

# PCI and Resilience

Because the theme of this issue of *PCI Journal* is “Earth, Wind, and Fire,” my first thought (after 1970s leisure suits) was about the inherent ability of precast, prestressed concrete to resist both human-caused and natural events, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and tornadoes and fire. Discussion of resilient structures is a hot topic in code circles these days, and PCI continues to be a part of the conversation. The recent code adoption of PCI-sponsored proposals for precast concrete seismic diaphragm design is a great example of how PCI research can lead to tangible results in codes that help make precast concrete structures more resilient and, as a result, more competitive in the marketplace.


What also comes to mind is the resilience of the PCI staff, particularly in the past year. At our monthly staff meeting back in October 2015, I pointed out the amount of change that had taken place since the previous year. I went on to remark on how many more changes were coming our way by October 2016, based on open positions and retirements. Over a two-year period, major changes were taking place in the staff makeup and structure. Through all this change, the PCI staff has shown a resilience that rivals that of the high-quality products our members produce.

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We are excited about the opportunities these changes have given us to better serve PCI members and the industry. In these pages, you'll be introduced to several new key PCI staff members who have come on board, some of whom you've known in other industry roles. We welcomed Mady Miller in January as our new communications manager. Dawn Parker, managing director of market development, joined Roger Becker, Alex Morales, and Dean Frank on our leadership team in February. And beginning March 1, we were delighted to have Jim Lewis join the PCI team as architectural services manager.

Back in November, Emily Lorenz returned to the PCI staff as *PCI Journal* editor-in-chief, associate editor of *Aspire*, and director of sustainability programs. Royce Covington also joined the PCI team as bookstore manager.

The PCI staff was greeted with a new face each Monday in January: Laura Bedolla as technical services administrative, David Anians as administrative assistant for education and publications, Mady Miller, and Trice Turner as administrative assistant for sales.

I want to compliment staff members on their positive attitude and willingness to take on new responsibilities—even if temporarily—so we didn't miss a beat in our ongoing efforts. Everyone is excited about the new team at PCI and new opportunities to serve our members even better. I hope you'll join me in welcoming our new team members, and I look forward to seeing you at the 2016 PCI Convention at the Precast Show! 



Bob Risser  
PCI President and CEO