New PCI headquarters gets LEED certification

PCI's new Chicago headquarters recently received the LEED Existing Building–Operations and Maintenance silver certification. Courtesy of Paul Grigonis.

PCI's new headquarters has achieved the LEED Existing Building–Operations and Maintenance (EB-OM) silver cerification. The building is one of ten buildings in Chicago, Ill., that have achieved LEED EB-OM.

Staff telephone numbers have remained the same in the new office; however, the fax number is now (312) 621-1114. PCI's new address is 200 W. Adams St., Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60606. FedEx and UPS shipments should be addressed to 200 W. Adams St., Lower Level, Chicago, IL 60606.

Jim Young

Jim Young, former president of the Florida Prestressed Concrete Association (FPCA), died January 6, 2010. He was 79.

Young graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in industrial engineering. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he became vice president of Florida Mining and Materials Corp.'s prestressed concrete operations. Later, Young was appointed senior vice president of Southern Prestressed Inc.

Young was an active supporter of both FPCA and PCI and was recently recognized as a PCI Fellow. He served as FPCA president in 1969 and was an honorary member of the organization.

Sustainability resource CD released

PCI's Sustainability Council and Marketing Sustainability Committee have created the new sustainability resource CD titled "Got Proof?"

The disk contains a variety of resources, such as Designer's Notebooks, case studies, precast concrete's potential contributions to LEED 2009, and news releases that support precast concrete's contributions to sustainable design. The disk also has direct links to PCI-certified members, the PCI bookstore, and the PCI website.

"Got Proof?" is available from the PCI bookstore for $2.

CIM raises $386,000 at fifth annual auction

The National Steering Committee (NSC) for the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program raised $386,000 at its fifth annual auction, held in conjunction with the World of Concrete on February 4, 2010, in Las Vegas, Nev.

According to Wally Johnson, the 2010 CIM Auction chairman, this year's auction totals are nearly $100,000 more than totals from the 2009 event. The money raised will benefit the NSC and support the current CIM program, as well as help fund future program expansion.

PCI Foundation selling wristbands

The PCI Foundation is selling wristbands to help support its goal of helping ensure the continued availability of talented people and new technology in the precast concrete structures industry.

The prices are $5 each for 1 to 49 wristbands, $4.50 each for 50 to 99 wristbands, and $4 each for 100 or more wristbands. To order, contact Skip Francies at sfrancies@tampabay.rr.com or (813) 230-8266.

CIM program at NJIT has first graduate

The Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) has graduated its first student from the program. Anlee Orama graduated from the CIM program at NJIT with a BS in engineering technology and a minor in business management.

This past year, Orama worked at Sika Corp. as a concrete testing technician intern. Orama plans to start graduate school at NJIT to pursue a master's degree in civil engineering or engineering management.

New design handbook ready for preorder

The seventh edition of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete* will be available starting in May.

The *PCI Design Handbook* (MNL-120-10) on precast and prestressed concrete provides design procedures; numerical examples; and both new and updated design aids using ACI 318-05, ASCE 7-05, IBC 2006, and other current industry standards. The seventh edition also includes new and updated information on shear-friction design, blast design, stadium-riser design, ledge-hanger-steel design, the impacts of ACI 318-08, and new chapters on notation and materials.

To learn more visit, www.pci.org and click on *PCI Design Handbook* 7th edition. Member cost is $195, and nonmembers pay $390.

In addition, the sixth edition of the PCI Design Handbook is now available for $20 to PCI members.

Nickas appointed to TRB committee

William Nickas

William Nickas, PCI's director of transportation services, was recently appointed to the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Committee on Concrete Bridges, AFF30. Nickas has served on several TRB project panels, as well as the SHRP2 Technical Coordinating Committee and Expert Task Groups.

CIM releases 2008–2009 report

The Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program has released its 2008–2009 annual report. Compiled by the National Steering Committee (NSC), the report was distributed at the World of Concrete in Las Vegas, Nev., in February 2010.

Eugene Martineau, executive director of the NSC, says that the NSC has accomplished several initiatives, including identifying the need for several new committees and creating a Master's Program Task Force to explore the feasibility of establishing an executive MBA program.

By embarking on these initiatives, the NSC was able to secure support for the CIM program at both a national and local level. This includes the pledged support by two new concrete-industry groups who have officially joined the NSC: PCI and the American Concrete Institute Foundation.

VanGeem strengthens Sustainability Council efforts

Martha VanGeem

As commercial construction activity continues to decline, the 2009 *Green Building Market and Impact Report* estimates that the market for LEED-registered and LEED-certified buildings will actually grow by 40% in 2010.

The PCI Sustainability Council is monitoring LEED criteria and the unprecedented number of organizations that are developing sustainability codes and standards; however, the number of organizations and the pace of activity continue to grow.

In response to this abundance of information, Martha VanGeem, principal engineer and manager of CTL Group's Building Science and Sustainability Group, is assisting the council by serving as its sustainable-code advocate. VanGeem, a licensed professional engineer, LEED accredited professional, and registered energy professional, has authored many articles, including the PCI Designer's Notebook on sustainability.

VanGeem will monitor and report new developments and code-change proposals that affect precast concrete. Her first sustainability code activities report to the PCI Sustainability Council's Outreach Task Group summarized current committee discussions at the International Code Council and the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

The PCI Sustainability Council is also hoping to recruit several new members with an interest in sustainability who are willing to monitor activities and represent PCI at code hearings and serve on committees developing codes and standards. The PCI Sustainability Council will provide direction and guidance to interested individuals. Please contact Emily Lorenz at elorenz@pci.org for more information.

2010 PCI Design Awards submissions

The 2010 Design Awards submission site is now open and accepting submissions. All submissions must be made electronically. To make a submission or download more information, go to www.pcidesignawards org/2010.

The rules of the competition are the same as last year. Award entries must be completed by May 21, 2010. The winners will be announced in late July, with the awards ceremony following in September during PCI Committee Days.

CIM students partner on Normandy trip

A team of students of the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program from California State University, Chico, and Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) traveled to France in September to continue concrete-bunker evaluation and research at Pointe du Hoc, Normandy, France. Pointe du Hoc was one of the key locations for the historic World War II D-Day landing in June 1944.

During their time abroad, the students learned first-hand about historic concrete deterioration, state-of-the-art nondestructive evaluation, and the history of the site. Following the first trip to work at the site in 2008 by the Chico State team, the recent trip included four students from Chico State as well as two students from MTSU.

Tanya Wattenburg Komas, director of the Chico State CIM program, set up the research opportunity with colleagues at Texas A&M University. The team from A&M had been working for several years with the American Battle Monuments Commission on a project to survey the site and evaluate the cliffs of the historic landing site on which the concrete structures rest. The Chico State team performed an initial assessment of the condition of the concrete structures and provided needed information about the depths of the foundations during its 2008 visit.

The recent work focused on an in-depth evaluation of six of the key structures, including nondestructive testing and laboratory analysis of concrete core samples, which will result in historic structure reports (HSRs) for each of the structures. The project is planned to continue for several years, culminating in HSRs for all 20 structures at the site.

Website content added for members

PCI has made several recent additions to its website to keep members informed of industry trends. All of the following items may be found at www.pci.org.

The latest resolution from AASHTO's Subcommittee on Materials, which endorses certification by technical institutes, can be accessed by clicking on the "Quality Systems" icon on the homepage.

The *Designing with Precast* binder is now available under "About Precast Concrete" for anyone.

The Members Only section has several new additions. A Free Publications section has been created in the "Members Only" section. The new second edition of MNL-130, *Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete Products*, has been posted there. In addition, the 2010 economic forecast presentation given by Ken Kruse of BASF is now posted on the "Members Only" section under "Economic Resources" and "Economy."

Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program students help build houses for a local domestic violence shelter near the California State University, Chico, campus over their winter break. Courtesy of the Concrete Industry Management program.

Chico State CIM students give back

The Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program recently assisted a local domestic violence shelter near the California State University, Chico, campus, building two houses in nine days.

The CSU students used their vacation time to help Catalyst Domestic Violence Services, a not-for-profit organization committed to serving the needs of all domestic-violence victims. Catalyst provides temporary living facilities for victims of domestic violence.

Chico State took on the name Blitz Build for this project because of the short time they had to complete the construction. After initial site preparation and concrete work early in December 2009, construction of the houses began on January 16, 2010, and was completed on January 24, 2010.

The two 840 ft^2 (78 m^2) transitional housing units are adjacent to the new Catalyst Housing Facility. The CIM students worked along with the construction management students at CSU and assisted with the concrete portion of the project, which included foundations, slabs on grade, sidewalks, and driveways.

A focus of the design and construction of the houses was on gaining LEED certification. To that end, the decision was made to decoratively finish the concrete slabs rather than use floor coverings, such as tile or carpet. This meant that special considerations had to be taken into account during the entire construction process to ensure that the slabs were protected from stains and scratches. When concrete work commenced, temperatures had dropped below freezing and measures to protect the curing concrete from freezing had to be undertaken, including using blankets and thick layers of straw.

CIM students, with the help of industry experts, were able to complete initial grinding of the slab prior to the start of construction, but the planned staining and sealing was not possible due to rain. Without a sealer to protect the slab, construction proceeded with the concrete floors protected simply by special environmentally friendly protection blankets.

After seven days of construction, the houses were substantially complete.

Despite the touch-and-go schedule and torrential rain for most of the time, the houses were completed one day ahead of schedule and received LEED gold certification.

This project will continue next winter break, and the CIM students are proposing to include more concrete and concrete products in the two structures that are being planned for the next phase.

Chico State CIM patrons donated nearly all of the materials and equipment for the concrete.

PCI to comoderate session on sustainability at ACI convention

Three ACI committees (124, Concrete Aesthetics; 130, Sustainability; and 533, Precast Panels) have joined to host a full-day session titled "Sustainable Design with Concrete" at the 2010 ACI Fall Convention in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Brian Miller, PCI managing director of business development and chair of ACI 533, will comoderate the session with Larry Rowland of Lehigh White Cement.

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 Zone 6 and Regional Meetings	**April 22–23, 2010**
Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.	
PCI Zone 4 Meeting and PCI Central Region Spring Event	**May 4–5, 2010**
Louisville, Ky.	
PCI-IW Meeting	**May 19, 2010**
Prairie Isle Golf Club, Prairie Grove, Ill.	
Third International *fib* Congress and PCI Annual Convention and Exhibition and National Bridge Conference	**May 29–June 2, 2010**
Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, Washington, D.C.	
PCI-IW Meeting	**September 21, 2010**
Prairie Isle Golf Club, Prairie Grove, Ill.	
2010 PCI Committee Days	**September 22–25, 2010**
Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill.	
PCI-IW Meeting	**December 8, 2010**
Prairie Isle Golf Club, Prairie Grove, Ill.	
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.	

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	
June 14–16, 2010 Nashville, Tenn.	September 8–10, 2010 Chicago, Ill.
Level III	
June 16–19, 2010 Nashville, Tenn.	September 7–10, 2010 Chicago, Ill.
Certified Field Auditor (CFA)/Industry Erection Standards (IES)	
June 14–16, 2010 Nashville, Tenn.	

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