5 m) and are designed to resist progressive collapse. Stresscon is also providing 10 in. hollow-core on the ground level subfloor to accommodate the expansive soils at the site.

—Source: EnCon Design LLC



Willow Creek Elementary School in Fleetwood, Pa., was constructed with CarbonCast wall panels by High Concrete Group LLC and was named a GreenSite Project of the Year. Courtesy of High Concrete Group.

AltusGroup precasters receive two 2010 GreenSite awards

Two structures built with CarbonCast High Performance Insulated Wall Panels by AltusGroup precaster members were recipients of 2010 GreenSite Project of the Year awards. Winners are selected based on ground-breaking techniques, materials, or products; cost- or time-saving methods; engineering design; workmanship; and creativity.

Completed in fall 2009, The \$22.1 million, 108,000 ft² (10,000 m²) Willow Creek Elementary School in Fleetwood, Pa., by High Concrete Group LLC of Denver, Pa., was selected as one of five winners in the Institutional category. Its precast concrete wall system with C-GRID carbon-fiber-grid shear connectors is thermally efficient with an assembly R-value of 16, offering continuous insulation. It is also fully structurally composite, contributing to more usable space in the building interior.

Similarly, the \$28 million, 55,000 ft² (5110 m²) Proximity Hotel in Greensboro, N.C., won in the Commercial category. The nation's first LEED platinum hotel, Proximity features panels produced by Metromont Corp. of Greenville, S.C. In addition to promoting thermal efficiency, concrete for this insulated precast concrete building envelope was manufactured within 100 mi (160 km) of the site and utilized 20% fly ash and 4% to 7% preconsumer content. Sustainable advantages, such as the reduction of harvested materials, site noise, and dust, augment its 39% reduction in energy use compared with similar buildings. The R-14 exterior walls contributed to the energy savings.

The 2010 GreenSite Project of the Year contest is sponsored by *Concrete Construction* and *The Concrete Producer* magazines. GreenSite features a slideshow with full descriptions and photos of the projects and others at www.theconcreteproducer.com.

—Source: AltusGroup and High Concrete Group

PAUL E. KRAEMER

Paul Kraemer, an active professional member of PCI for years, died November 24, 2010. He was 75.

Kraemer enjoyed committee work and served on the Technical Activities Committee; Committee on Prestress Loss; Committee on Connection Details, of which he was the past chair; and Journal Awards Committee. In addition, he was a regular *PCI Journal* reviewer.

Kraemer received his master's degree in civil engineering from Purdue. His notable projects include the Sunshine Skyway Bridge and Tropicana Field.

CarbonCast earns ICC acceptance criteria for carbon-fiber-grid connector

CarbonCast High Performance Insulated Wall Panels have received International Code Council Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) acceptance criteria for the C-GRID carbon-fiber-grid truss system used to connect the inner and outer wythes of the precast concrete wall panels. The official criteria are called AC422—Proposed Acceptance Criteria For Semicontinuous Fiber-Reinforced Grid Connectors Used In Combination With Rigid Insulation In Concrete Sandwich Panel Construction.

The acceptance criteria mean that the ICC-ES has approved a method for evaluating product samples from each AltusGroup precaster licensed to fabricate the system. Successful completion of the tests, such as load capacity and freeze-thaw cycling, will result in ICC-ES issuing an Evaluation Service Report (ICC-ESR) number certifying that the manufacturer is producing the CarbonCast precast concrete sandwich wall panel system using C-GRID according to established standards. Many municipalities and building jurisdictions require an ICC-ESR certification before allowing the use of a structural building product.

It is expected that continual product testing success by the 13 AltusGroup precasters will result in ICC broadening the AC422 acceptance criteria to include the entire precast assembly, not just the carbon fiber grid connector. The CarbonCast High Performance Insulated Wall Panel would be the only structural precast sandwich wall panel of similar nature and use on the market to earn that level of acceptance criteria.

The ICC approval follows an exhaustive evaluation of the system by an impartial ICC-ES board during several public comment review periods and sessions.

Members of the AltusGroup Technical Committee involved with the ICC certification were Jason Lien of Encon United, Harry Gleich of Metromont Corp., Steve Brock of Gate Precast, Larbi Sennour of CEG, Thomas Harmon of Washington University, Sami Rizkalla of North Carolina State University, Pat Hynes of Knife River Prestress Division, and Ken Baur of High Concrete Group LLC.

—Source: AltusGroup

Adams retires from Oldcastle Precast

Robert Adams, vice president of business development, retired from Oldcastle Precast Building Systems effective December 31, 2010. Adams served at Oldcastle for more than 10 years and held various positions at Stresscon Industries for more than 30 years. He was a founding member of AltusGroup and actively participated in PCI and the Mid-Atlantic Precast Association.

Adams was instrumental in developing precast concrete building systems and leaves a legacy of projects throughout the Northeast. The first precast concrete residential building system graced the cover of *Engineering News-Record* in 1970, and Adams has worked with owners and developers on numerous buildings since then.

—Source: Oldcastle Precast Building Systems



Robert Adams

Hanson introduces LEED V2 calculator

Hanson Building Products formally introduced a proprietary LEED calculator to its Hanson Pipe & Precast customers in 2009 that quantified its products recognized by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) that contribute to LEED, an internationally recognized green building certification system. After providing LEED credit information for more than 380 projects to date, Hanson Building Products has enhanced its calculator, expanding service to its Hanson Pressure Pipe and Hanson Structural Precast customers.

Recognizing that most of its products are engineered for a specific job and require custom calculations, Hanson Building Products contacted Green Building Services in 2008 to develop a tool with precise calculations.

Hanson Building Products' customer-focused tool quantifies its products' contribution to two LEED credit categories: recycled content and regional materials. The detailed report displays the actual mileage and the exact LEED approved recycled content percentages of products, both in weight and dollar amount.

—Source: Hanson Building Products

Gate's Ashland City plant receives SHARP certification in Tennessee

Gate Precast Co. in Ashland City, Tenn., has been admitted to Tennessee's Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP). SHARP recognizes employers who operate an exemplary safety and health management system.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development presented this award to Gate Precast at its plant on December 7, 2010, positioning Gate as the largest SHARP-certified manufacturing facility in Tennessee.

Gate's Tennessee division is the second plant to achieve SHARP certification. Gate Precast in Jacksonville, Fla., achieved this certification in March 2009. Gate is working to earn the SHARP status at all of its plants.

—Source: Gate Precast Co.

Lafarge North America and subsidiary name new leadership appointments

Lafarge North America and its subsidiary Lafarge Canada recently announced the appointment of Robert Cooper as president of its West Cement Business Unit, based in Calgary, AB, Canada. Cooper succeeds Alan Kreisberg, who moves to the Lafarge Group in France.

Cooper will be responsible for three of Lafarge's cement plants and for 20 cement and fly-ash terminals. The plants are located in Exshaw, AB, Canada; Richmond and Kamloops, BC, Canada; and Seattle, Wash.

Additional appointments to the West Business Unit's executive team include Barry Martin as vice president of marketing and sales, Peter Calcetas as regional marketing director, and Chris Clow as director of human resources.

—Source: The Lafarge Group

Oldcastle manufactures storm-water management vaults for Bennett College

Oldcastle Precast Inc.—Fuquay-Varina was contracted by Hardin Construction Co. LLC to design, engineer, and manufacture two underground custom precast concrete panel vaults that are used as sand filters for storm-water runoff at the new Global Learning Center and Honors Housing Project at Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C.

The technique used to construct the underground sand filter panel vaults is newer to the Carolinas for storm-water management. Oldcastle Precast has used this technique more often in the western United States, constructing storm-water management systems 280 ft long × 85 ft wide (85 m × 26 m), almost as large as a football field. For this project, Oldcastle Precast custom manufactured a 16-ft-wide × 33-ft-long × 9-ft-high (4.9 m × 10 m × 2.7 m) panel vault for the Honors Housing project and a 16-ft-wide × 44-ft-long × 12-ft-high (4.9 m × 13.4 m × 3.7 m) panel vault for the Global learning Center.

HADP Architecture Inc. is the architect of record for the \$22 million capital improvements project at Bennett College. The project is scheduled for completion in 2011.

—Source: Oldcastle Precast Inc.

Bentley selected for U.S.-China clean energy consortium

Bentley Systems Inc. has been selected to join the consortium, led by the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, for a U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center (CERC) focused on building energy efficiency.

The new center will develop technologies for low-energy residential and commercial buildings, work on the commercialization of those technologies, and research how human behavior affects building energy use. In its role as an industrial partner, Bentley will share its expertise in software for infrastructure and provide professional training and information modeling and collaboration technology to facilitate best practices for building-energy design, analysis, and simulation, as well as project collaboration, reporting, and management.

The consortium includes research partners Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Beijing branch of the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Beijing branch of ICF International, the National Association of State Energy Offices, the Association of State Energy Research and Technology Transfer Institutions, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the University of California at Davis. Industrial partners in addition to Bentley include Dow Chemical Co., General Electric, Honeywell, Schneider Electric, Saint-Gobain, Pegasus Investment Advisors, and Climate Master.

U.S. funding for the CERC over a five-year period, including contributions by consortium partners, will total at least \$25 million, and Chinese counterparts will contribute an additional \$25 million. In addition, the industrial partners have committed more than \$16 million in in-kind resources and cash over the same five-year period.

Six major areas being considered for study at the new CERC include advanced monitoring and control systems, advanced glazing materials and systems, advanced insulation systems, cool roofs, lighting, and commercialization and policy analyses. In addition, the CERC will build a test bed facility for evaluating the performance of technologies and systems developed by the researchers. The test bed could become a long-term research facility to be used by generations of building energy engineers and scientists.

—Source: Bentley Systems Inc. 

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