



OUR MEMBERS

Weather Channel features wind-cannon test

Brian Bock of Dukane Precast Inc. hosted Jim Cantore of The Weather Channel at the Dukane production facility in Naperville, Ill., and its subdivision of precast concrete houses (under the “Fortified... for Safer Living” banner) on March 17 and 18, 2008.

Dukane performed wind-cannon tests on different wall types to simulate the condition of exterior-wall performance in high winds for The Weather Channel. The cannon hurled 2 × 4 wood planks into different wall types, simulating the conditions in a tornado. Clips show the wood penetrating or damaging all but the precast concrete exterior, which merely needed to be scrubbed and painted to erase traces of the plank.

This demonstration was done in cooperation with Naperville city officials, the Safe Home Illinois team, the Portland Cement Association, Prestressed Engineering Corp., and Simpson Strong-Tie.

To view some of the footage, visit www.weather.com/multimedia/videoplayer.html?from=email&bcpid=823425597&bclid=877032950&bctid=1460796574.

BASF promotes Goodwin, hires Blatz

The Building Systems business of BASF Construction Chemicals has promoted Fred Goodwin to scientist V and hired Katherine Blatz as a new member of the BASF Market Segment Management Team.

In his role as scientist V, Goodwin will be responsible for initiating and managing programs of industry leadership value and providing expertise in support of strategic market development and corporate technology leadership.

As part of the BASF Market Segment Management Team, Blatz will be based in Kansas City, Mo. The addition of Blatz completes the Market Segment Management Team that was developed in 2007 to focus on key construction market segments.

Knife River makes leadership changes

Bob Vaughn, president and chief operating officer of LTM Inc. and southern Oregon region president for Knife River Corp., retired January 15, 2008. Mike Crennen, assistant president of Knife River's Southern Oregon Region office and president of LTM, has been named to succeed Vaughn. In addition, Rich Allison was named president of the company's Mountain Region.

Crennen joined LTM in February 2001 as general manager of Roseburg Operations. On January 1, 2002, he was promoted to vice president, and in January 2005 he assumed the additional responsibility for LTM's Coast Operations. Vaughn's career spanned 33 years with LTM and its predecessor, Tru-Mix Construction Co.

In November 2007, Allison was named interim president for the Mountain Region. Previously, he had served as the vice president of operations for the JTL Group, now doing business as Knife River.

Superior Walls chosen for 2008 Blog Cabin

In 2007, more than 4.2 million online voters helped design the Blog Cabin for the DIY Network. In 2008, as *Blog Cabin* begins a second season, the number of online participants and show viewers is expected to increase dramatically as a new cabin is constructed in Tennessee. As part of the design, Superior Walls has been asked to provide an energy-efficient foundation system for the Blog Cabin.

"This show gives us the opportunity to showcase the value of using an Xi wall panel system to help reduce energy bills for homeowners," says Aaron Schoeneberger, director of market development for Superior Walls. "The very first episode of the *Blog Cabin* that airs in August of 2008 will show the fast installation of the precast concrete foundation system and the value it adds to a home."

The 2008 *Blog Cabin* show began with the public voting online from January through April on the style of the cabin and many of the cabin's feature products. Construction of the lakeside cabin began in April and was filmed for a 13-part television show on DIY Network. Following the airing of the final episode, the network selects a random winner of the Blog Cabin Sweepstakes.

For more details on the 2008 Blog Cabin project, visit www.diynetwork.com.

IRENE SCHROEDER

Irene Margaret (MacGregor) Schroeder, co-founder of PCI Producer Member Precast Concrete Specialties, died January 26, 2008. She was 83.

Schroeder, along with her husband John, was a founder of Precast Concrete Specialties as well as several other companies in Omro, Wis. In 1980, the Schroeders expanded Precast Concrete Specialties to Casa Grande, Ariz.

Precast Concrete Specialties is now run by the Schroeders' sons, Jack and Mike Schroeder.

Bentley acquires LEAP Software

Bentley Systems Inc. has acquired LEAP Software Inc., a provider of analysis and design products for concrete structures.

The flagship product, LEAP Bridge, is an analysis, design, and load-rating application that integrates all bridge design components into one application with a single user interface. The LEAP products complement Bentley's end-to-end bridge design and management solution, which includes Bentley Bridge RM for cable-stayed, suspension, and segmental bridges; Bentley BridgeModeler and Bentley LARS for bridge load-rating calculation, analysis, and analytical modeling; GEOPAK Bridge; InRoads Bridge; Bentley Rebar; Bentley PowerRebar; and many other products.

Lee Tanase, former president and CEO of LEAP Software, now a Bentley vice president, says, "All of us at LEAP Software are pleased to join the Bentley team charged with developing innovative solutions that provide the functionality infrastructure professionals need to sustain the world's bridges."

Water reclamation at High reduces consumption

High Concrete Group LLC has started an environmentally friendly water-reclamation program that is slashing water consumption and boosting process efficiencies. Engineers are implementing the nearly \$750,000 system so that water can be reused in the company's concrete batch operation based in Denver, Pa.

High Concrete's system employs vacuum filtration, a significant advance over standard settling basin technology. The system conserves about 10,000 gal. (38,000 L) of water per day that otherwise would be lost to evaporation. In the new process, all wash water from transport mechanisms, batching process mixing equipment, trucks, and buckets is captured. Coarse and fine aggregates are settled out, and cement and other particles are trapped for disposal. The vacuum filtration system also conserves space, allowing it to meet site constraints.

"The initial challenge was to get the processed water in balance and then to appropriately feed the system to keep it in balance," says Mark Aho, vice president of operations for High Concrete Group. "With this portion of the process stabilized, we're continuing to evolve practices to manage demand with a goal of increasing output without an associated increase in water consumption. The system also has the capability of segregating excess concrete aggregates for reuse according to concrete mix design."

The core of the vacuum system is a horizontal drum with a cloth medium coated with a filter cake of diatomaceous earth. As wash water is pulled through the rotating drum, a knife peels off deposits trapped in the earth. High Concrete Group developed a system of tanks and weirs (spillover devices) to control the water through various stages of treatment and minimize risk of contaminants escaping into the environment.

ICRI honors BASF concrete repair

The Building Systems business of BASF Construction Chemicals was recently honored by the International Concrete Repair Institute for its contributions as a material supplier/manufacturer on three separate projects in 2007.

ICRI conducts an awards program each year to recognize outstanding projects in the concrete repair industry.

The Building Systems business of BASF was honored with Awards of Excellence in the Strengthening and Parking Structures categories. The first project honored was the Guayaquil Bus Terminal Structural Reinforcement project in Guayaquil, Ecuador, a large, three-story transit structure with accelerated deterioration. BASF's contributions assisted in repairs including special high-bond repair materials and carbon-fiber technology to rehabilitate this relatively new building.

The second project was the Auditorium Plaza Garage in Kansas City, Mo., the largest municipal parking structure in the downtown area. The structure, built in 1954, was suffering from severe corrosion and deterioration. Extensive concrete soffit and slab repairs were made. Throughout the entire repair process, the garage remained open.

The final award was the Award of Merit in the Special Projects category for the Arizona State University Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, Ariz. This structure underwent significant structural repairs due to corrosion-related deterioration caused by moisture infiltration to structural elements from the frequent wash-down cleaning of the stadium after events. Repair and future protection were provided by coating the structural steel with epoxy, by epoxy flood-coating the concrete surfaces, and by using a urethane deck coating.



Neal Anderson

CRSI appoints Anderson VP of Engineering

The Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI) has appointed Neal S. Anderson, P.E., S.E., as its new vice president of Engineering.

Anderson will be responsible for all CRSI technical development efforts, as well as all external engineering-related communications. He will be based out of the CRSI office in Schaumburg, Ill.

Shockey hires new lean coordinator, plant manager

The Shockey Precast Group recently hired Rodman Mowen as its new lean coordinator and Scott Galke as the new manager of its Fredericksburg, Va., architectural precast concrete manufacturing facility.

As the lean coordinator, Mowen's responsibilities will include educating Shockey plant and office personnel in the concepts and goals of a lean manufacturing process. He will also be responsible for coordinating efforts within Shockey to achieve those goals.

Galke's responsibilities will involve advancing the capabilities of Shockey's architectural precast concrete plant and supporting the business plan objectives established by the vice president of Operations and Shockey Precast Group's president.

Rizkalla to speak at FRPR symposium

The 9th International Symposium on Fiber Reinforced Polymer Reinforcement for Concrete Structures organizing committee has announced that Sami Rizkalla will be among the event's keynote speakers.

The symposium will be held July 13–15, 2009, in Sydney, Australia.

BASF completes major expansion in Colorado

BASF Construction Chemicals recently completed a multi-million-dollar expansion at its Brighton, Colo., polyurethane sealants and adhesives production facility.

This expansion took about one year to complete and increases the plant's overall production capacity more than 25% with the addition of a complete process train and additional storage capability.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the facility on January 24, 2008, to mark the official startup of production in the new section of the plant.

Shockey Precast plans 2008 education event

On September 25, 2008, The Shockey Precast Group will host about 100 architects, engineers, and general contractors for its third annual Design Professionals Education Event.

The premier component of Shockey's comprehensive education program, the Design Professionals Education Event will feature a 2.5-hour plant tour and updated, American Institute of Architects (AIA)–registered presentations on precast concrete parking structure design; total-precast concrete systems; and CarbonCast carbon-fiber-reinforced, precast concrete, pretopped double Ts for parking structures. Registered architects and engineers will qualify to receive 5.5 AIA learning units or professional development hours for attending. A catered lunch, videos, an exhibit area, and prize drawings are also planned as part of the event.

Register online for the 2008 Design Professionals Education Event at www.shockeyprecast.com.



Anthony Fiorato

Fiorato elected chair of ASTM International Concrete Committee

ASTM International Committee C09 on Concrete and Concrete Aggregates has named Anthony Fiorato its new chair. Fiorato is senior consultant and non-executive chair of the board of CTLGroup in Skokie, Ill., which provides engineering, scientific, and testing services to the construction and related industries.

ASTM Committee C09 consists of about 900 members responsible for more than 155 standards published in the *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*.

Knife River gets \$33.8 million DOT project

Knife River Corp.'s Central Oregon and Southern Idaho divisions recently teamed up to win the bid on an Oregon Department of Transportation project worth \$33.8 million.

The Interstate 84 (I-84) Pleasant Valley–Durbin Creek Road Section Project is two projects combined into one. The first project, I-84 Pleasant Valley, is a reconstruction of about 10 mi (17 km) of I-84. The second project, I-84 Burnt River Freight Improvement Section, is about 20 mi (35 km) and consists of two large curve corrections. The curves will be control blasted and excavated and hauled to designated dump sites. New sections of road, storm drainage, and a concrete barrier will be built to lessen curvature of the road. The remainder of the project includes installation of 10,000 linear ft (3000 m) of electrical trenching, variable message signs, weather information and traffic stations, and a large sign bridge. Work on the project is scheduled to be completed by November 1, 2010.



Antoine Naaman

Naaman honored at ACI convention

During the ACI Spring 2008 Convention in Los Angeles, Calif., a three-part symposium honored Antoine E. Naaman, FPCI.

Naaman's 40-year career has influenced the fields of prestressed concrete, fiber-reinforced concrete, and ferrocement. A PCI Professional Member, he is a member of PCI's FRP Composites Committee and has been a longtime member of ACI committees 544, 549, and 423.



Brad Nessel

CTC promotes Nessel

Composite Technologies Corporation (CTC), manufacturer and supplier of the Thermomass Building Insulation System, promoted Brad Nessel to national sales manager. Nessel will have primary responsibility for the sales and marketing of Thermomass Insulation Systems to the precast/prestressed concrete industry.

UW promotes Oliva to professor

Michael Oliva was promoted to full professor at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department.

Oliva teaches a course on concrete structural design with references to prestressed concrete, a design class focusing on precast concrete design, and a highway bridge class with prestressed girder design. Another class he developed targets precast concrete structural systems.

Oliva received the 2007 Distinguished Educator Award from PCI and serves as a consultant on the Building Code Committee and is a member of the Connection Details, Research & Development, and Seismic committees.



Michael Oliva

BERGER/ABAM hires Prabhu

Milind Prabhu has joined BERGER/ABAM Engineers Inc. at its branch office in Houston, Tex., as a civil engineer.

Prabhu's area of expertise is in planning, design, and execution of test structures, analog-sensor selection, calibration, programming, and data analysis of civil engineering structures. He is currently involved in the modeling analysis and design of complex infrastructure facilities for building and waterfront, offshore, and energy applications.



Milind Prabhu

CTW, Hawkeye merge

In a joint announcement, The Hawkeye Group and Concrete Technologies Worldwide (CTW), owner of Pedershaab Concrete Technologies (PCT) of Brønderslev, Denmark, have merged.

The other CTW subsidiaries in the United States and Europe are included in the merger.

The combined companies will be led by Richard Shoemaker as president and CEO. Fred Schultz, Bent Holme, and the Schmidgall family will continue with their key roles in and contributions to the precast concrete industry.

Oldcastle receives New Hampshire prison contract

The Federal Bureau of Prisons has awarded the design-build construction contract for the design and construction of a new medium-security federal correctional institution in Berlin, N.H. The design-build contract was awarded to Bell Constructors Inc. and Heery Construction Co., a joint venture out of New York.

Oldcastle Precast Modular Group received the contract for the precast concrete correctional cells. The new \$230 million federal correctional institution will include six housing units; administrative offices; and recreational healthcare, educational, and food-service space and will house about 1280 inmates.

Oldcastle Precast Modular Group was chosen to manufacture, fully outfit, and erect the 864 precast concrete cells for the three 2-story general housing units and one 2-story special housing unit for the new 590,000 ft² (55,000 m²) facility. Oldcastle began production of the precast concrete prison cells at its manufacturing plant in Rehoboth, Mass. Erection of the finished cells is expected to begin in July 2008.

Tindall building new San Antonio plant

Tindall Corp. is constructing the precast, prestressed concrete plant for its new Texas division. This will be Tindall's fifth plant.

The 114,000 ft² (10,600 m²) production facility will have the capability to manufacture a broad range of precast, prestressed building products, concentrating initially on correctional-cell modules. The new plant is expected to be in operation sometime during the summer of 2008.

This state-of-the-art facility will mark a \$25 million investment over 5 years and will employ upward of 250 people when in full operation. Ten experienced Tindall employees will transfer to the new plant to be joined by new hires in production, engineering, project management, sales, estimating, and business development.



Angela Harris

Harris joins Metromont Sales Team

Metromont Corp. has announced that Angela Harris has joined its Atlanta, Ga., sales team.

Harris will be responsible for sales primarily out of the Hiram, Ga., plant. She has been with Metromont for eight years and has held various positions within the company, including project manager and project engineer.



Thomas Mathews

PTI names Mathews certification director

The Post-Tensioning Institute (PTI) has named Thomas F. Mathews as its director of Certification Programs and Construction Technologies.

In this role, Mathews is responsible for the management, marketing, and promotion of plant and field certification programs and will also serve as a technical resource related to field practices, components, and materials. He has specialized expertise in concrete-reinforcement installation, post-tensioned concrete construction, and training methods.



William C. (Bill) Richardson Jr., past PCI chairman and president of Richardson Consulting Services LLC in Colorado Springs, Colo., died February 28, 2008. He was 71.

During Richardson's extensive involvement with PCI, he served as chairman in 1999; vice chairman in 1998; on the Board of Directors from 1992 to 1993 and 1995 to 1996; and on the Professional Member, Precast Sandwich Wall Panels, Student Education, Industry Handbook, and Hollow-Core Slab Producers committees. Richardson was awarded PCI Fellow status in 2005.

While serving as vice chairman and chairman of PCI, Richardson promoted a movement for getting young professional engineers to become involved in the precast concrete industry and delivered a speech at the 1998 PCI convention, titled "Pressing Need to Attract New

Design Professionals to Our Industry," that was published in the November–December 1998 *PCI Journal*. As the first chair of the ad hoc committee to study the need for PCI's involvement in field certification, he was instrumental in creating the PCI Field Qualification Program.

A registered professional engineer in seven states, Richardson was a former president of both the Colorado Prestressers Association and the Spancrete Manufacturers Association. He was also a member of the Civil Engineering Advisory Board for the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and the Board of Directors of the Associated General Contractors of Colorado.

Before founding Richardson Consulting Services in 2003, Richardson served as executive vice president and chief operating officer of EnCon United in Denver, Colo., and as president of Stresscon Inc. in Colorado Springs. During his early career, he worked for Metromont Corp. He had BS and MS degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg, Va.

Oldcastle Precast provides *Extreme Makeover* foundation

Oldcastle Precast donated its Oasis Foundation Wall System to help construct a house for the television program *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* in just one week.

The custom-made, precast concrete foundation, which comes complete with foam insulation and paperless drywall, creates a finished basement upon installation. All Oasis Foundation Wall Systems are designed with openings for doors, windows, beam pockets, and other necessities and meet builder specifications.

The system consists of high-density concrete that resists moisture and prevents water penetration. An R-10 insulation rating ensures 10% to 15% less energy loss.

Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, which has won back-to-back Emmy Awards for Best Reality Program (non-competitive), is in its fifth season on ABC.



Haley Barbour (fourth from left), governor of Mississippi, officially dedicates the new \$26 million Tindall Corp. facility in Moss Point.



The new Tindall Corp. plant in Moss Point holds an open house along with its dedication ceremony on March 12, 2008.

Tindall dedicates new Mississippi plant

Tindall Corp. held an official ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony at its new state-of-the-art precast, prestressed concrete facility north of Moss Point, Miss.

Mississippi governor Haley Barbour officially dedicated the new facility as he joined company officials, local and state dignitaries, and Jackson County Economic Development Foundation officials and community leaders in commemorating the occasion.

"Economic development is a team effort and success stories like Tindall Corporation only happen when people on different teams play to win on the same field. We are pleased that a company of this caliber is expanding its operation within the state," Governor Barbour said in his opening remarks.

"I want people to understand that Tindall did not receive any money from the State of Mississippi. The company invested \$26 million of its own money. We were able to help the company through the GO Zone legislation," he says.

The Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005 was signed into law by President George W. Bush on December 21, 2005. The GO Zone legislation offers significant economic incentives to rebuild the Gulf Coast following Hurricane Katrina, as well as attract new investments to the affected areas.

Tindall's previous Mississippi division plant was located in Biloxi, Miss., on Point Cadet. Hurricane Katrina did extensive damage, and while the battered plant was able to restart production in a few weeks, company officials decided to relocate and construct a more modern facility as soon as possible. This decision was precisely the kind of economic recovery the GO Zone Bonds were created to help accomplish.

Jeff Woodruff, P.E., vice president and general manager of the new Mississippi plant, hosted the official ceremony and tours of the facility. "The Moss Point plant is a high-tech facility that is designed for high output and features a number of unique capabilities," Woodruff says.

Plant highlights include

- the main production bay, which features an impressive precast concrete structure with a 110 ft (33 m) clear span and 720 ft (220 m) of length;
- the state-of-the-art batch plant, which delivers concrete into the production bay using an automated concrete delivery system; based on European technology, this system transports, places, screeds, and vibrates concrete using two shuttles, a two-stage gantry placing machine, and one operator;

- the batch plant, which has more than 600 tons (540 tonnes) of aggregate storage capacity and more than 480 tons (430 tonnes) of cement and fly-ash storage capacity. It is set up with one 4.5 yd³ (3.4 m³) mixer with all controls and is designed to accommodate a second mixer once production dictates;
- new precast concrete structures on the site, which total 165,000 ft² (15,000 m²) under roof, and include the 85,000 ft² (7900 m²) main production bay; a 10,000 ft² (930 m²) office building; a 5000 ft² (465 m²) maintenance shop; a 2600 ft² (240 m²) quality control/switcher/compressor building; a 35,000 ft² (3300 m²) support bay; and a 35,000 ft² bay dedicated to future production expansion.

The Moss Point plant employs more than 125 people. At full operational capacity, a work force of 300 is anticipated.

Finrock's Arboleda earns LEED AP

Finrock DMC Inc. announced that Jorge Arboleda has passed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional (AP) exam. Arboleda is chief architect at Finrock.

Roller, Russell, Bruce receive T. Y. Lin Award

John J. Roller, principal structural engineer at CTL Group; Henry G. Russell, engineering consultant for Henry G. Russell Inc.; and Robert N. Bruce, Boh Chair in Civil Engineering at Tulane University were notified that they have received the American Society of Civil Engineering's T. Y. Lin Award for their *PCI Journal* paper "Fatigue Endurance of High-Strength Prestressed Concrete Bulb-Tee Girders," which was published in the May-June 2007 issue.

This award "encourages the preparation of meaningful papers in the designated field of endeavor." The award was presented April 26, 2008, at PCI's Committee Days in Chicago, Ill.

Molin elected VP of Builders Exchange

On December 11, 2008, at the annual holiday meeting of the Builders Exchange of St. Paul in Minnesota, Dan Molin of Molin Concrete Products Co. was elected to the position of vice president of the Builders Exchange. Molin has been involved with the Builders Exchange for 15 years and has served on many committees.



John Roller



Henry Russell



Robert Bruce