

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Off to a Fast Start

Happy New Year, and welcome to 2016! I hope you are as excited about the year ahead as the staff at PCI is.

Before looking ahead, let's take a little time to reflect on 2015. Since joining PCI in June and getting to know the PCI staff, I also dedicated some time to getting around the country to meet PCI members and the region directors. I attended meetings of PCI IL/WI, PCI Mountain States, PCI Northeast, PCI Central, PCI Midwest, PCMA Texas, and PCI West. At those meetings I was able to meet and hear from more than 400 PCI members. I also had the opportunity to personally visit more than a dozen individual member plants. I truly appreciate the warm welcome I've received from PCI members across the country (and Canada; thanks CPCI!).

I also had the opportunity to get feedback from members about PCI. Among the many things I heard, one item in particular kept emerging: members need PCI to step up as a trade association in addition to being a world-class technical institute.

A version of this sentiment was reflected in the results of a CEO Summit held in October in Louisville, Ky., in conjunction with Committee Days. In a daylong workshop supported by the work of the Business Performance Council, PCI member CEOs identified three top priorities that they need to help grow the prestressed concrete industry:


1. Hiring, training, and retaining the best employees
2. Marketing precast concrete construction
3. Promoting innovation

Work is already under way in the Business Performance Council to identify specific training needs for PCI members; that will be rolled out in 2016.

This journal and many other programs at PCI reflect the institute's commitment to technical excellence and quality. A historic milestone was reached at the end of 2015 when PCI completed the application and passed the audits necessary to achieve IAS accreditation for our Quality Assurance Program. Congratulations to the QA Council and PCI staff for their hard work in meeting this goal!

Looking ahead to 2016, the PCI staff is excited about the new opportunities for enhancing member value by colocating the PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference with the Precast Show in Nashville, Tenn., which will take place the first week of March. I certainly hope I see you there and that the show is valuable to you as a PCI member.

Ahead in 2016, look for continuing announcements about new PCI staff as we fill positions to meet the needs of PCI members. I'm very excited about the team we have and the team members that we will be bringing on board this year, especially as we work even more closely with the local PCI organizations around the country.

Last, but most important, thank you for your membership and support of PCI and the industry. Together we can make 2016 a safe and prosperous year! 

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