

OUR MEMBERS

DOUGLAS P. CONE



Douglas P. Cone

Douglas Poe Cone, the first president of PCI, died November 30, 2014. He was 87.

In 1950, Cone received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. After graduating, Cone served in the Korean War from 1951 to 1953.

When he returned home he served as vice president of Cone Brothers Contracting Co., which built many major and secondary roads and bridges throughout Florida.

Cone became president of Tampa Sand & Materials Corp., producing ready-mix concrete and block, in 1953. The same year, he founded and was president of Florida Prestressed Concrete Co., which was instrumental in pre- and posttensioning high-strength concrete with

steel cables.

In 1959, he formed and was president of American Concrete Crosstie Corp., which made concrete crossties to replace timber ties in railroad construction in the United States. Ten years later, in 1969, he formed and became president of Florida Fly Ash Co., initiating the use of fly ash in concrete to reduce cement content and increase resistance to saltwater intrusion.

The Tampa Sand & Materials Corp. merged with Brooksville Rock Co. in 1971 to become Florida Mining & Materials Corp., which, in addition to its mining and concrete business, built and operated a cement mill in Brooksville, Fla. Cone served as executive vice president until the company was sold in 1978. Then, in 1979, he formed The Cone Corp., serving as president and again building roads and bridges in Florida.

In 1999, Cone was inducted into the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame, and in 2006 he was inducted into the Florida Transportation Builders Association Hall of Fame.

Spancrete adds to Chicago Business Development team

Spancrete has hired Partha Ramakrishnan as the newest member of its Chicago Business Development team.

Ramakrishnan has previously worked in the precast concrete industry for manufacturers whose specialties include structural and high-end architectural precast concrete products.

Ramakrishnan has a bachelor of engineering degree and a master's degree in civil engineering. He is a licensed civil engineer in California, Texas, and Nevada.

—Source: Spancrete

Welcome to PCI!

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Owell Precast changes name to Olympus Precast

The owners and management of Owell Precast have chosen Olympus Precast as the new name of their precast concrete manufacturing facility in Bluffdale, Utah.

Owner Bill Ashton says, “The change of the corporate name is an exciting and important milestone in the history of our company and just part of the company’s expanded corporate focus in response to market forces. I see the Olympus Precast name as a powerful catalyst for continued progress and growth.”
—Source: Olympus Precast

Stresscon project earns North Dakota Gold Star Award

The CHI St. Joseph’s Health Hospital and Medical Office Building has earned a Gold Star Award as the top project in the Commercial Building category in the 2014 North Dakota Ready Mix and Concrete Products Association Gold Stars Awards Program (NDRM&CPA). The NDRM&CPA recognizes North Dakota projects for excellence in concrete and masonry design and construction. All award winners will be featured in a special edition Hard Facts Gold Star Awards Publication.

The hospital project was submitted to highlight the use of architectural precast concrete products, as well as high-performance insulated wall panel systems accommodating high energy-efficiency requirements. The NDRM&CPA program is designed to recognize creative, innovative, aesthetic, and imaginative uses of precast concrete and masonry.

Located in Dickinson, N.Dak., CHI St. Joseph Health’s new state-of-the-art facility includes a 25-bed critical access hospital with a level IV trauma center and all clinic locations housed in one building. The project received the award based on the notable continuous insulation building envelope, complexity of architectural features, and logistical challenges of shipping and erecting the precast concrete pieces 670 mi (1100 km) from Stresscon’s Colorado Springs, Colo., plant.

A collaborative design-build team, including Davis Partners Architects, JE Dunn Construction, and Stresscon Corp., participated in creating the 104,000 ft² (9660 m²) facility. The precast concrete components were erected over 26 days.

Stresscon provided 331 precast concrete pieces, including the high-performance thermally efficient precast concrete wall panels for the project. The precast concrete panels feature an acid-etched surface, two colors, architectural banding, reveals, and protrusions. With edge-to-edge insulation, the wall panels achieve an R-value of 20, well in excess of the ASHRAE 90.1 requirements for all wall systems.

—Source: EnCon United

Stresscon transitions employees

Stresscon Corp. has made changes to its corporate management team. Rob Hixon is now in Preconstruction Services and Stefan Kalbli has transitioned to the role of project manager, both working with the Denver and Colorado Springs, Colo., offices. Justin Kennedy was also promoted to Stresscon plant superintendent.

Hixon has more than seven years of experience with the Stresscon team, having served as project coordinator, estimating coordinator, and lead project coordinator on several signature projects. In his current role, Hixon is responsible for providing estimating services, business development, strategic planning, new product development, and working with clients during early project development to realize beneficial building solutions.

Kalbli has been a part of the EnCon Design team, working closely with Stresscon as a design engineer on numerous projects over the past six years. He became a licensed professional engineer in Colorado in June 2014. In his new role, Kalbli will offer preconstruction and design assistance services, compose project estimates and proposals, and coordinate efforts between Stresscon’s internal team and the client’s design team on individual projects.

Justin Kennedy will be responsible for production, planning, scheduling, plant resources such as budgeting and personnel, inspections, and quality assurance. He has been employed with Stresscon for more than 17 years. His previous company experience includes welding and cage building and serving as welding foreman and production foreman. Kennedy has also spent time working at the EnCon Utah and EnCon Washington plants.

—Source: EnCon United

Honorary Member

James G. Toscas, PE



This rendering shows the proposed Sacramento Kings' basketball arena. Clark Pacific has been chosen to supply the precast concrete components for the project. Courtesy of Clark Pacific. *Courtesy of Clark Pacific.*

Clark Pacific to manufacture and install stadia and steps for new Sacramento Kings arena

West Sacramento, Calif.-based Clark Pacific has been awarded the contract by Turner Construction to deliver the precast concrete scope of work for the Sacramento Kings Entertainment and Sports Center in downtown Sacramento, Calif. Clark Pacific's contract for the new arena includes stadia for the lower and upper bowls, suite-seating areas, entrance/exit walls, and cast-in-place concrete steps on the stadia. The Entertainment and Sports Center is projected to cost \$477 million and seat 17,500. Plans call for it to achieve LEED gold certification. The new arena is slated to open in September 2016.

In the stadium, there will be close to 700 pieces of precast concrete. Typical panels are 30 to 38 ft (9.1 to 11.6 m) long and weigh up to 23,000 lb (10,400 kg). There will be more than 1000 concrete steps on the project as well.

Erection is scheduled to commence in April 2015. The project will be produced out of Clark Pacific's Woodland, Calif., plant and marshaled by the same project management team that successfully delivered the precast concrete scope of work on the new Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif. Kevin Johnson, the mayor of Sacramento, secured commitments from the developer to ensure that the project gave preference to local and small business participation. Clark Pacific's headquarters is only 3 mi (5 km) from the jobsite, helping Turner Construction and the Kings meet their commitment to hire local firms to construct the facility. All architectural design work will occur in Sacramento to ensure ongoing local involvement in the design. According to independent researchers, the new redevelopment project will attract 1.6 million new visitors to downtown Sacramento each year and generate \$230 million in economic activity annually for the greater Sacramento region.

The Kings Arena is just one part of the larger Entertainment and Sports project. When complete, the redevelopment project will cover four city blocks in the heart of downtown Sacramento and serve as a major catalyst to revitalize the area. In addition to the arena, which will be a multi-use facility containing a state-of-the-art practice facility and administrative offices, the project will have 1.5 million ft² (140,000 m²) of additional development: 475,000 ft² (44,100 m²) of office space, 350,000 ft² (32,500 m²) of retail space, a 250-room hotel, and 550 residential units. —Source: Clark Pacific

Spancrete names plant manager at new Georgia facility

Spancrete has hired Ken Boyns as its Georgia plant manager. With Spancrete in the process of opening its new precast concrete production facility in Newnan, Ga., Boyns will play a large role in getting the operation online for 2015 and overseeing plant operations.

Boyns brings more than 20 years of experience in production and operations management to his new position at Spancrete. His previous roles include plant management at a number of precast concrete producers across the United States.

The new production facility provides service to the entire Southeast.

—Source: Spancrete

AltusGroup adds Armtec

Armtec Infrastructure Inc. has joined AltusGroup to manufacture and market CarbonCast enclosure systems in Canada and select areas within the United States.

Armtec is the sixth precast concrete manufacturer to join AltusGroup in the past 21 months, bringing the total number of North American precasters in the organization to 19. Armtec's addition to AltusGroup marks the largest two-year expansion of the organization since the five founding members formed the company in 2003.

Armtec will manufacture CarbonCast high-performance insulated wall panels and CarbonCast insulated architectural cladding from its facilities in Richmond, BC; Calgary, AB; Brampton, ON; and St.-Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC, Canada.

—Source: AltusGroup



Heldenfels employees break ground on their new El Paso, Tex., plant. Front row from left are Adam Mainka, director of Plant Operations; Fred Heldenfels IV, president and CEO; Kristen Knox, human resources supervisor. In the back row from left are Dan Visel, vice president; Kurt Schriefer, vice president of Estimating; Ron Reich, vice president and CEO; Blaine Withers, vice president of Operations; Gil Heldenfels, vice president and general manager of the Building Systems Division. Courtesy of Bryan Pritchard, project manager, Heldenfels Enterprises Inc. *Courtesy of Heldenfels.*

Heldenfels breaks ground on new plant in El Paso

Heldenfels Enterprises Inc. is building a new precast concrete manufacturing plant in El Paso, Tex., which will be operational in April 2015. Initial products will include prestressed concrete bridge girders for the Abrams-Kiewit joint venture's Border Highway West Extension project.

—Source: Heldenfels Enterprises Inc.

Grace to buy out Turkish construction products JV partner

W. R. Grace & Co. has entered into definitive agreements to acquire the remaining 50% equity interest in the joint venture it formed in 1996 with STFA Yatırım Holding AS, a Turkish conglomerate that provides services in construction, natural gas distribution, construction equipment, and construction chemicals. With the agreement, STFA will sell its 50% stake in Grace Yapı Kimyasalları to a Grace subsidiary.

The business, located in Istanbul, Turkey, provides cement additives, concrete admixtures, and building envelope products to Turkey and the surrounding region. Terms were not disclosed.

The joint venture has been consolidated in Grace financial statements since 2001. The business will continue to provide specialty construction chemicals products to customers in Turkey, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Iraq. It will also remain an important growth center for the company's Specialty Building Materials business in the region.

—Source: W. R. Grace & Co.

Raths, Raths & Johnson establishes Garth D. Hall Memorial Scholarship

Raths, Raths & Johnson Inc., based in Willowbrook, Ill., has established the Garth D. Hall Memorial Scholarship in Architectural Technology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign School of Architecture to honor the legacy of Garth Hall, a Raths, Raths & Johnson principal who died last year.

Hall was an architect and principal at Raths, Raths & Johnson for more than 17 years. He joined the company in 1997 after receiving masters of architecture and civil engineering degrees from the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the College of Engineering in 1996, and a bachelor of science in architectural studies in 1994 at the College of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. While at the university and serving as a research assistant with the School of Architecture's Building Research Council, he developed a passion for applying scientific methodologies in solving technical challenges in architecture. Applying his expertise in understanding both the in-situ and theoretical behavior of building enclosure performance served as the focus of his professional endeavors and achievements.

This scholarship is a legacy tribute to Hall, who will be remembered for his expertise in building science as well as for the continual dedication and generosity that he gave to the profession; Raths, Raths & Johnson; and his community. The annual scholarship will be awarded to a graduate pursuing dual master's degrees in architecture and engineering with the focus of studies in building science.

Gifts to the Garth Hall Memorial Scholarship in Architectural Technology in the School of Architecture are through the University of Illinois Foundation. Visit <http://faa.illinois.edu/GarthDHall> for ways to give.

—Source: Raths, Raths and Johnson Inc. **I**

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

Death Notice

September 23, 2014: Barry Cooper of Precast Services Inc.