Rachel J. Detwiler

Editor's Message

Bridges

Our Spring 2014 issue is coming out a little early. The reason is that PCI's convention is earlier than usual (September 6 through 9), so we've scheduled the Spring, Summer, and Fall issues to fit that time frame rather than make our usual scramble to get the Fall issue out before the convention even more hectic. We've also included more papers than usual.

This is our annual Bridges issue. Our cover story reports on the construction of twin bridges on the Trans-Canada Highway near Thunder Bay, ON. High-performance precast concrete deck panels and ultra-high-performance cast-in-place concrete joints provided the desired speed of construction without compromising durability. The next paper describes the equipment used in the construction of bridges for light-rail transit and high-speed rail lines around the world.

Next, we have a two-part paper that examines a more traditional approach to providing durability to precast concrete deck-panel connections: posttensioning. Specifically, which construction practices should be employed and how much prestress and posttensioning should be used? Another paper explores ways to improve the detailing to reduce cracking in the end zones of I-girders; another looks at end-zone reinforcement in the Alaskan Way Viaduct in Seattle, Wash. We also have a paper on the performance of corroded bridge girders repaired using carbon-fiber-reinforced polymer sheets by the late Khaled Soudki, who died too soon at the age of 48. His obituary appears in this issue on page 33.

Last, we have a paper on interoperability of building information modeling in the precast concrete industry.

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