Jim Toscas (left), then-president of PCI, presents Dan Jenny with the PCI Medal of Honor September 23, 2014, at the home of former *PCI Journal* editor-in-chief George Nasser. Courtesy of Donald Meinheit.

Jenny receives PCI Medal of Honor

PCI's most prestigious award, the Medal of Honor, was awarded to Daniel P. Jenny. Medal of Honor recipients have made a highly significant contribution to the precast concrete structures industry and have demonstrated a sincere continuing interest in the institute.

Jenny received his BS in engineering from Marquette University and his master's of civil engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Jenny has held many important positions within PCI, including vice president of PCI, technical director, research director, and editor-in-chief of *PCI Journal*. He has also chaired and served on several committees, including the Industry Handbook Committee, the Technical Publications Review Board, and the Martin P. Korn Award Committee.

Jenny helped shape the industry as we know it today. He helped to expand PCI's technical committees and was a guiding force in the development of three editions of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete*. He also served on ACI's Board of Direction, Technical Activities Committee, and ACI 318, Structural Concrete Building Code.

Before joining PCI, Jenny served as a structural engineer with the Structural and Railways Bureau of the Portland Cement Association. He was also the chief engineer for the Expanded Shale, Clay, and Slate Institute.

Jenny was unable to attend the convention, but he accepted the award via video and later personally received the award from then-president of PCI Jim Toscas.

Embrace the Future

Jim Voss
PCI Foundation
Treasurer

Dean Gwin said, "Move the needle!"
Chris Pastorius said, "The power of one!"
I say, "Embrace the future!"

The PCI Foundation is making great strides in educating young people coming into the workforce about the joys of designing with precast/prestressed concrete. We are administering studios in 10 schools nationwide, and others are eager to jump on the PCI Foundation bandwagon. Our efforts have produced more than 600 graduates of these studios who will shortly have influence over the choice of materials used in projects.

In spite of the good work we are doing, something is missing: belief in and commitment to the culture change that we are experiencing. We presently enjoy the support of only about 20% of our membership! Yes, that means that 80% of us are doing nothing! I am challenging us—all of us—*not* to be that guy. I am not talking about just companies. I am talking about individuals, too. If we sincerely want to grow our industry, it is essential to recognize that, in the long term, nurturing upcoming architects and engineers is a most logical activity.

As we move into a new year, 2015, why not make the good business decision to sponsor the activities of *your* foundation? Whether you donate $100 per year or $100,000, please consider that changing your thinking can and will bring about positive change and growth in our industry, this year and every year!

The 80 percenters? Don't be that guy!

Embrace the future!

Peter Finsen (second from left), executive director and CEO of the Georgia/Carolina Chapter of PCI, and Robert Vitelli (far right), senior vice president of Blakeslee Prestress, are recognized by Jim Toscas (far left), then-president of PCI, and Dean Gwin (third from left), 2014 PCI chairman, at the 2014 PCI Convention. Courtesy of Paul Grigonis.

2014 PCI Fellows are Finsen, Vitelli

The Board of Directors named two PCI members, Peter Finsen and Robert Vitelli, Fellows of the institute for 2014, honoring them for outstanding contributions to PCI and to the precast concrete structures industry.

Finsen is the executive director and CEO of the Georgia/Carolinas Chapter of PCI based in Atlanta, Ga. He received his bachelor of science degree from Lake Forest College and a master's of architecture from the University of Pennsylvania. Finsen served as chairman of PCI's Regional Council from 2007 to 2008 and was a member of the PCI Board of Directors from 2008 to 2009. He has been instrumental in developing several PCI marketing and educational programs and has served on numerous committees, including the Marketing Council, *Ascent* Advisory Committee, Journal Advisory Committee, Student Education Committee, and the Branding Committee. He has been involved with the PCI Foundation since its inception, and has organized its annual golf tournament since 2002. He also helped facilitate development of the first integrated architecture/engineering Precast Design Studio at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Vitelli is senior vice president of Blakeslee Prestress in Branford, Conn. He received his bachelor of science in business from Quinnipiac University. Vitelli first served on the Board of Directors as chair of the Marketing Committee from 1987 to 1988 and has served on the board since 2013 as the Zone 5 director, which he will continue through 2016. He has served on several other PCI Committees, including Parking Structures and Research and Development. He is the chairman for PCI Northeast and has been an active member with the group for the past 25 years.

Jim Toscas (far left) announces the newest PCI Titans (starting second from left), Ned Cleland, William Daily, Greg Force, Sid Freedman, Harry Gleich, Mike Lanier, Edwin McDougle, and Paul Zia. Dean Gwin (far right), 2014 PCI chairman, was also on hand to present the awards. Courtesy of Paul Grigonis.

Eight added to PCI Titans

This year PCI named eight new Titans to the distinguished list of the original 50 Titans named on the 50th anniversary of PCI's founding. The newest Titans are Ned Cleland, William Daily, Greg Force, Sid Freedman, Harry Gleich, Mike Lanier, Edwin McDougle, and Paul Zia.

PCI Titans are dedicated individuals who have had a profound effect on the precast/prestressed concrete industry. They have provided outstanding service over many years to the industry in any functional area, including education, research, design, production, quality, erection, marketing, and/or management.

Cleland is the president of Blue Ridge Design in Winchester, Va. He received his PhD in civil engineering from the University of Virginia. Cleland has served on numerous PCI councils and committees, including the Parking Structures Committee, Seismic Committee, and Industry Handbook Committee. He has also served on the Technical Activities Council (TAC) and Research and Development Council. He will be serving as chair of TAC starting in 2015. He has been instrumental in the DSDM (Diaphragm Seismic Design Methodology) and PRESSS (Precast Seismic Structural Systems) steering committees as well as many industry code changes. He was also coauthor of PCI's first *Seismic Design Manual,* now in its second edition.

Daily is president of the Hamilton Form Co. in Fort Worth, Texas. He received his master's degree in civil engineering from Purdue University. He served on the PCI Board of Directors in 1978 and again in 1987. He has also served on numerous PCI committees, including the Structural Committee and Energy Committee. Daily and Hamilton Form have been longtime supporters of PCI and the precast concrete industry. They are a Premier Partner of PCI and a founding donor of the PCI Foundation.

Force is president and COO of Tindall Corp. in Spartanburg, S.C. He received his BS in civil engineering from Lehigh University and an MBA from Georgia College and State University. Force served as PCI chairman in 2012 and was a member of the Executive Committee for four years. He has been involved with many PCI committees, including the Parking Structures Committee, Building Codes Committee, and Technical Activities Council, and was chair of the Industry Handbook Committee for the seventh edition of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete*. He is currently vice chair of the Research and Development Council.

Freedman is the director of Architectural Systems, Industrial Operations and Safety, and Erectors Safety for PCI. He obtained his BS in civil engineering from Northeastern University and his MBA from Loyola University. Freedman has been instrumental in developing and advancing the use of architectural precast concrete. He was chairman of the committee that prepared the second edition of the major industry publication *Architectural Precast Concrete* and was the principal author of the third edition. He also authored several other key publications, such as the Designers Notebook series, and has been instrumental in many committees, including starting the PCI Erectors Committee, GFRC Committee, and Bridge Producers Committee.

Gleich is vice president of Engineering for Metromont Corp. in Greenville, S.C. He received his BS in civil engineering from the University of South Florida. Gleich has served on the PCI Board of Directors and also chaired several PCI councils and committees, including the Research and Development Council, the Parking

Structures Committee, and the Seismic Committee. He has also served on the Industry Handbook Committee for the past four editions of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete.*

LaNier is vice president of BergerABAM in Federal Way, Wash. He received his BS in civil engineering from the University of Denver. LaNier has been chair of the Technical Activities Council and served two terms on the PCI Board of Directors. He has also chaired the Tolerance Committee and served as a voting member of several committees, including the Materials Technology Committee, Professional Members Committee, Journal Advisory Committee, and Blast Resistance and Structural Integrity Committee. He is currently involved with the Plant Certification Committee and Research and Development Council.

McDougle is a consulting engineer out of Brentwood, Tenn., and recently retired from Ross Bryan Associates after a 40-year career. His position at Ross Bryan included performing PCI Plant Certification audits at hundreds of precast concrete plants throughout North America. He also served as an instructor for PCI's Quality Personnel Certification Program Levels I and II, the Certified Field Auditor program, and the Certified Company Auditor Program. He received his BS and master's of civil engineering from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. McDougle served as chair of the Personnel Certification and Training Committee and Erectors Committee and had a significant positive influence on PCI's Quality Programs. He is the chair of the Quality Assurance Council and serves on the PCI Board of Directors.

Paul Zia is a Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering and Alumni Distinguished Graduate Professor Emeritus at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C. He received his master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Washington in Seattle and his PhD from the University of Florida. Zia contributed to the very beginnings of the prestressed concrete industry as well as the formation of PCI and the development of the *PCI Journal*. He has been involved with PCI for more than 60 years and served on 14 different committees from 1967 to the present. Zia is a Life Member of PCI and has received numerous awards and honors throughout the industry. He is a PCI Fellow, three-time winner of the Martin P. Korn Award, winner of T. Y. Lin Award, winner of the PCI Distinguished Educator Award, and winner of the PCI Medal of Honor, PCI's highest award. He is also a past president of ACI.

Yahya Kurama

George Morcous

2014 Educator Awards presented at convention

Yahya "Gino" Kurama, professor and associate chair in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences at the University of Notre Dame, received the 2014 Distinguished Educator Award. This award recognizes educators in the fields of engineering, architecture, and construction technology who have made significant and sustained contributions to the precast concrete structures industry.

The 2014 Educator of the Year Award was given to George Morcous, associate professor at the Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, for his significant and sustained contributions to the precast concrete structures industry. The Educator of the Year Award recognizes either a singular, truly significant contribution to education or early career contributions. While research contributions are considered, the primary consideration is on contributions to instruction at all levels, student learning, and/or educational service.

Stephen Seguirant

Seguirant receives first Norman L. Scott award

Stephen Seguirant received the first ever Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award at the 2014 PCI Convention. Seguirant is vice president and director of Engineering with Concrete Technology Corp. in Tacoma, Wash.

The award honors Norm Scott, an important contributor to the precast/prestressed concrete industry.

PCI searches for next president as Toscas leaves to head PCA

Jim Toscas, PCI president, left PCI December 12, 2014, to take over as president and CEO of the Portland Cement Association in Skokie, Ill.

The PCI Executive Committee has asked Roger Becker, PCI's managing director of Research and Development, to serve as interim PCI president, effective December 15. Becker has 26 years' experience in consulting and 11 years in the producer industry.

"It's important that the person handling the interim responsibilities not be a candidate for the permanent position, and Roger has made it clear that he is not a candidate," says Dean Gwin, immediate past chairman of PCI. "We are fortunate to have someone with Roger's knowledge and experience available to serve in this role."

Gwin traveled to PCI headquarters in Chicago, Ill., shortly after the announcement to help facilitate a smooth transition. He and Toscas met with the entire PCI staff to discuss the transition, after which he held individual meetings with senior staff managers and updated the Executive Committee. During his two-day visit, Gwin and Toscas discussed the transition process.

A search committee was established to review candidates for the next PCI president. The search committee comprises the members of the Executive Committee and several others drawn from the PCI Board of Directors, PCI staff, and regional directors. Gwin held a teleconference with the PCI Board of Directors on December 2 to finalize the search committee's membership and goals. They also discussed ways to find out what the members are looking for in the next leader of PCI and how to get the word out about the opening. The early identification of an interim president allowed Toscas to begin the process of turning over the reins before he departed. To provide an additional measure of continuity, any major decisions will be reviewed with the Executive Committee until the next president is in place.

"We expect that it may take up to six months before the next president is on the job," Gwin says. "Our objective is that the institute continues to operate as smoothly as possible during this time."

Toscas came to PCI after being executive vice president at the American Concrete Institute. He served PCI for nearly 12 years.

"This was a very difficult decision. I love PCI, the staff, the members, this industry. But ever since I was at ACI, I've worked to create a more unified concrete industry," he says. "I see PCA as an effective platform from which this can be accomplished. This means much closer collaboration between PCA and the other concrete-related associations, including PCI, in areas such as codes, marketing, and research."

"While we hate to lose Jim, we understand how important this opportunity is to him and wish him the best," Gwin says. "I'm sure we will continue to cross paths in the years ahead."

PCI website gets new member dashboard

The PCI website has a new member dashboard. With this enhanced feature, members have the opportunity to edit their personal information, which will instantaneously update membership records at PCI headquarters. Members will also have access to a wider range of options to help customize their experience with PCI, including notifications, invoice payment, and communication preferences. The member dashboard is available at www.pci.org/account/login.aspx.

Northeast Prestressed Products receives T. Henry Clark Award, future awards to be revised

The 2014 winner of the T. Henry Clark Award was Northeast Prestressed Products LLC in Cressona, Pa., and honorable mention was awarded to Mid-States Concrete Industries in South Beloit, Ill.

The T. Henry Clark Award has been given to the Producer Member with the highest score from the QA 2020 Vision Program Self-Assessment. T. Henry Clark was an icon of our industry who dedicated his life to improving the quality of precast concrete. He was instrumental in developing and growing the PCI Certification Program.

At the 2014 PCI Convention, the QA 2020 Vision Committee voted to make the QA 2020 Vision Program available to all PCI Producer Members and eliminate the program's connection to the T. Henry Clark Award. The Quality Activities Council will now decide on the future direction for the T. Henry Clark Award, which will likely be presented next at the 2016 PCI Convention.

Aspire introduces Concrete Bridge Technology series

Aspire has added a recurring feature for practicing bridge engineers titled "Concrete Bridge Technology."

This new feature is a way for practicing engineers to speak directly with one another about lessons learned and to share their knowledge. Is there something you've always wondered about? Do you have a simplified way of doing something, or a good way of explaining a topic?

Fall 2014 *PCI Journal* feature article wins Construction Writers Association award

The cover story in the Fall 2013 issue of *PCI Journal* received Honorable Mention from the Construction Writers Association's (CWA's) annual awards competition. CWA says that the Boger Feature Writing Award "singles out an article of special significance to the industry."

Past winners include entries from publications such as *Engineering News-Record*. "Higher Ground: Not to Manage Homelessness, But to End It" by Rachel J. Detwiler, *PCI Journal* editor-in-chief, and Ronald C. Reigle, associate principal and senior architect in the Building Sciences Group at Braun Intertec Corp. in Minneapolis, Minn., describes an innovative homeless shelter in Minneapolis that is designed to help clients get off the streets for good.

High-performance precast concrete insulated panels provided rapid, economical erection on a tight urban site. ER-POST precast concrete trusses afford clear sight lines for security on the first and second floors. Thermographic imaging of the exterior demonstrates the energy efficiency of the precast concrete building envelope. Although the interiors are designed for durability and easy, low-cost maintenance, they provide a pleasant, uplifting environment for clients and staff.

Students from Minnesota State University in Mankato visit the Wells Concrete plant. Courtesy of Gregg Jacobson, Wells Concrete.

MSU students tour plant, projects as part of PCI Foundation program

Students from the Civil Engineering and Construction Management schools at Minnesota State University in Mankato, Minn., were treated to a full-day bus tour by Wells Concrete in Wells, Minn., on October 30, 2014. The students not only visited the plant to learn more about precast concrete but toured three of Wells' current jobs to see how the product works in the field.

"My mission was to introduce a few students to prestressed concrete and show them what one can do," says Gregg Jacobson, vice president of operations for Wells. "I guarantee you that when that bus got back, every student had an idea what prestressed concrete is all about."

The students from MSU are part of the current PCI Foundation project that began during the fall 2014 semester. Called "Building a Concrete Future" the program is led by Farhad Reza, a professor in the Civil Engineering School, and Mohamed F. Diab, an assistant professor in the Construction Management School. It is the first joint program for engineering and construction management students sponsored by the PCI Foundation. Local partners include Wells Concrete and PCI Midwest.

New *Aspire* series to cover concrete bridge topics for professors, future engineers

Aspire is creating a new feature aimed at professors and students. In A Professor's Perspective, Professor Oguzhan Bayrak will address topics related to creating the next generation of concrete bridge engineers.

The transition from college student to entry-level engineer is an exciting and challenging prospect. Although college prepares students for practice by providing a broad foundation of topic knowledge, the transition can be frustrating for students who want to be helpful immediately. This frustration is shared by employers who are frequently challenged to find adequate time to mentor new graduates.

A Professor's Perspective will have two primary focuses. The first focus will be on subjects relevant to professors who educate concrete bridge engineers. Topics aimed at professors will relate to the design of concrete bridges and structures. The other focus of A Professor's Perspective will introduce students to topics related to transitioning from an environment that focuses more on theory and research to one of a practicing engineer.

Barry Fleck (far left) and Skip Francies (far right) from A. L. Patterson make a contribution to the PCI Foundation in honor of incoming chairman Chris Pastorious of Metromont (third from left). PCI Foundation Treasurer Jim Voss of JVI (second from left) accepts the donation. Courtesy of the PCI Foundation.

PCI Foundation donors dig deep during convention

PCI Foundation received many donations and pledge commitments during the 2014 PCI Convention. All told, about $450,000 in corporate pledges and donations and $75,000 in personal pledges and donations were made. Many of these commitments will come in over the next five years.

"These pledges are a positive sign for the future of the PCI Foundation. We hope to use them to continue to build our capital to ensure we will have programs that reach out to tomorrow's architects, engineers, and construction managers," says capital campaign chairman Bill Simmons. "Of course, these donations are only a fraction of what it takes to operate state-of-the-industry programs at colleges and universities. One of the reasons for the success of our programs is that we make a substantial, multi-year commitment to help a program build over time. Our potential for new programs reaching even more schools is only limited by our resources."

Most of the pledges were made as general donations, but others are made to honor a particular person. For example, Barry Fleck, president of A. L. Patterson, made a donation to honor Chris Pastorious as he became chairman of PCI.

"The donation to the PCI Foundation was to congratulate and thank Chris Pastorius on becoming the chairman of PCI." Fleck says. "He is a lifelong friend, and we wanted to recognize the significant commitment that not only he was making but his company and wife, Tina, for the benefit of our industry and institute."

Many pledges were made to span multiple years, which will help the PCI Foundation Trustees plan future programs and build in new educational areas, such as research. Corporate donations and pledges received during PCI convention include Advocates ($50,000 to $99,999) Hamilton Form and Sumiden Wire Products Corp.; Supporters ($25,000 to $49,999) Plant Architects, Gage Brothers Concrete Products, and Prestress Supply Inc.; and Contributors A. L. Patterson Inc., The Consulting Engineers Group, Kerkstra Precast Inc., Mid State Precast LP, Pankow Foundation, and Precast Services.

Personal donations received during PCI convention include Silver ($10,000 to $24,999) Dean and Rhonda Gwin, Bruce Hartup, Tom Kelley, and Bo Kusznir; Bronze ($5000 to $9999) Daniel P. Jenny, Christopher J. Pastorius, and J. Seroky; Copper ($1000 to $4999) Dave and Jill Jablonsky, Ed Knowles, Doug and Ellie Sutton, Chuck and Sandy Magnesio, Leon Grant, and William F. and Nancy Simmons; and Contributor Todd Adams, Mike Baty, Neil M. Hawkins, Bill Henderson, Donald E. Meinheit, Doug Mooradian, Brad Nesset, Mark Pedron, Jim Sirko, and Glen Underwood.

To make a donation to the PCI Foundation, visit the website at pci-foundation.org or call the office at (708) 386-3715.

PCI members get discounted WOC registration

The World of Concrete (WOC) will be held February 3–6, 2015, in Las Vegas, Nev. PCI members can receive a discounted registration rate of $20 to WOC and discounted seminar fees when they register through the unique PCI link.

For 2015 WOC registration, visit www.worldofconcrete.com/Attendee/Register. Enter "A34" in the box that asks for a source code to get the PCI discounted rate of $20.

WOC is an annual international event dedicated to the commercial concrete and masonry construction industries. It features more than 600,000 ft^2 of exhibits, where the industry's leading suppliers showcase innovative products and technologies.

Several opportunities are available to the precast/prestressed concrete industry at WOC:

- the Zone 1–2 meeting
- the PCI Quality Schools; (contact Alex Morales at amorales@pci.org for more information)
- the PCI session Quality Assurance: Your Lifeline to a Better Project

For PCI members who are first-time exhibitors at WOC, there is a 25% savings on the current published exhibit space rates. Contact Kirstin Osgood at kosgood@pci.org for more information.

Remember to stop by the PCI booth, #N337.

If you have any questions about using the unique PCI registration link, please contact Brian Miller at bmiller@pci.org.

Sherrie Nauden

Eric Fuderer

Nauden, Fuderer join PCI Education team

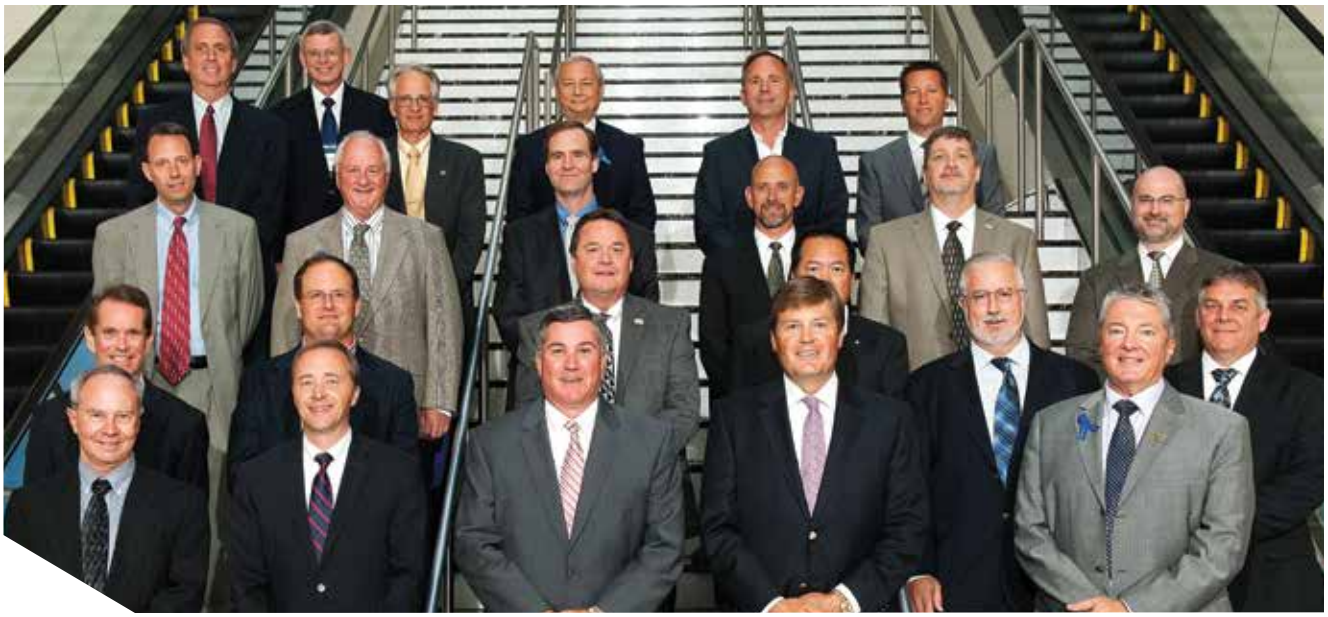
Sherrie Nauden and Eric Fuderer have joined the PCI staff, reporting to Alex Morales, PCI's managing director of Education and Information Systems.

As education manager, Nauden will oversee PCI's continuing education programs, including those registered with the American Institute of Architects and Registered Continuing Education Provider program, handling course registration functions for all of PCI's provider programs. Her first project assignment will be to oversee the Continuing Education Committee's new Night School program, scheduled to launch in early 2015. Nauden has nearly 15 years of professional development and continuing education experience in the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. She planned and launched new roundtables (chapters) on a global basis for the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals, developed and executed activities for more than 120 global roundtables, and implemented strategies to advance membership growth and improve member engagement. She received her BA in Sociology from DePaul University.

Fuderer is the new Education Activities administrative assistant. Fuderer will assist Morales with administrative duties related to committee projects, educational event logistics, and attendance reporting to continuing education unit providers. He will also serve on the administrative team call center, and assist as needed with shipments. Fuderer has several years' experience with customer service call center duty, handling as many as 140 calls per day. He also helped with processing enrollments, shipping duties, exam paperwork, and webinar facilitation. He received his bachelor of science in history from Eastern Michigan University in 2012.

Safety, environmental workshop planned for April

The Safety and Environmental Committee in conjunction with the Architectural Precast Concrete Committee has planned a safety (both plant and field) and environmental workshop in the Milwaukee, Wis., area for April 8–10, 2015. This will be the first PCI workshop to cover these topics and includes a plant visit to Mid-States Concrete Industries in South Beloit, Ill.



PCI Board Members at convention. Front row, from left: Chuck Prussack, Dan Juntunen, Chris Pastorius, Dean Gwin, and Jim Toscas. Second row: Glen Switzer, Mason Lampton, Ken Kruse, Allen Kung, Keith Wallis, and Jeff Moehle. Third row: Dan Bible, Pat Hynes, Gil Heldenfels, Patrick Carlin, Chuck Wynings, and Michael Paris. Fourth row: Jon Grafton, Millard Barney, Rich Miller, Bob Vitelli, Dan Willems, and Greg Kerkstra. Courtesy of Paul Grigonis.

PCI welcomes new board members

At the 2014 convention, PCI announcedthe newly elected members of the Board of Directors. The following people will begin their service on the 2015 Board of Directors:

- Kimberly Wacker, corporate director of Marketing and Communications at Spancrete in Waukesha, Wis., was named institute program director, marketing.
- Keith Wallis, general manager/corporate secretary at Prestressed Casting Co. in Springfield, Mo., was named institute program director, quality assurance.
- Ned Cleland, president of Blue Ridge Design Inc. in Winchester, Va., was named institute program director, technical activities.
- Jeff Moehle, president of MPC Enterprises Inc. in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, was named Zone 3 producer member director.
- Greg Kerkstra, chairman and CEO of Kerkstra Precast Inc. in Grandville, Mich., was named Zone 4 producer member director.
- Greg Gibbons, president of Gibbons Erectors Inc. in Englewood, Colo., was named associate member director.
- Michael Paris, senior associate and PCI auditor for Ross Bryan Associates Inc. in Nashville, Tenn., was named professional member director.

After the Board meeting was adjourned, Chris Pastorius, the incoming chairman, called a meeting of those who will serve on the 2015 Board of Directors to officially elect the 2015 PCI Officers. Chuck Prussack, sales, engineering and quality control manager at Oldcastle Precast Inc. in Spokane, Wash., was elected vice chairman, and Dan Juntunen, president and CEO of Wells Concrete in Albany, Minn., was named secretary-treasurer.

Bertolini Leadership and Innovation Award created

The PCI Board of Directors approved a policy revision implementing the Mario J. Bertolini Leadership and Innovation Award. The task group to create the award was led by Helm Wilden, vice president of Wilden Enterprises.

Second edition of Prestressed-in-a-Box released

The second edition of PCI's Prestressed-in-a-Box is now available in the PCI Bookstore. This material was created and compiled by PCI's Student Education Committee as a resource for professors teaching a prestressed concrete course at not-for-profit institutions of higher learning. The technical content was created by university professors and vetted by the PCI Technical Activities Council.

The second edition has been updated with references to the new ACI 318-14 code.

"We're proud to launch our second edition immediately after the release of ACI 318-14," says Sergio Breña, chairman of the PCI Student Education Committee. "The committee stayed informed as the new building code progressed through its traditional balloting process and worked very hard to keep all of the code references in Prestressed-in-a-Box properly aligned."

Professors who already have a copy of the first edition of Prestressed-in-a-Box can obtain the updated presentation slides by contacting PCI's education department at education@pci.org.

For everyone else, the box itself is available for $50 through the PCI Bookstore. The kit contains a copy of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete*, the presentation slides, and other industry resources. To make a purchase, contact the PCI Bookstore at (312) 583-6775 or bookstore@pci.org.

If you have any questions about this product or any other education programs, please contact PCI's managing director of education and information systems, Alex Morales, at amorales@pci.org.

Board approves new LPCI fee

The PCI Board of Directors approved a $1500 participation fee for Leadership PCI (LPCI). The fee is billed after a nomination is approved and is due prior to the fall LPCI kickoff event.

For each selected participant, PCI will cover the registration costs for the fall PCI event, the Winter Leadership Workshop (excluding travel and lodging), the registration costs for PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference, and the Summer Leadership Workshop (excluding travel and lodging).

The participant's sponsoring company is responsible for the program fee and all travel and lodging expenses related to LPCI events.

PCI Productivity Tour proves popular with precasters

2014 marked the 15th year for the PCI Productivity Tour and Workshop. Like the industry itself, the tour has evolved and improved over the years. Planned by the PCI Productivity Committee and this year hosted by the Mid-Atlantic Precast Association, the tour was attended by a record-breaking 175 people.

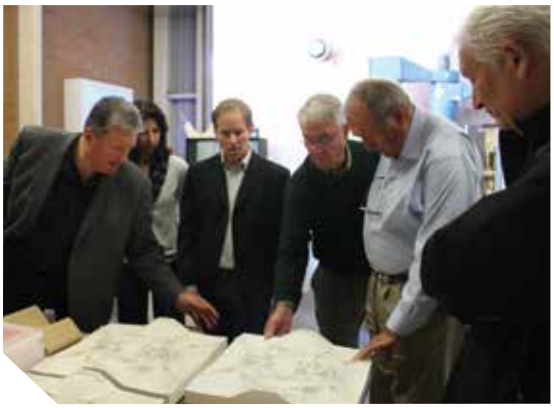
"The tour has great value to production personnel," says Dennis Fink of Northeast Prestressed Products LLC and chairman of the PCI Productivity Committee. "This year's tour showcased some quality producers and gave the group an opportunity to see a variety of products and production techniques that they can incorporate into their own businesses."

Five precasting plants were visited on the tour in October: High Concrete Group, Nitterhouse Concrete Products, Northeast Prestressed Products and Universal Concrete Products in Pennsylvania; and The Shockey Precast Group in Winchester, Va. Visits were also made to supplier companies Architectural Polymers Inc. and Insteel Wire Products.

"It's always interesting to see another plant's production processes, share best practices, and develop relationships with other precasters," Fink says.

One of the regular highlights of the tour was the Ideas That Pay Off contest. Attendees share productivity improvement ideas with the group, then the group votes on the best ideas. This year's winner was Mark Adams from Tindall Corp. for introducing the group to an ergonomically friendly way to move a double-tee header. Second place went to John Koustsounces from Dutchland Inc. for his time-saving process for protecting steel tables during storage.

Next year's tour is slated for Texas and is open to PCI members and nonmembers alike.



Members of the PCI Foundation board of trustees met with Brad Bell, a professor at University of Texas at Arlington, and received a tour of his studio and workshop as part of a two-day planning retreat in Dallas, Tex. The UTA program is focusing on digital fabrication of precast concrete. From left are Jim Toscas, Marianne Methven, Brad Bell, Doug Sutton, Tom D'Arcy, and Mike Lanier. In addition to visiting the university, the trustees spend a day and a half making plans for future PCI Foundation programs. Courtesy of Marty McIntyre.

PCI Foundation Trustees plan for future

Members of the PCI Foundation Board of Trustees met during the first week of November to plan for the foundation's future. The board met in the Dallas/Fort Worth, Tex., area at the headquarters of Hamilton Form and at the University of Texas at Arlington, where one of its programs is taking place.

The school has more than 800 students and offers accredited undergraduate and professional education degrees in architecture. The proposed course, Performative Precast, will be a three-year program of integrated design and seminar courses for graduate-level students.

"These courses concentrate on a specific area of precast application—facade, structure, infrastructure—and together provide a unique opportunity to conduct in-depth design and research into digitally fabricated precast concrete components," says Brad Bell, the professor who oversees the program.

The trustees toured the school and met with the professor and students working in the precast concrete laboratory.

For more information on the PCI Foundation, visit the website at pci-foundation.org.

Alex Morales

Morales promoted to managing director of Education and Information Systems

Alex Morales has been promoted to managing director of Education and Information Systems. He was most recently director of Educational Activities.

In his new role, Morales will continue to oversee PCI's educational activities and will assume responsibility for integrating PCI's information technology with its business processes to maximize the effectiveness of PCI's knowledge dissemination process.

Leadership PCI members (from left) Greg Banks, Jordan Pelphrey, and Edgar Wong assist with many facets of the PCI Foundation's Silent Auction, including the popular Balloon Pop. Courtesy of Marty McIntyre.

Madeline Orick, a student; Carlos Barrios, professor; and Austin Ferguson, a student, all from Clemson University, show work from their initial studio. The poster session at the 2014 PCI convention included posters from many of the schools participating in PCI Foundation programs. Courtesy of Marty McIntyre.

PCI Foundation raises profile, funds during PCI convention

The PCI Foundation was busy during the PCI convention, hosting faculty and students from its programs and raising funds to continue its work. Twenty professors and twenty-two students from eleven schools supported by the PCI Foundation attended the convention and took an active part in the program.

Delegates from eight schools participated in the poster session and were able to interact with convention attendees. The students especially enjoyed the experience. Professors from all current PCI Foundation schools took part in an education session that focused on the many positive results of the PCI Education Projects.

The program gave a flavor of each of the schools' programs, which are unique based on professor interest, curriculum needs, and local industry interests.

The factor that makes the programs alike, however, is the partnership with the local industry. That partnership ranges from plant tours to design critiques and at some schools even includes two-day workshops or manufacturing precast concrete for a real-world project that students have designed.

"It's an exciting time for our industry," says PCI Foundation chairman Thomas D'Arcy. "We are bringing together industry, academia, and research partners to bring about all sorts of new discussions about our products. At the same time, we are educating our future customers to get the best use from precast concrete."

Fundraising was also on the radar during the convention. A new event called After Dark was a rousing success. The party, which took place immediately following the Celebration of Excellence, raised about $5000 on the evening of the event, in addition to almost $50,000 of personal and corporate pledges that were made during the program. Event sponsors included Hamilton Form, BASF, and Thermomass.

PCI Chairman Dean Gwin of Gate Precast chaired the After Dark event. "We wanted to end the day with a celebration of all our industry has accomplished this year and provide a fun atmosphere to learn more about the work of the PCI Foundation," Gwin says. Several professors attended the event and were able to share information about their programs.

No PCI convention would be complete without the silent auction on the show floor during the opening reception. Auction chairman Nancy Peterson of Rocky Mountain Prestress and her team put together many donors with auction items ranging from Lego toys to a drone. To make the event lively, a balloon pop and wine pull were included. This year's auction brought in about $30,000. Other committee members included Marianne Methven of Hamilton Form, Elizabeth Burns from Gage Brothers, Todd Adams of JVI, Jim Voss of JVI, Glen Switzer of Durastress, Stacey Toscas, Deanna Mansell of Hamilton Form, Greg Winkler of Mid-Atlantic Precast Association, Pat Hynes of Knife River, and Rebecca Coleman and Megan Lanning of PCI.

Leadership PCI participants played a role during the silent auction. Each year, members of the current class assist the PCI Foundation by watching tables, selling balloons, selling chances at wine, and with checkout.

PCI partners with ACI Foundation on collaborative Concrete Research Network

The Concrete Research Network (CRN) is a collaboration that connects researchers, funders, and users with concrete research projects. PCI signed a new Memorandum of Agreement with the ACI Foundation, formalizing its support of the CRN and its commitment to advancing research in the concrete industry.

At the core of this network is a new website, www.ConcreteResearchNetwork.org, which organizes information for partners, funders, researchers, and users. The site was constructed as a collaborative effort with several industry foundations to leverage industry resources by coordinating funding for comprehensive, larger-scale research and disseminating research products to a wider audience. Following are some key attributes of the site:

- publicly accessible compilations of information and opportunities about research needs, ongoing projects, and research products available from PCI and other partners
- links to research products so that the positive effects of successful research can be applied
- forms for interested parties to suggest industry research needs

To learn more about the Concrete Research Network, and to view a list of research needs, visit www.ConcreteResearchNetwork.org.

—Source: ACI

PCI Journal editor makes presentation on cylinder sizes at ACI fall convention

Rachel Detwiler, editor-in-chief of *PCI Journal*, gave a presentation titled "How We Got to 4 × 8 in. Cylinders—and What Happened When We Got There" on October 28, 2014, at the American Concrete Institute (ACI) convention in Washington, D.C.

The presentation described a round-robin study that Detwiler designed and implemented to provide precision data for 4 × 8 in. (100 × 200 mm) cylinders cast under field conditions for ASTM C39, "Standard Test Method for Compressive Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimens." Based on the results, Detwiler proposed a rationale for modifying ASTM C31, "Standard Practice for Making and Curing Concrete Test Specimens in the Field," to permit the use of 4 × 8 in. cylinders on an equal basis with 6 × 12 in. (150 × 300 mm) cylinders, which was adopted by ASTM in 2006. During the 2006 and 2007 construction seasons, Braun Intertec Corp.'s main laboratory in Bloomington, Minn., tested 100,000 4 × 8 in. and 6 × 12 in. cylinders that had been cast in the field for their clients' projects. The laboratory tested sets of three 4 × 8 in. cylinders on projects where *Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete (ACI 318-05) and Commentary (ACI 318R-05)* pertained; sets of two 4 × 8 in. cylinders where ACI 318 did not pertain, such as in transportation structures and nonstructural slabs on ground; and sets of two 6 × 12 in. cylinders on previously existing projects, projects on which the engineer of record would not accept 4 × 8 in. cylinders, and for concrete with aggregates larger than 1 ¼ in. The data from these tests demonstrated that the within-test variability for 4 × 8 in. cylinders compares favorably with that of 6 × 12 in. cylinders.

In the discussion following this and other presentations, Nicholas Carino explained that ACI 318 requires three 4 × 8 in. cylinders or two 6 × 12 in. cylinders because other studies have found somewhat higher within-test variability in sets of 4 × 8 in. cylinders.

PCI accredited as standards developer

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has accredited PCI to develop voluntary consensus standards for the design, detailing, fabrication, transport, and erection of precast/prestressed concrete products. The ability to develop standards directly rather than solely through participation in other organizations has many benefits for PCI and our members. The International Code Council requires all standards referenced by its codes to have been developed and maintained by a consensus process. Accreditation allows PCI to set the standards used by our industry rather than wait for another organization to develop them—or worse, be required to follow standards developed by another organization less knowledgeable than PCI about precast concrete. Accreditation also elevates the prestige of PCI.

This article summarizes the ANSI procedures for developing standards as implemented by PCI. More complete information and detailed procedures are available at http://www.pci.org/About_PCI/Standards_Development/.

Standards committee

ANSI's process for developing American National Standards requires that a standards committee meeting the criteria for balance among the various interest groups be responsible for developing, maintaining, and interpreting the standards within its purview. Each member of the standards committee is classified as follows.

- Producers represent manufacturers, distributors, licensors, subcontractors, labor organizations, associations of these groups, and professional consultants to these groups.
- Users represent owners, owners' organizations, developers, contractors, consultants retained by owners, testing laboratories retained by owners, and insurance companies serving owners.
- General interest members are neither producers nor users. They may be educators, researchers, regulators, or representatives of technical societies.
- For standards not related to safety, no single interest category may constitute a majority of the voting membership of the standards committee. For standards related to safety, no single interest category may constitute more than one-third of the voting membership. No ballots may be issued until the balance requirement is met.

The standards committee may delegate the development of a draft standard to a subcommittee, which need not meet the criteria for balance. The subcommittee may be an existing PCI committee or an ad hoc task group.

The standards committee is responsible for ensuring that the correct voting procedures are followed. The executive standards committee comprises the chair, vice chair, and three other members of the standards committee, at least one of whom shall be either a general interest member or a user and at least one of whom shall represent a manufacturer of precast concrete products.

Membership of the standards committee is open to any person directly or indirectly affected by PCI standards and does not require PCI membership. Applicants must submit a written request to PCI staff indicating their interest in the work of the standards committee, their qualifications, their willingness to participate, and any affiliations that might affect their interest category classification.

Each member of the standards committee has one vote, except that any one company or organization may have only one voting member of the standards committee.

Meetings

At least 30 days' written or electronic notice is required for meetings of the standards committee. Except for executive sessions, which are limited to topics unrelated to the technical content of standards, all meetings are open to attendance by any interested party. Visitors may not vote, but they may make presentations provided that they have submitted a written request at least 10 days before the meeting. Visitors are entitled to receive copies of meeting reports on written request.

Administrative matters and editorial changes to standards may be decided by majority vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting or by letter ballot. For conducting business at a meeting, a quorum comprising a majority of the committee members is required. When a quorum is not present, any actions taken are subject to ratification by letter ballot.

Letter ballots

Letter ballots of the standards committee are required for approval, revision, reaffirmation, withdrawal, and interpretation of all standards. A letter ballot comprises one or more written proposals or items submitted by the chair to the members for written or electronic ballot. Each voting member shall return one of the following positions on each item:

- affirmative
- affirmative with comment
- negative with rationale (The negative ballot must propose specific actions that the voter believes would resolve the negative.)
- abstain

Approvals, revisions, reaffirmations, withdrawals, and substantive changes to and interpretations of standards are considered approved when all of the following conditions have been met:

- At least three-fourths of the voting members have returned ballots.
- At least two-thirds of the votes cast, excluding abstentions and negatives without rationale, are affirmative.
- All negative votes with rationale have been addressed as described in the following section.

Negative votes

Negative votes without rationale are recorded as such, and no further action is required. Negative votes with rationale are referred to the standards committee or the relevant subcommittee, which reviews the negative with the voter to attempt to resolve it. If the resolution necessitates substantive changes to the item, the revised provision must be reballoted.

Negative votes that are not resolved in this process are reported to the standards committee to allow all members to respond, reaffirm, or change their votes. Unresolved negative votes must be addressed in one of the following ways.

- Not persuasive: At least two-thirds of the voting members (excluding abstaining members) present at a meeting with a quorum, or at least two-thirds of voting members (excluding abstaining members) returning a letter ballot affirm that the rationale for the negative vote is not persuasive. A negative voter found not persuasive at a meeting has the right to request a letter ballot to confirm the finding.
- Previously considered: The standards committee may uphold a previous finding of not persuasive on a negative vote.
- Not related: If the negative vote is not directly related to the balloted item, it is placed on the agenda for consideration as negative without rationale at the next regular meeting.
- The negative voter has the right to appeal any of the above findings.

Public review and comment

Public review and comment are essential to the process of developing American National Standards. The sidebar "Approval Process for American National Standards" lists the approval process that pertains.

The standards committee will be notified of any proposed new PCI standard or reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal of an existing PCI standard. The PCI staff will determine where and how the proposed standard will be published for public comment.

If a PCI standard is proposed as a new American National Standard or if an existing American National Standard is to be reaffirmed, revised, or withdrawn, an announcement will be transmitted to ANSI for listing in *Standards Action* for public comment. PCI staff members may select additional suitable venues for publication.

All public comments received will be considered by the standards committee using the same procedure as for unresolved negatives. Each commenter will be notified in writing of the resolution of the comment and of his or her right to appeal the decision.

Approval process for American National Standards

1. Submit a Project Initial Notification System to ANSI for listing in *Standards Action* to provide opportunity for a public comment period of 30 days.
2. If there is a comment regarding a conflict with an existing or proposed standard, hold a mandatory deliberation within 90 days.
3. Submit a written record of the outcome of the deliberation to ANSI's Board of Standards Review.
4. Once the draft standard is complete, notify ANSI to announce a 60 day comment period.
5. At the end of the comment period, attempt to resolve and respond in writing to all public comments.
6. Complete a letter ballot by the consensus standard committee.
7. Address all negative votes and attempt to obtain resolution from the consensus standards committee.
8. When consensus is achieved, notify ANSI within six months of the end of the public comment period.
9. Receive formal notification of approval from ANSI.
10. Publish the standard within six months of approval notification.
11. ANSI audits process after notification of approval.
12. Revise, reaffirm, or withdraw each standard every five years.

Proposed priority for standardization of PCI manuals

As is clear from the preceding summary, the process for developing and approving American National Standards is painstaking and lengthy. However, we believe that certain PCI documents should be developed as American National Standards to bring worldwide recognition to our standards that are developed through a fair, balanced, and transparent process.

The PCI staff has proposed the following priority for current PCI publications to be developed as American National Standards beginning in late 2015:

- MNL-116, *Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Structural Precast Concrete Products*
- MNL-117, *Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Architectural Precast Concrete Products*
- MNL-130, *Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Glass Fiber Reinforced Precast Concrete Products*

—Jason Krohn

Technical writing course to be offered at Committee Days

PCI is offering a two-part course on technical writing at Committee Days. Whether you're interested in writing a research paper for *PCI Journal*, a PCI committee report, or a report to your client, this course will help you understand what information to include, how to organize it, and how to communicate it effectively to your readers. The purpose of technical writing is to convey scientific information clearly and accurately. This course will help you do that better.

Technical Writing Part 1 gives an overview of technical writing principles. It explains what technical writing is and how it differs from other types of writing. It then explores some initial questions that you as the writer should consider, such as what you are trying to accomplish by writing your report and who your intended readers are and what they want from the report.

Methods of organizing a report are covered next. There are many other, and sometimes better, ways to organize a report than just chronological order. In keeping with the purpose of technical writing, the writing style should be clear and accurate. The course will give you some useful pointers on how to do that.

Last, we'll discuss some ethical and legal considerations that pertain to technical writing and publishing. These include separating science from advocacy, understanding who is and who is not an author, giving credit where credit is due, and avoiding plagiarism.

Technical Writing Part 2 is about the nuts and bolts of the report, covering each element of a technical report in turn. The core sections—the introduction, description of experimental program, results, discussion, and conclusion—parallel the steps followed in the scientific method. Additional sections that are required or useful in some types of reports include the abstract, the executive summary, the recommendations, and the notation. We will discuss the purpose of each section, what kind of information you may want (or need) to include in it, and how and when to write it. We'll cover some common errors that writers make and how to avoid them. Finally, we'll walk you through some "don't let this happen to you" examples. You do not need to attend the first part to participate in second part.

PCI joins the North American Precast Concrete Sustainable Plant Program

PCI recently joined forces with the Canadian Precast Prestressed Concrete Institute (CPCI) and the National Precast Concrete Association (NPCA) to launch the North American Precast Concrete Sustainable Plant Program to all PCI members. This program has already been successfully implemented by CPCI. It is a simplified Sustainable Plant Program, and it will assist PCI in creating environmental product declarations (EPDs). PCI anticipates that EPDs will be required for certain projects and wants to get ahead of the curve by completing the EPD for the precast concrete industry. As per the guidelines, all producer plants that participate, and only these plants, will be able to use the EPD created as a result of this program. PCI is seeking volunteer plants to start using the program using 2013 and 2014 data.

Please contact SustainabilityPrograms@pci.org if you wish to participate.

PCI releases safety advisory alert on erecting ramp double tees

In April 2014, while erecting a parking garage project, a double tee measuring 60 ft long × 12 ft wide and weighing approximately 60,000 lb slid off spot bearing haunches projecting from a litewall and fell from the third elevated ramp area to the ground below. This action caused two identical double tees located directly below it to also displace, resulting in all three double tees falling to the ground below. Two additional adjacent double tees, one on the second elevated level and the other on the first elevated level, were also damaged beyond repair.

Following are the recommendations:

When erecting double tees on a parking garage ramp from high ramp end to low ramp end where the low end does not have a secured double tee down-ramp adjacent to it, additional care must be taken to prevent the sloping tee from sliding off its bearings during construction. This applies not only to spot corbels on spandrels or walls, but also to continuous ledges.

a. When gluing the bearing pads to the double tee or bearing surface prior to erection, care must be taken not to apply too much adhesive. Contact surfaces should be thoroughly cleaned prior to applying adhesive and then adhesive must be given time to set in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If this isn't done, the adhesive can act as a lubricant and reduce the friction to the point where the double tee could slide.
b. Be sure to have both ends of the double tee stem secured by some positive means prior to releasing from the crane as stated in the Erection Safety Manual (MNL-132), where the bearing surface of the supporting member is at a 1% or greater slope, the precast concrete member may need to be restrained against movement from its intended position before releasing the crane. This could be accomplished by fully implementing the project specific erection plan, which should be a collaborative effort with the erector and the engineer responsible for erection stability design. This should be done even if the double tee stems are supported in pockets. On this project, an end connection could not be made due to the top of the bearing wall being below the flange of the double tee.
c. Come-a-longs can be used to tie the double tee being erected back to secured double tees previously erected. The double tee that is used to tie off the tee being erected must have adequate connections completed unless otherwise approved by the engineer responsible for erection stability design. Also, the crane must not be disconnected until the come-a-longs are installed.

PCI Calendar

Events

For the most current information on PCI events, visit http://www.pci.org/events. For industry events, visit http://www.pci.org/news/events.

Architectural Professors Seminar	**January 4–6, 2015**
Charlotte, N.C.	
Zones 1 and 2 Meeting	**February 4, 2015**
Las Vegas, Nev.	
PCI Winter Conference	**March 4–8, 2015**
Rosen Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando Fla.	
2015 PCI Spring Committee Days and Membership Conference	**April 30–May 3, 2015**
Chicago, Ill.	
2015 PCI Summer Conference	**June 25–28, 2015**
Charleston, S.C	
2015 PCI Fall Committee Days and Membership Conference	**October 15–18, 2015**
Louisville, Ky.	

PCI personnel training and certification schools

If you have any questions about the Quality Control School schedule or need help completing a registration form, please contact PCI's educational activities director, Alex Morales, at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219. Registration forms are available at http://www.pci.org/schools..

Level I/II	
February 2–4, 2015	Las Vegas, Nev.
Certified Field Auditor	
February 2–4, 2015	Las Vegas, Nev.
Certified Company Auditor	
February 5, 2015	Las Vegas, Nev

Compiled by K. Michelle Burgess (mburgess@pci.org) and Jennifer Peters (jpeters@pci.org)