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PCI technology development teams continue to make progress

Two PCI technology development teams are continuing to make progress in the development and commercialization of new transportation-related technologies.

The TBNW Working Group, which is developing a general design with unique details for a precast concrete traffic barrier with noise wall (TBNW), is planning to present its concept to the teams competing for the Florida Department of Transportation High Speed Rail Project in October 2010. A potential application for the precast concrete TBNW system would be a high-speed rail line routed down an existing interstate highway median, and Florida is the first of several states considering such a project. The Federal Rail Office will have the final determination on the height of the barrier and wall crash-test level.

The Long-Span U-Beam Working Group has just completed the development of standardized U-beam shapes, details, and span tables that can carry HL-93 LRFD highway loading on straight and curved spans up to 300 ft (90 m). These tools will allow precasters, engineers, and owners to offer alternative solutions to current designs. The details include the influence of 9 in. (220 mm) and 10 in. (250 mm) web thicknesses, cast-in-place or precast concrete deck panels, lightweight aggregates, and 12- or 19-strand tendons for simple-span and continuous-span structures.

For more information on these technologies or if you are interested in joining either working group, please contact William Nickas at wnickas@pci.org or (312) 583-6776.

Three regional affiliates become chapters

PCI has signed chapter affiliation agreements with PCI Midwest (formerly Midwest Precast Association), PCI of Illinois & Wisconsin, and the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Manufacturers Association of California Inc. (PCMAC).

Chapter status is PCI's highest-tier affiliation and requires supermajority endorsement by Producer Members in the area. The three associations had previously been PCI affiliates at the partner level.

"It's great to see these three outstanding organizations move up to PCI chapter status," says James G. Toscas, PCI president. "It further solidifies our network of national and regional resources for education and information to advance precast concrete structures."

PCI has 12 nationally coordinated, regionally focused affiliates across the United States that provide resources to PCI members, educators, and the design community. Regional representatives are able to provide information, conduct continuing education, facilitate meetings, and assist with specific projects, often in person. Together with PCI, they provide reliable and responsive points of contact in virtually every area of the country, drawing on PCI's immense body of knowledge for the precast concrete structures industry.

Each Producer Member of a chapter is a PCI Producer Member, and conversely each PCI Producer Member in a chapter's territory is a chapter member. All producers belonging to a PCI chapter are PCI certified.

For more information, contact Brian Miller, managing director of business development, at (312) 360-3216 or bmiller@pci.org.

CIM program seeks donations for World of Concrete auction

The Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program is seeking donations for its sixth annual auction, which will be at noon on January 20, 2011, at the World of Concrete.

The 2010 auction raised about $386,000. The money raised from the CIM Auction, which will be at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nev., will benefit the NSC and support the CIM programs at Middle Tennessee State University, Arizona State University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Texas State University, and California State University, Chico.

Previous auction items have included cement, a skid steer, concrete saws, drills, mixers, vibrators, scaffolding, safety equipment, screeds, fiber transport systems, dust collectors, NDT equipment, decorative concrete tools, water meters, pumps, generators, training sessions, reference books, advertisements, laptop computers, sports memorabilia, sports travel packages, golf school packages, and vacation travel packages.

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

PCI logo on display in concrete

A glass-fiber-reinforced concrete panel emblazoned with PCI's logo was recently installed in the lobby of PCI headquarters in Chicago, Ill. The panel was donated by PCI member GFRC Cladding Systems LLC in Garland, Tex., and weighs about 850 lb (390 kg).

PCI supplied a supersized logo that was used to create a custom form for the panel. AR glass scrim from Nippon Electric Glass Co. Ltd. provided additional reinforcement to supplement the glass fiber.

GFRC Cladding Systems donated this glass-fiber-reinforced concrete panel to PCI. It stands in the lobby of PCI headquarters in Chicago, Ill. Courtesy of Paul Grigonis.

MTSU student awarded first scholarship from Construction Leadership Council

The Concrete Industry Management program at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) has announced that senior Daniel Cook was recently awarded the first annual Construction Leadership Council (CLC) scholarship. The CLC, a future leaders group of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), was established to fulfill the need to cultivate the next generation of leaders in the construction industry. This scholarship was awarded by the MTSU chapter of the AGC.

In 2010, the AGC established a scholarship fund for MTSU AGC chapter members majoring in construction or concrete management. The $1,500 annual scholarship is available to all incoming juniors and seniors.

PCI Northeast to host session at Build Boston

PCI Northeast will be hosting a session titled "Sustainability through Durability, Adaptability and Deconstructability" at 8:30 a.m. on November 19, 2010, at Build Boston in Boston, Mass.

The longer a building remains in service, the more the environmental impact can be reduced by incorporating strategies for durability, adaptability, and deconstructability. All buildings eventually will be replaced, which means that design for deconstruction may be one of the most important green design strategies for achieving material sustainability. Precast concrete is one of the few material systems that can meet this demand.

Through a series of case examples the session will cover ways that precast concrete can easily adapt to future changes. The session will also cover connection technologies and strategies for adaptability and will outline the requirements for high-performance building design with precast concrete.

Prebis retires from Colorado Prestressers

Walter Prebis

Walter Prebis of the Colorado Prestressers Association (CPA), retired August 27, 2010. In 1971, Prebis left the Portland Cement Association to start the CPA.

Prebis says that his biggest accomplishment was furthering prestressed concrete education.

"When I first started in 1971, the engineering community had a very small, limited knowledge of prestressed concrete," Prebis says. "Most universities throughout the country were not teaching prestressed concrete design at the undergraduate level. Hence, a huge void had developed."

Prebis says that the Colorado Prestressers Association contacted engineering schools throughout Colorado and Wyoming to offer assistance. Prebis developed a program, delivered to a class in a period of three hours, and soon the association was teaching it to the schools they had contacted. The schools continue to invite the association back every year to teach the class.

Prebis will be splitting his retirement between Colorado and Arizona. He plans to consult for the CPA after his departure. "It has been such a terrific experience to see our industry develop and change as the times required it to do so," Prebis says.

Concrete Industry Management students from California State University, Chico, evaluate stair deterioration at Alcatraz while interning there this past summer.

CIM students spend summer on Alcatraz

Five students from the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program at California State University, Chico (CSU) lived in restored officers' barracks in the Marin Headlands and were full-time National Park volunteers on Alcatraz Island in California.

With funding through an award from the 2010 Cultural Resource Stewardship Grant Program of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and support from BASF, the students started working with the National Park Service (NPS) personnel on this venture June 7, 2010. This program is the launch of the first CIM Field School initiative.

Throughout the 10-week internship, the students worked to evaluate, preserve, and repair deteriorated concrete structures, some of which date back to the 1850s. The CIM Field School is codirected by Tanya Wattenburg Komas, director of the Chico State CIM program, and Jason N. Hagin, NPS historical architect.

Students Andrew Billingsley, Stig Strombeck, Jonathan Hall, Bryan James, and Trevor Prater were selected to represent the CIM program and the College of Engineering in the program. They worked with CSU Chico faculty, including Komas and David Shirah, invited industry experts, and NPS personnel to perform historical concrete evaluation, repairs, and structural analysis. The team also analyzed and prepared project scopes of work for both future CIM Field School students and NPS personnel to perform.

While on Alcatraz Island, the five students completed a mandatory internship requirement that was designed to immerse students in a real and practical workplace.

CSU and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area plan to extend this pilot program to an annual project. In order to avoid busy tourist hours, the team spent an all-night work session on the island July 8 in order to move materials and prepare an area in the Prison Recreation Yard for repairs from July 14–16 using specialized BASF materials.

Slender spandrel beam research completed

A research project investigating torsion in slender spandrels as used in typical parking structure construction has been completed. The final report from North Carolina State University is now available.

The report includes a recommended design procedure and design example. Application of the results of this research has the potential for significant savings in the production of these spandrels.

New transportation technologies could open markets for precast concrete

Two new transportation-related technologies have the potential to provide precast concrete solutions for transportation structures that have typically utilized cast-in-place systems. New concepts for curved concrete bridge girders and precast concrete (permanent) traffic barriers have been discussed by PCI at zone meetings and regional affiliate meetings.

The curved-girder concept was initiated by the Colorado Department of Transportation (DOT) and has already successfully competed with steel in this market.

Following the Zone 6 meeting in April 2010, an ad hoc technology development team of PCI members began working to create standards for a precast, prestressed concrete traffic-barrier system based on crash-tested barrier designs by the Florida and Texas DOTs.

A potential application for a precast/prestressed concrete barrier system would be with a high-speed rail line routed down an existing interstate highway median. The first of many planned U.S. high-speed rail projects will be launched in Florida later this year and could provide a pilot for this new technology.

For more information on these technologies or the barrier-system technology development team, contact William Nickas at wnickas@pci.org or (312) 583-6776.

Women in PCI forms new LinkedIn group

Edith Smith of Metromont Corp. recently created the group Women in PCI on LinkedIn. The idea behind the group is to provide an open forum for discussion and support for women in the precast concrete industry.

Smith cites the brevity of the Women in PCI events during the year and says that she hopes the forum will facilitate communication between events.

"I wish that I would have been able to have this type of mentoring and support when I first started in the industry," Smith says, "to have other women to connect with and discuss the issues that face us all."

The group will also keep up to date with reminders about gatherings at PCI's Convention and Committee Days, as well as any other possible opportunities to congregate that may arise.

"My hope is that this group will be a platform for women involved in the industry to get to know each other, for those that are involved in precast and maybe not involved in PCI yet, to become familiar with the benefits that PCI offers," Smith says.

Fourteen students in the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program graduated from California State University, Chico on May 21, 2010.

14 CSU CIM program students graduate

Fourteen students in the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program graduated from California State University, Chico, on May 21, 2010.

The students—Todd Louis Burton, Frank Ross Corzine, Chad Golden, Ryan Hooker, Jeffrey Allen Kelly, Cody Tyler Lee, Alexander Josue Llamas, Daniel Duenas Lopez, Travis Michael Marman, Carl Dean Martindale, Alexxandria McAvoy, Gregory Hirose Mecurio, Scott Paul Renfree, Daniel Michael Runnue, Rocky William Torgrimson, and Chad Zandstra—graduated with BS degrees in concrete industry management.

Douglas K. Guerrero, chairman of the Chico State CIM Patrons, says that many of the graduates have secured positions in CIM patron companies, such as Teichert Materials, California Portland Cement, Knife River Corp., Structural Group, and other industry companies.

New GFRC QC manual contains certification exam requirement

The new *PCI Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete Products*, second edition (MNL-130-09), is available for download on the PCI website. The document may be obtained free of charge by members in the Members Only section of www.pci.org.

The new GFRC Technician/Inspector Certification Exam requirement referenced in Section 1.3.1 is available via proctored exam. Contact Jessica Burnett at (312) 583-6774 or jburnett@pci.org to arrange a proctored GFRC exam.

Plants that are PCI Certified for GFRC (Group/Category G) should be aware that the new MNL-130-09 will be effective for all plant audits that take place on or after July 1, 2010.

PCI honors Fellows at 2010 Awards Breakfast at *fib* Congress/PCI Convention near D.C.

Individual PCI members were named PCI Fellows for their outstanding service to and achievements in the precast concrete industry at PCI's 56th Awards Breakfast on May 30, 2010, at the Third International *fib* Congress and 2010 PCI Annual Convention & Exhibition and Bridge Conference near Washington, D.C.

Recipients of the 2010 honor include Neal S. Anderson, vice president of engineering for the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute in Schaumburg, Ill.; Millard J. Barney, director of marketing for Concrete Technology Corp. in Tacoma, Wash.; John D. (Jack) Cowan, founder of John D. Cowan & Associates Inc. in Columbus, Ohio; John S. Dick, consultant, executive editor of *Aspire* magazine, and past director of transportation systems for PCI; L. S. (Paul) Johal, past director of research and development for PCI; Frank Nadeau, vice president of technical services for Tindall Corp. in Spartanburg, S.C.; and Andrew E. N. Osborn, senior principal of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates Inc. in New York, N.Y.

Anderson has served on PCI's Industry Handbook, Research & Development, and Student Education committees. He contributed a new chapter on material properties for the recently released seventh edition of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete* and provided a complete rewrite of the anchorage provisions of chapter 6 of that book's sixth edition. He has also served as a judge of PCI's Engineering Student Design Competition, or Big Beam Contest, for several years.

Barney is chair of PCI's Journal Advisory Committee. He has served two terms on PCI's Board of Directors (2002–3 and 2006–7) and is a current member of the Bridge Producers and Pile Producers committees.

Cowan is past chair of PCI's Membership Committee and has also served on the Bridge and Marketing committees. He was active with the Ohio Prestressed Concrete Association and was a founding member of PCI of Illinois & Wisconsin. It was through his efforts that the PCI Associate Member Award program was established.

Dick is past director of transportation systems, past director of certification, and past director of structural prestressed concrete services for PCI. He has coordinated PCI's Committee on Bridges, as well as the Bridge Producers, Pavement, Pile Producers, and Bridge Manual committees. Dick was instrumental in publishing the *Precast Prestressed Concrete Bridge Design Manual*; fostered a favorable environment for design and construction specifications for precast, prestressed concrete bridges by hosting AASHTO Technical Committee T-10, Concrete Bridges, at PCI Convention and Committee Days events; helped expand PCI's awards program for bridges; and launched *Aspire* magazine.

Johal, past director of research and development for PCI, substantially expanded PCI's research and development program during his 19-year tenure. He chaired PCI's Advisory Committee on Strand Development Length Research; was secretary of the Research & Development Committee and Ad Hoc Committee on ATLSS and PRESSS; and was a member of the Building Codes, Concrete Materials Technology, Journal Advisory, Parking Structures, Professional Member, Strand Bond, and Student Education committees. Johal received the Martin P. Korn Award for a 1975 article published in *PCI Journal*. In addition to his work at PCI, he has been active with several ACI technical committees and is a Fellow of ACI as well.

Nadeau is chair of the LCA subcommittee of PCI's Research & Development Committee. He also serves on the Parking Structures, Precast Sandwich Wall Panels, and Research & Development committees, and the Sustainability Council and is a past member of the Technical Activities Council.

Osborn is chair of PCI's Technical Activities Council. He is a member of the Educational Activities Council and Prestressing Steel and Research & Development committees, and past chair of the Connection Details Committee.

With the distinction of Fellow, PCI members are recognized for their contributions to the precast, prestressed concrete industry and topics within the areas of education, research, design, production, quality, erection, marketing, and management.

Neal Anderson

Millard Barney

Jack Cowan

John Dick

Paul Johal

Frank Nadeau

Cheri and Blossom, Jim Voss and Chuck Magnesio, facilitate the first-ever PCI Foundation Silent Auction and Raffle at the 2010 Annual Convention & Bridge Conference in Washington, D.C.
Photo courtesy of Paul Grigonis.

Foundation wins big with silent auction, raffle

Those who attended the opening-night reception in May at the PCI Annual Convention & Bridge Conference in Washington, D.C., experienced something they had never seen before: Cheri and Blossom, the facilitators for the first-ever PCI Foundation Silent Auction and Raffle. The pair strolled into the exhibit hall on the arms of Jim Sorenson, PCI chairman, and Tom McEvoy, PCI past chairman. This highlighted the first silent auction to benefit the PCI Foundation, an independent organization dedicated to enhancing the precast concrete industry through efforts in higher education.

The new Leadership PCI class also donned "Bid It UP!" aprons and the new foundation logo caps. The class sold $7560 in raffle tickets.

The Silent Auction Task Group was cochaired by Alvin Ericson and Stacey Toscas. Auctioneers included Pat Hynes, Tom McEvoy, Marianne Methven, Jim Voss, and event consultant Susan Perry. Rebecca Coleman was the PCI staff coordinator. The group volunteered many hours contacting donors for the bid items.

The donations of bid and raffle items included trips to Hawaii; tickets to sports events, such as the Indy500 and various professional baseball games; and tech toys, such as the Apple iPad.

A total of $28,820 was raised for the foundation, which will help it to continue work in enlisting educators, supporting students, creating curriculum, and fostering better ways to build with precast concrete.

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2010 PCI Annual Convention & Bridge Conference Photos

View photos of the 2010 PCI Annual Convention & Bridge Conference at www.pcipublications.org/Con10/Con10index.html.

2010 PCI Convention/*fib* Congress sets attendance, exhibitor records

With more than 1700 attendees—including 700 industry professionals from 55 countries—the recent PCI Annual Convention & Bridge Conference in conjunction with the Third International *fib* Congress and Exhibition was May 29 to June 2, 2010, at the Gaylord National Resort near Washington, D.C. The event featured more than 125 educational sessions and hundreds of technical papers, as well as some 93 exhibitors in more than 100,000 ft^2 (9000 m^2) of exhibit space. The record number of attendees, papers, and exhibitors made this the largest event in the 56-year history of PCI.

More than 100 architects turned out for the Sustainable Design and Construction in the 21st Century seminar. The seminar included a tour of the Gaylord National Resort and National Harbor area, which is substantially constructed of precast concrete. The seminar was cosponsored by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Maryland, AIA Baltimore, AIA Chesapeake Bay, and the Society of American Registered Architects.

The event represented the first time that the *fib* Congress was held in the United States. The *fib* Congress is held once every four years and will take place in Mumbai, India, in 2014.

The program included a number of PCI committee and council meetings, as well as *fib* commission, task group, and technical council gatherings. Educational sessions covered tracks on architectural topics, research, sustainability, operations, business development, and executive subjects. The technical program included the presentation of hundreds of peer-reviewed technical papers, including 53 papers on building systems, 160 papers on engineering and design, 160 papers on bridges and transportation, 86 papers on materials, and 25 papers on ultra-high-performance concrete. All of the peer-reviewed technical papers are available in the 2010 Congress Proceedings, which can be ordered from the PCI bookstore at www.pci.org.

Other highlights of the event included the Bridge Conference plenary session, which offered a presentation by Myint Lwin of the Federal Highway Administration and featured the event's showcase project, the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Extension, and the keynote speech for the combined PCI/*fib* event by Jim Hartzfeld, managing director of InterfaceRAISE LLC and past chairman of the board of the U.S. Green Building Council.

During the PCI Convention, PCI President James G. Toscas presented the PCI Fellows, Medal of Honor, Distinguished Educator, and Young Educator awards and announced the 2010–2011 Leadership PCI Class.

During the *fib* Congress, *fib* president Michael Fardis presented the Freyssinet Medals for outstanding technical contributions in the field of structural concrete to Nigel Priestley of New Zealand and Jiri Strasky of the Czech Republic. Hans-Rudolf Ganz, *fib* honorary president, presented the *fib* awards for Outstanding Concrete Structures. Nominated structures included two U.S. precast concrete projects: Logan Airport Central Parking Garage in Boston, Mass., and the Sound Transit Central Link Light Rail project in Seattle, Wash.

fib Congress activities also included the presentation of the first complete draft of the 2010 *fib* Model Code for concrete structures (a follow-up to the 1978 and 1990 CEB/FIP Model Codes).

Social programs for the PCI/*fib* event consisted of a Potomac River dinner cruise and post-congress plant tours of the nearby precasting plants of Smith-Midland Corp. and The Shockey Precast Group.

The 2011 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference will be October 22–25, 2011, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mahgoub named program coordinator for CIM at New Jersey Institute of Techonology

Mohamed Mahgoub

Mohamed Mahgoub is the new program coordinator for the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) Program at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

Mahgoub joined the program in September 2009 as an assistant professor. He replaces John Wiggins.

Wilden receives 2010 PCI Medal of Honor

Helm Wilden

Helmuth Wilden, founder of Wilden Enterprises Inc. in Hilton Head, S.C., was awarded the 2010 Medal of Honor on May 30, 2010, at PCI's 56th Awards Breakfast during the 2010 PCI Annual Convention & Exhibition and Bridge Conference near Washington, D.C.

Wilden, editor of the recently released seventh edition of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete*, has served in numerous capacities for nearly 40 years.

Before starting his current company in 2005, Wilden founded H. Wilden and Associates Inc. in 1978 as a one-person precast/prestressed concrete engineering and drafting operation, which grew steadily into one of the leading specialty engineering consultants in the industry. Prior to that, Wilden held the positions of vice president of engineering for Universal Concrete Products, general manager of the New Jersey office of Thomas A. Hanson & Associates, chief engineer for The Formigli Corp., and structural design engineer for United Engineers and Constructors Inc.

Wilden, a PCI Professional Member since 1974, was honored as a founding PCI Fellow in 1994 and as a Titan of the Industry in 2004. In 2007 he won the Robert J. Lyman Award, which recognizes the *PCI Journal* paper that offers the greatest contribution in the area of plant production, site erection, or general construction using precast and prestressed concrete. He has served several terms on PCI's Board of Directors and has participated in an array of committees and councils covering nearly every facet of PCI.

Wilden is a current member of the Continuing Education, Industry Handbook, Membership, Professional Member, Student Education, and Tolerances committees. He is past chair of the Continuing Education, Industry Handbook, TMRD Executive, and Tolerances committees and the Educational Activities, Research & Development, and Technical Activities councils and is past cochair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Responsibility.

Wilden is also a past member of more than a dozen other committees, as well as the task group that established the PCI Fellow Program and several ad hoc committees. The Medal of Honor, PCI's highest award, recognizes a member's outstanding service to the institute or contributions to the industry over a long period of time.

The following is text from Wilden's acceptance speech on May 30 at the 2010 Awards Breakfast during the PCI Convention.

Good morning!

Thank you. I accept this award. I accept this award with a great deal of pride and even more humility.

Pride is, I think, obvious.

Humility because my name is now alongside that of the 21 past recipients of this great honor that was first presented in 1972. The previous recipients have all done remarkable things for the benefit of our industry, and I would like to cite a few.

Charlie Zollman studied in Belgium under Gustave Magnel and was instrumental in bringing the European technology to the United States with the design and construction of the Walnut Lane Memorial Bridge in 1950, which is recognized as the first linearly prestressed structure in the United States.

Arthur Anderson for having the vision to realize that this technology had a place in the U.S. construction industry. And he was so right. He also recognized the importance of doing research to validate the technology, so he set up Concrete Technology Associates for that exclusive purpose. We can't just say it works because we do it. We need to validate the technology with research and testing so that the quality of what we do continually improves.

Harry Edwards for playing a major role in the creation of PCI back in 1954 and serving as PCI's first secretary/treasurer. Do you know that he developed the first double-tee? Where would we be without that? And also for always seeing the importance of education. Was it he who said that the success of an industry is directly proportional to the energy devoted to its educational programs? That is as true today and will be as true tomorrow as it was in the early '50s.

Ted Gutt for realizing that PCI had established an excellent reputation for advancing the technology, but we lacked something in terms of marketing that technology. What good is a great technology that creates great structures if we don't let others know about it through marketing? He had the courage and took some bold steps during his chairmanship by making marketing of that remarkable material we call precast, prestressed concrete a new focus for PCI, and he did it without diluting the technical side of our work.

Norm Scott, an early executive director of PCI for moving the institute from sunny Florida to the windy city of Chicago, where it is more effective as a national organization rather than a regional one. Because of this, he was able to create relationships with other organizations, like ACI, PCA, and the organization that was the predecessor to the *fib*.

Tom D'Arcy, who is one of only two people who as a PCI professional member has held the position of PCI chairman. He always steps up to the plate when there is a need, and most recently he played a major role in PCI retaining its necessary focus on research and development. He is also the chairman of the all-important PCI Foundation.

Irwin Speyer who has served almost continuously on PCI committees for more than 50 years and has just volunteered again to serve on the Industry Handbook Committee that will create the eighth edition of the *PCI Design Handbook*. He was my mentor when I was new to this industry and without really knowing it inspired me years ago to not just stand on the sidelines watching others move the industry forward but to get involved.

And Doug Sutton, who served four years as TAC chairman, and then when Tom D'Arcy was tapped to be PCI chairman, Doug stepped forward to serve as chair of R&D, which he then did for five years. He just does not stop. He is now the chair of the all-important Educational Activities Council, and I know that he will take PCI's educational programs to the next level where they must go.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have studied the history of the past recipients of this award and if you did, too, you would easily understand why I am humbled today for being added to this list.

There are many people who I wish to thank for allowing me to be on this stage today. To identify them by name would take too long. That would include all the people that I have worked with, both in my professional career as well as with PCI. I think you know who you are, and I say thank you.

I do want to single one person out, and that is my wife, Mary Lou. We have been partners in life for more than 50 years from the time we met in high school. During that time, she has unconditionally supported me in everything I have ever done, and for that, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Harry Gleich, a friend and also supporter in both my professional and PCI lives said it best the other night when he said that there would be no Helm Wilden without Mary Lou.

You know, I would not be standing here if it were not for volunteerism. I chose to volunteer a little of my time over a long period of time to try to improve not only PCI but the precast and prestressed concrete industry, the industry that I love.

That is not unlike all of you in this room. You all volunteer your time, your expertise and your energy to improve the industry. Let's face it, PCI would not exist without your volunteerism.

And like me, you all have a support system. Whether it is a spouse, a partner, a family or whatever, none of us would be able to do what we do for PCI, *fib*, and the industry without a support system. After all, who is it that is walking the dog, taking kids to soccer practice, the doctor or other functions while you are at a PCI meeting improving our wonderful industry? It is whoever makes up your support system. You all should be commended for doing what you do for PCI, *fib*, or any other organization you might be involved with. I applaud you all for that.

So, in closing, while I am the one taking this plaque home and basking in the accolades for today, I sincerely believe that all of you can be as proud of what you do as I am for receiving this honor.

Thank you all very, very much.

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/markets/certifications/schools.cfm.

Level I/II	
January 17–19, 2011 Las Vegas, Nev.	
Level III	
December 7–10, 2010 Nashville, Tenn.	
Certified Field Auditor (CFA)/Industry Erection Standards (IES)	
January 17–19, 2011 Las Vegas, Nev.	

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.

PCI-IW Meeting	**September 21, 2010**
Prairie Isle Golf Club, Prairie Grove, Ill.	
2010 PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference	**September 22–26, 2010**
Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill.	
PCI Forms and Molds Workshop	**September 29–October 2, 2010**
Doubletree Hotel Bradley International Airport, Hartford, Conn.	
2010 PCI Productivity Workshop	**October 12–15, 2010**
Embassy Suites Omaha, Downtown/Old Market, Omaha, Neb.	
PCINE's Annual Meeting	**October 14–15, 2010**
Cranwell Resort, Lenox, Mass.	
PCI CEO Think Tank	**November 4, 2010**
Westin O'Hare, Rosemont, Ill.	
PCI Structural Design Seminar	**November 4, 2010**
New York, N.Y.	
PCI Structural Design Seminar	**November 10, 2010**
Chicago, Ill.	
PCI Structural Design Seminar	**November 15, 2010**
Westin Perimeter North, Atlanta, Ga.	
PCI Structural Design Seminar	**December 7, 2010**
Westin Charlotte, Charlotte. N.C.	
PCI-IW Meeting	**December 8, 2010**
Prairie Isle Golf Club, Prairie Grove, Ill.	
Georgia/Carolinas PCI Winter Board Meeting and Golf Outing	**December 13–14, 2010**
Mills House Hotel, Charleston, S.C.	
2011 PCI Winter Conference	**February 3–6, 2011**
San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter, San Antonio, Tex.	
PCI Annual Convention and Exhibition and National Bridge Conference	**October 22–25, 2011**
Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown and Salt Lake Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah	
PCI Annual Convention and Exhibition and National Bridge Conference	**September 29–October 2, 2012**
Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, Tenn.	

Compiled by K. Michelle Burgess (mburgess@pci.org)