

Industry's **ingenuity** influences *transportation market*

From its beginning in the United States with the construction of the Walnut Lane Bridge, the precast/prestressed concrete industry has had its roots in ingenuity. Technological advancements have made precast/prestressed concrete a vital component of the worldwide infrastructure. Precast/prestressed concrete construction is hailed by those in the transportation industry for its quality, speedy construction, and minimal public and site disturbance.

Such was the case for the subject of our feature "Lord Delaware Bridge Replacement in West Point, Virginia," by George Nasser. This award-winning bridge exemplifies the benefits associated with precast, prestressed concrete construction: it met the owner's requirement for increased capacity while meeting the environmental requirements for the site.

In "Development of a Precast Concrete Bent-Cap System," Matsumoto et al. summarize a system that further speeds construction in congested, urban environments. The innovative precast concrete bent-cap system simultaneously minimizes the traffic and environmental impact while improving the structure's durability.

Kuchma et al. discuss the background and criteria used to develop simplified shear-design provisions in the paper "Simplified Shear Provisions of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications*." From the results of their research, the authors suggest two changes to shear-design provisions in the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications*.

As you explore this *PCI Journal* issue devoted to transportation infrastructure, you may find yourself reflecting on where our industry began. In the more than 50 years of our industry's existence in the United States, the transportation sector has grown to be one of our most loyal customer segments. As we enter a new construction era, reflecting on the ingenuity that shaped our industry's first 50 years gives us the inspiration we need to meet the challenges of the next 50 years.

Please send
correspondence to elorenz@pci.org or Precast/Prestressed
Concrete Institute, c/o *PCI Journal*, 209 W. Jackson Blvd.,
Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60606.



Emily Lorenz, P.E., LEED AP
Editor-in-Chief | *PCI Journal* | Chicago, IL