DSDM research wins Charles Pankow Award for Innovation

A research project that PCI spearheaded and sponsored has been honored with the prestigious American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) Charles Pankow Award for Innovation at the 2016 ASCE OPAL (Outstanding Projects and Leaders) Gala in Washington, D.C. The winning project, Seismic Design Methodology for Precast Concrete Diaphragms, represents groundbreaking research conducted by engineers and precast concrete industry experts throughout the United States.

Called the Diaphragm Seismic Design Methodology (DSDM) and jointly funded by PCI, the National Science Foundation, the Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation, and the Charles Pankow Foundation, the project is an industry-endorsed, comprehensive seismic design methodology for precast concrete diaphragms. The research behind the method integrated finite element analyses of a diaphragm with full-scale reinforcing detail experiments and shake-table system tests. This initiative resulted in the adoption of a revised force demand and resistance methodology for precast concrete diaphragms in the 2015 NEHRP provisions and ASCE/SEI 7-16.

Roger Becker, PCI's vice president of technical services, accepted the award at the OPAL Gala on behalf of the organization and the project's principal investigators.

"This project was successfully completed because of exceptional collaboration between academia and industry," Becker says. "Its completion and codification of the results means that engineering professionals can now use precast concrete diaphragms with confidence in any seismic zone. PCI is committed to conducting leading-edge research that benefits our members, the precast concrete industry, and the built environment as a whole."

A multiuniversity research team from the University of Arizona, Lehigh University, and the University of California, San Diego, was selected to perform the collaborative research. The team of experts included Robert Fleischman, a professor of civil engineering and engineering mechanics at the University of Arizona; Richard Sause, a professor of structural engineering and director of the Advanced Technology for Large Structural Systems Center, and Clay Naito, an associate professor of structural engineering, both from Lehigh University; José Restrepo, a professor of structural engineering at the University of California, San Diego; and S. K. Ghosh, president of S. K. Ghosh Associates Inc., who served as the industry liaison and codification leader.

The seismic design methodology developed is performance based and possesses key features that address the following aspects of behavior:

- diaphragm seismic design forces that more accurately reflect the actual inertial forces that develop during strong shaking
- more-rational methods of determining diaphragm internal forces
- inelastic deformation capacity requirements for the diaphragm reinforcement
- protection of potentially nonductile elements in the precast concrete diaphragm though the use of capacity design concepts
- explicit inclusion of diaphragm flexibility in drift limit checks

The Charles Pankow Award for Innovation was established by the Civil Engineering Research Foundation in 1996. Named for industry visionary Charles J. Pankow, the award recognizes the contributions of organizations working collaboratively to advance the design and construction industry by introducing innovation into practice.

2016 PCI Design Awards submissions site to open in June

PCI's 2016 Design Awards submission site will open June 6, 2016, and entries are due October 3, 2016. The PCI Design Awards will include new categories. PCI will recognize PCI-certified erectors on each project as applicable at the design awards banquet and in the program.

ROI of PCI Foundation is high

Dean Gwin
PCI Foundation Chairman

Like many of you, when I look at spending money on behalf of our company, one of the first items I evaluate is the return on investment (ROI). In some cases, it is a simple formula looking at how many pieces we need to fabricate to pay the cost of a form or special materials before we start making a profit. In other cases, there is no clear formula for the ROI. But make no mistake: while an investment in the PCI Foundation has immeasurable benefits to the industry as a whole, local partners receive the greatest benefits.

I don't think I can say it better than Doug Noble, associate professor in architecture at the University of Southern California (USC) and one of the faculty members who run its precast studio, when he wrote recently about his experiences with the PCI Foundation. "I have been at the USC School of Architecture for 25 years," he said. "In the first 20 years, I doubt if I ever heard the word *precast* in our building. Now we have 120 faculty members and almost 800 students who hear about precast all the time. In just the past three years of partnership with the PCI Foundation, we have held three upper-division architecture design studios focused on the advantages of precast for extreme climate and the special construction requirements of a National Park."

In addition, USC has done the following:

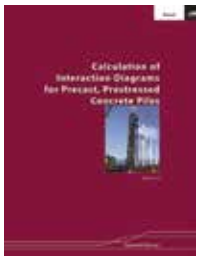
- hosted several precast concrete building enclosure conferences for professionals
- published a facade tectonics journal entirely about precast concrete
- taken students on tours of precasting plants and taken hundreds of students on precast concrete building construction site tours
- had Doug Mooradian, executive director of PCI West, make presentations about precast concrete
- attended four PCI conventions
- supported PhD research and given five scholarship prizes each year for students in a precast concrete design competition
- introduced precast concrete into the first "materials and methods" course that architecture students take
- started a book project on architectural precast concrete projects that is aimed to inspire architects
- agreed to host the PCI Professors Seminar in Los Angeles, Calif., this year

As you can see from Noble's list of achievements at USC, the local precasters have been both partners and beneficiaries of the work done. This is one of the reasons why when the PCI Foundation Trustees review proposals for new educational projects, we are looking for support from the local PCI members, both financial and in kind.

The local partner works with the professor to create a one-of-a-kind program whose character and content will benefit both the school and the local partner. These relationships will be sustained even after PCI Foundation involvement and investment have ended. The local partner will be the first to learn of innovations; will have access to future architects, engineers, and even precast concrete industry workers; and will influence how precast concrete is taught to local customers for years to come.

I challenge you today to look around locally for a school that you would like to partner with for the long-term improvement of your local precast concrete market. Then, follow up with a donation the PCI Foundation to help fund a precast studio so that you, too, can create a program that brings home a robust ROI for your company, the school, and the precast concrete industry as a whole.

Free revised ebook on Excel calculations for piles available



The *Calculation of Interaction Diagrams for Precast, Prestressed Concrete Piles* ebook is available for free at http://www.pci.org/epub. The ebook provides context and instructions for the use of the 2015 revised version of the Microsoft Excel workbook to compute pile stresses, plot interaction diagrams, and to determine lifting points of precast concrete piles.

There is no cost for downloading this publication. However, registration is required so that users can be contacted when updates or revisions to the workbook are necessary.

The appendix of *Calculation of Interaction Diagrams for Precast, Prestressed Concrete Piles* contains detailed instruction and solved example problems using the 2015 workbook. Examples are also solved using Mathcad to validate the workbook solution, and a table of results compares the two methods.

PCI proposes changes to 2015 IBC

PCI's code consultants have submitted five code-change proposals to the 2015 International Building Code (IBC). The following PCI code change proposals if approved would appear in the 2018 IBC:

- 2015 IBC section 406.4.3 Public Parking Garages—Vehicle Barriers: This proposal would permit flexibility in the location of the load application area within vehicle barrier systems. This flexibility becomes important when a designer is struggling to meet the openness requirement in section 406.5.
- 2015 IBC section 423.1 Storm Shelters—General: Section 306.8, exception 1 to ICC 500 (Storm Shelter Standard) permits joint widths in precast concrete panels to be ⅜ in. or less and meet ASTM C920 to comply with the standard. This proposal will permit the use of slightly wider joint widths where the manufacturers of approved joint material have installation instructions that require ¾ in. joints.
- 2015 IBC sections 1613.1 Earthquake Loads—Scope and 1901.2 Plain and Reinforced Concrete: This proposal adjusts the referencing to ASCE 7-16 to include an alternative design force level in section 12.10.3 of ASCE 7-16, which is mandated for precast concrete diaphragms in buildings assigned to seismic design category C and above. It also incorporates the new precast concrete diaphragm design provisions in section 14.2.4 of ASCE 7-16, which goes hand in hand with the alternative diaphragm design force level and are based on multiyear, multi-million-dollar research, known as DSDM (Diaphragm Seismic Design Methodology) research and sponsored by the National Science Foundation, PCI, and the Charles Pankow Foundation.
- 2015 IBC Table 1705.3 Required Special Inspections and Tests of Concrete Construction: This proposal seeks to reverse a substantive change made as part of an organizational change in the 2015 IBC. The logic behind mandating continuous special inspection for all reinforcing bar welds other than those of a particular type (and even there only up to a maximum size) is difficult to see. Thus, the 2015 IBC change represents an unnecessary expansion of special inspection requirements that does not result in any apparent benefit.
- 2015 IBC sections 1810.3.8.3.2 and 1810.3.8.3.3 Precast Prestressed Piles—Seismic Reinforcement in seismic design categories C through F: This proposal incorporates the most recent research from Iowa State University on the spiral reinforcement requirements of precast, prestressed concrete piles for seismic design categories C through F.

In April 2016, PCI's code consultants testified in favor of these IBC code change proposals during the ICC Committee Action Hearings in Louisville, Ky.

Trimbath named interim executive director of FPCA

Terri Trimbath

The PCI Board of Directors appointed Terri Trimbath interim executive director of the Florida Prestressed Concrete Association (FPCA) February 12, 2016. The executive director reports to the PCI Board of Directors and has overall strategic and operational responsibility for FPCA programs and the execution of its mission.

In this position, Trimbath will coordinate FPCA's core programs, operations, business plan, and committees.

Trimbath previously volunteered for the association for several years and has a background in executive management, finance, and marketing. She is currently the vice president of operations at LEAP Associates International Inc. in Tampa, Fla., and has her master's degree in business administration from St. Leo University.

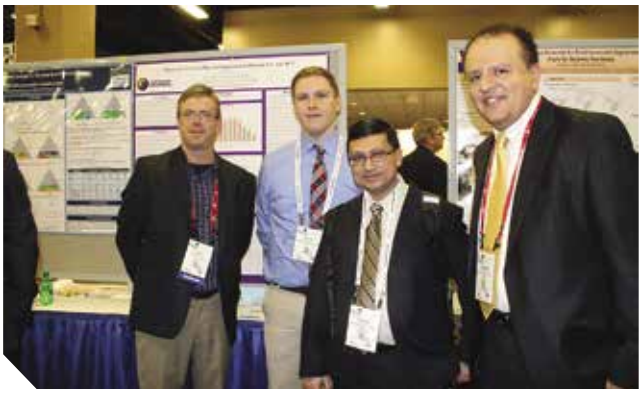
Big Beam archives now on YouTube

PCI recently uploaded submission videos from the PCI Big Beam competition to YouTube and can be found by searching using the term "Big Beam Contest."

Most of the videos show the testing of a student-designed beam to failure. These videos are especially helpful to students new to the competition who want to get an idea of what to do and what the competition is about. Professors can also use them when working with students who are new to the competition or as a teaching tool in their classrooms.

PCI Foundation grants fund work shown by students at convention

University of Washington student Reed Kelly shares some of the models made by students as part of the precast studio with the PCI Foundation secretary/treasurer, Bob McCormack of Encon United. Courtesy of Marty McIntyre.



Gary Poovey of Wells Concrete meets with a student and professors Farhad Reza and Mohamed Diab of Minnesota State University at Mankato. The student presented a poster on risk mitigation using precast concrete construction for his construction management class. Courtesy of Marty McIntyre.

Professors and students from the schools that received PCI Foundation grants were a strong presence at the 2016 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference. Seventeen students participated in the poster session on the floor, sharing everything from research on risk mitigation to new ideas for formwork, and some architectural project design. In addition to visiting associate members on the show floor, the students attended education sessions and had a dinner together to meet other students.

There were also 12 professors who attended the convention. Each gave an update on his or her PCI Foundation program during an education session at the show. The professors also attended PCI Foundation events and had time to get together and compare notes on their educational programs.

"Each educational program we sponsor is a unique study in teaching precast concrete," says Doug Sutton, PCI Foundation Academic Council chair. "Having all of the professors together at the convention leads to sharing of ideas and helps to advance the skill of each of the professors teaching about precast/prestressed concrete at his school."

PCI receives IAS accreditation

>> After several years of preparatory work by both PCI committee members and staff, PCI has achieved accreditation from the International Accreditation Service (IAS), which provides objective evidence that an organization operates at the highest level of ethical, legal, and technical standards. It is a subsidiary of the International Code Council (ICC), a professional membership association that develops the construction codes and standards used by most municipalities within the United States.

The current scope of PCI's IAS accreditation is the PCI Plant Certification Program, which is managed in accordance with IAS Accreditation Criteria (AC) 477 and International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) 17021, *Conformity Assessment—Requirements for Bodies Providing Audit and Certification of Management Systems*.

UM precast studio midterms yield creative results

Midterm reviews for the PCI Foundation–sponsored precast studio at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor took place on March 15, 2016. Glenn Wilcox, associate professor of architecture, led the discussions.

This studio, which is part of a master of science degree in digital technologies, is intended to engage students with the precast concrete industry and is the capstone studio in the postprofessional, research-based degree.

It is unlike some of the other PCI Foundation programs that are more focused on architectural design rather than the manufacturing process. This studio is poised to consider the design and production of precast concrete architecture as a form of advanced building research. The students use the resources available in the digital lab to leverage the power of computationally based design and numerically controlled machines to consider new methodologies, materials, and systems of production.

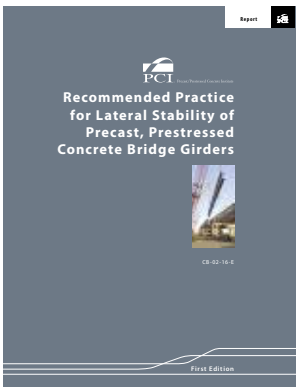
For the precasters involved with this project, Kerkstra Precast and International Precast Solutions, the students' work was challenging and engaging, unlike what they typically see produced and with ideas that can unleash possible new uses for precast concrete.

In describing the course, Wilcox writes, "Primary to the studio will be the understanding and implementation of fabrication techniques and production methods in the development of the precast elements. One of the intriguing potentials of the studio is the fact that precast touches upon a breadth of technologies and fabrication methods." Six student groups or individuals presented their projects, which took on various shapes and forms and used a variety of digital fabrication techniques. The final form depended in part on each student's design and the type of fabrication techniques they were using. Techniques available to the students included robotically hot-wire-cut expanded polystyrene foam molds for casting, robotically bent and placed reinforcing bars, manual or robotically placed preimpregnated carbon-fiber reinforcement, three-axis or five-axis milled molds for casting, water-jet metal formwork for casting, automated knife-cut plastic or fabric forms for casting, post-cast robotic milling or water-jet cutting, and a select molding process and glass-fiber-reinforced concrete.

Students' work was dramatically different, not only in terms of the equipment used to create it, but also in terms of the final design look and possible uses for the future. Folding concrete that could be shipped flat, using shrink-wrap techniques to create the mold, and three-dimensional pieces that could form a dome or wall were all presented.

Each PCI Foundation studio takes a unique approach to teaching students about precast concrete. We hope to work with more than just architecture schools to advance the design, fabrication, and construction of precast concrete systems in the future.

Bridge girder lateral stability practice recently released as ebook



The PCI *Recommended Practice for Lateral Stability of Precast, Prestressed Concrete Bridge Girders* is a new PCI publication that lays out a new comprehensive methodology to analyze the lateral stability of long, slender bridge girders.

Technology has enabled the manufacture of increasingly longer girders with thinner sections, but slender girders present a lateral stability concern. Each stage of a girder's transition from the casting bed to its final location in the bridge is considered in the recommended practice. Conditions include handling from the top with embedded or attached devices, supporting from below during storage or during transit, or in various conditions on the bridge during construction.

These recommendations are the result of groundbreaking research conducted by Robert Mast in the 1990s. In 2007, the PCI Bridges Committee saw the need to address girder stability. A specialized team from the committee developed the recommendations covered in this new publication. The team's producer members contributed substantial practical field experience and along with designers have developed a recommended practice that provides methods to calculate the factors of safety during each of several stages of a girder's life.

The PCI *Recommended Practice for Lateral Stability of Precast, Prestressed Concrete Bridge Girders* is available for purchase at http://www.pci.org/epubs as an ebook.

Krohn named president of Great Lakes EERI chapter

Jason Krohn

The Great Lakes Chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) has named Jason Krohn, PCI's managing director of technical activities, its new president, taking over for S. K. Ghosh, who will remain in a leadership position as the immediate past president.

The Great Lakes chapter territory includes Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Krohn will serve a two-year term as president of the Great Lakes Chapter.

Blair joins PCI as CFO

Paul Blair joined the PCI staff as chief financial officer on April 1, 2016. He will be responsible for all financial aspects of PCI, as well as human resources and information technology. In addition, Blair will serve as PCI's office manager.

Previously, Blair was director of finance at the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP). In addition to overseeing the financial aspects of CSCMP, he was also responsible for human resources and information technology systems. He will be responsible for all three areas at PCI and act as office manager as well. Blair will be working with the staff throughout the budget process leading up to the summer meetings and will also be working on an update of PCI's personnel manual and the transition to handling human resources on-site. He will also work closely with the finance team and membership to resolve any financial matters that affect both areas of PCI.

Blair holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Mich.

Banks returns to PCI as marketing assistant

Brenda Banks

Brenda Banks started as PCI's new marketing assistant on March 14, 2016. She will manage PCI's participation in industry trade shows, assist with *Ascent* magazine coordination and the marketing initiatives program, coordinate the annual PCI Design Awards program, support all marketing committees, and coordinate all external advertising and marketing webinars. She will also assist PCI regional directors with their marketing needs.

Banks previously worked for the Kankakee School District business office, where she was the benefits coordinator and assistant to the director of business. Twenty years ago, Banks worked at PCI as the *PCI Journal* production assistant. She has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Ill.

PCI Foundation accepts Wash U educational program proposal

Hongxi Yin

PCI Foundation trustees recently accepted a proposal to help fund a new educational program at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.

The focus of the program is two-fold. It will include working on the university's submission for the Solar Decathlon and on the Race to Zero Student Design Competition based on the six dwelling units on McPherson Ave. in St. Louis. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Decathlon challenges college teams to design, build, and operate solar-powered houses that are cost effective, energy efficient, and attractive. Twenty teams from architecture schools are accepted each year, and the winner is the team that best blends affordability, consumer appeal, and design excellence with optimal energy production and maximum efficiency. The DOE Race to Zero Student Design Competition inspires college students to become the next generation of building science professionals through a design challenge for zero-energy-ready homes.

"The two-year program will have a variety of studios and experiences for the students, all working with precast concrete. Participants will become aware of how architecture is so closely related to both the environment and technology through these problem-solving studio workshops," says Hongxi Yin, the I-CARES (International Center for Advanced Renewable Energy and Sustainability) associate professor in charge of the program.

The series of PCI Architectural Design Studios is composed of four studios:

- Summer Intern: High Performance Precast House Review, summer 2016
- Studio II: Digital Fabrication and Building Information, fall 2016
- Studio III: Architectural Precast Concrete and Joint Tectonics, spring 2016
- Studio IV: Precast Design and Build, fall 2016

Dukane Precast in Naperville, Ill., and St. Louis Prestress in Glen Carbon, Ill., have signed on as the local partners for this project. Thermomass in Boone, Iowa, is also helping coordinate the project.

Bruce Lindsay, dean of the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts says, "The proposed architectural studios meet the interests of both our school and the PCI Foundation in partnering the industry with top-notch architecture programs to help students learn about precast in a progressive and exciting environment. The studios provide our students a great opportunity to learn real-world design-construction experiences related to precast concrete systems. The proposed studios will eventually advance the industry by developing high-potential students to productive careers."

Frank named to board of directors of National Institute of Building Sciences Council

Dean Frank

The National Institute of Building Sciences has named that Dean Frank, PCI's director of quality and sustainability programs, to its Off-Site Construction Council (OSCC) board of directors.

The National Institute of Building Sciences is a not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization that brings together representatives of government, the professions, industry, labor, and consumer interests to focus on the identification and resolution of problems and potential problems that hamper the construction of safe, affordable structures for housing, commerce, and industry throughout the United States.

"This is a relatively new council supported by an influential national institute," Frank says. "I am happy to help set its direction in order to increase acceptance of prefabrication in the construction industry."

Frank will serve a three-year term on the board of directors.

Architectural services committee seeking new architecture members

The Architectural Precast Concrete Services and Manual Committee is looking to bring on new architectural producer members.

Joe Bunkers, the new committee chair and vice president of preconstruction for Gage Brothers, says that the committee will be focusing on hosting a workshop on mold technology with the integration of building information modeling with three-dimensional printing, a project management 102 workshop in November 2016 in conjunction with the Canadian Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute, a precast concrete enclosure systems guide for the design community, and creating more online tools for designers.

For more information, contact Bunkers at jbunkers@gagebrothers.com.

Erectors Committee sets goal of industrywide certification

PCI's Erectors Committee met during the 2016 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference to celebrate the nearly 100 erectors who are now certified. The committee's vision is to have all of PCI's industry erectors certified and working together for safer jobsites and faster enclosures of their structures.

One of the committee's focuses has been developing standards and best practices for erectors because it is critical that erectors be properly equipped with the latest tools, processes, documentation, and safety information.

Beginning this year, the PCI Design Awards and *Ascent* magazine will be recognizing the certified erectors on all projects submitted for consideration.

This committee also plans to complete its update to the *Erectors Manual on Standards and Guidelines*.

Carl Harris and Dan Bible, Erectors Committee cochairs, invite precast concrete erectors to get involved with the committee and to join PCI as certified erectors. For more information, contact Harris at carl@carlharriscompany.com or Bible at danb@molin.com.

Quality Enhancement Committee program to benefit producers

The Quality Enhancement Committee refocused and renamed the program formerly known as QA2020 Vision Program to track progress in implementing best practices and recognize improvement in the operations of producers. The program's new name is Exceptional Precast Practices. The structured self-assessment tool will be available in June 2016, and certificates will be awarded to participating producer plants at the 2016 PCI Committee Day and Membership Conference.

This self-assessment appraisal measures the use of business management programs and practices of proven worth to precast concrete producers. It also provides a path to further improvement. The program measures processes that are recognized to reduce costs, improve quality, and increase effectiveness. They cover sales and marketing, sustainable plant, field erection, safety, productivity, and plant personnel training practices.

The annual certificate signifies that the plant is professionally managed, uses the best tools and techniques, seeks continuous improvement, and exceeds minimum requirements. Details of how your plant can participate will be available in May 2016. For more information, contact Dean Frank, PCI's director of quality and sustainability programs, at dfrank@pci.org.

Prussack elected 2016 PCI chairman, board of directors named

Chuck Prussack

PCI has elected Chuck Prussack its 2016 chairman. Prussack is manager of sales, engineering, and quality control for Oldcastle Precast Inc. in Spokane, Wash.

Prussack joined Oldcastle Precast in 1979 when it was known as Central Pre-mix Prestress Co. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Structural Engineers Association of Washington. He is also a PCI Fellow, a panel member on several National Academy of Sciences bridge-related projects, a prestressed concrete lecturer, and a presenter on various bridge projects. He earned his bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Washington State University.

In addition to Prussack's appointment, two other officer elections were held by members of the 2016 board of directors. Daniel A. Juntunen of Wells Concrete was elected vice chairman and Mason H. Lampton of Standard Concrete Products Inc. was elected secretary-treasurer.

The new members of PCI's 2016 Board of Directors are Dennis Fink of Northeast Prestressed Products LLC, Monty Oehrlein of Coreslab Structures (TEXAS) Inc., Gary Pooley of Wells Concrete, John Seroky of High Concrete Group LLC, and Joel Sheets of Tindall Corp. South Carolina Division.

Voss receives Medal of Honor

Jim Voss

Jim Voss, president of JVI Inc., was awarded PCI's most prestigious award, the Medal of Honor. He has been heavily involved in PCI and its activities for more than 30 years, serving on numerous committees and PCI's board of directors. Voss has contributed significantly to PCI through his continuous support of its publications and by sponsoring countless events.

He was named a PCI Fellow in 1995 and a PCI Titan in 2004, and in 2015, he received the John Fowler Award of Distinction from the Canadian Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute. In 2001, Voss created the PCI Foundation and devotes much time and financial support to growing the program.

Finfrock receives inaugural Mario J. Bertolini Award

Robert Finfrock, right, receives the Mario J. Bertolini Leadership and Innovation Award from PCI Chairman Chuck Prussack at the 2016 PCI Convention and National Bridge Exhibition in Nashville, Tenn. Courtesy of Sarah Jensen.

At the 2016 PCI Convention and Bridge Exposition in Nashville, Tenn., Robert Finfrock, owner and chairman of Finfrock, was presented with the Mario J. Bertolini Leadership and Innovation Award in recognition of his outstanding character as a precast concrete professional.

PCI established this award to honor engineer Mario Bertolini. The award was created to recognize individuals who, while in senior management positions of PCI producer member firms, consistently exhibited the personal and professional traits Bertolini exemplified.

Covington new bookstore and shipping and receiving manager

Royce Covington

PCI has hired Royce Covington as its new bookstore and shipping/receiving manager. Covington started on November 30, 2015.

Upcoming webinars to cover wind energy, BIM, teaching, precast concrete practices

PCI is introducing a new series of free, one-hour, members-only webinars. Individual members and employees of PCI member organizations are eligible to attend. Following is a list of upcoming webinars:

- The May 6 webinar is Markets of Interest: Wind Energy. The presenters are Bill Ray of Precast Consulting Services Inc. and Sri Sritharan, a professor at Iowa State University
- The May 20 webinar is Institute Programs: Exceptional Precast Practices Program. The presenter is Dean Frank, PCI's director of quality and sustainability programs.
- The June 17 webinar is Technology: BIM. The presenter is Wayne Kassian of Kassian Dyck and Associates.
- The July 15 webinar is Teaching for PCI. The presenter is Alex Morales, PCI's managing director of membership and education.

The webinars are scheduled for midday on Fridays. One professional development hour credit will be offered for each webinar.

Wilden receives 2015 Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award

Helm Wilden, right, receives the Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award from PCI Chairman Chuck Prussack at the 2016 PCI Convention and National Bridge Exhibition in Nashville, Tenn. Courtesy of Sarah Jensen.

Helm Wilden received the 2015 Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award. Wilden received the award at the at the 2016 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference in Nashville, Tenn. The award recognizes engineering professionals who exhibit the personal and professional traits that Norm Scott exemplified. The first Norman L. Scott award was presented in 2014.

Norman L. Scott Award acceptance speech

Hello everyone. Thank you. I accept this award. I accept this award with a great deal of pride and even more humility. Pride is, I think, obvious. I accept it with humility because my name will now be near Norm Scott's forever, at least on this plaque.

How nice it is to receive this award on the 50th anniversary of CEG, the engineering company that Norm started in 1966. Congratulations to CEG and all its employees for achieving this milestone.

Before I say more, I want to congratulate the other award recipients for their outstanding contributions to PCI and the industry. We should all thank them for helping enhance the industry that we all love. Congratulations.

I also want to thank some people publicly. Thank you to the selection jury, you know who you are, headed by Alex Mihaylov, chair of the PCI Professional Members Committee, the committee that oversees this award. Thanks to my wife Mary Lou for supporting me no matter what I wanted to do for well over 50 years, particularly when I did stuff related to PCI. Harry Gleich once said, "Without Mary Lou there would be no Helm Wilden." How true. And I will thank a few others personally.

And thanks to Norm Scott for setting the bar as high as he did. If you knew Norm, you would know that he had a notion about a few things: He had the notion that PCI needed to do research to prove the validity of the product. That was especially true in the early years of the industry but remains valid today. He had the notion that education was vital to the growth of the industry. He was an advocate and realized that an industry's success is directly proportional to the energy it devotes to its educational programs. Norm was also an advocate for marketing since it requires awareness within the construction industry to foster the use of a material. And he was very strong on the need for manufacturers to continually and consistently provide quality products. Without that the industry will die.

He vocalized his feelings about these (research, education, marketing, and quality) as often as he could, and that has had a positive influence on the success of the precast/prestressed concrete industry over the past 65 years.

Also, if you knew Norm, he would tell you that he had the notion that a good engineer had several qualities. He did not broadcast that he had them; he simply lived by them and by example inspired all of us. Those qualities include:

- having respect for the role of the structural engineer
- doing accurate work on behalf of your client
- being respectful of all those involved in a project
- being an inspiration to young engineers without making them feel intimidated by your extensive experience (He was particularly good at this.)
- following the engineer's code of ethics
- helping your peers when they need it
- remaining or getting involved in associations like ACI, ASCE, NSPE, and especially PCI

You know, this award is not about me; it's not about Steve Seguirant, the first recipient of this award in 2014, or about future recipients. It is about honoring the legacy of Norm Scott. He was an outstanding engineer and a remarkable person.

In order to continue to honor Norm's legacy, I challenge all of you to nominate someone next year, the year after that, and so on and so on. There are many professional engineers in this room who are worthy of this honor, so I urge all of you to look around the room and observe those participating in this convention. You will no doubt see someone that you should nominate in the future.

I hope that 5, 10, 20 years from now Norm's name and his legacy continue to be honored and the memory of his intelligence, integrity, and goodness will be as fresh as it is today.

In closing I want to read the last statement from the preamble to the criteria for this award. It says, "In our lifetimes, we rarely meet a person who, by their actions, integrity, and honesty encourages us to be better. Norm was that kind of person."

Thank you very much.

—Helm Wilden

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

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.

PCINE Spring Meeting Cranwell Resort, Lenox, Mass.	May 12, 2016
PCI Summer Conference Spokane, Wash.	June 9–12, 2016
PCINE Annual Meeting Saybrook Point, Old Saybrook, Conn.	September 13–14, 2016
2016 PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference Loews Chicago O'Hare, Rosemont, Ill.	October 12–15, 2016
2017 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference at the Precast Show Cleveland, Ohio	February 28–March 4, 2017
2018 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference at the Precast Show Denver, Colo.	February 22–24, 2018

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 managing director of education and membership, Alex Morales, at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219. Registration forms are available at http://www.pci.org/schools.

Level I/II	May 9–11, 2016 June 20–22, 2016 August 31–September 2, 2016	Charlotte, N.C. Harrisburg, Pa. Chicago, Ill.
Level III	May 11–14, 2016 August 30–September 2, 2016	Charlotte, N.C. Chicago, Ill.
CFA	June 20–22, 2016	Nashville, Tenn.
CCA	June 23, 2016	Nashville, Tenn.