

OUR MEMBERS

Gate Precast adds Wright as marketing director



Mo Wright

Fifteen-year precast concrete industry veteran Mo Wright has joined Gate Precast Co. in its newly created marketing director position. Wright has worked in a variety of positions, including precast concrete sales and marketing, estimating, and project management.

In his new role, Wright will market architectural and structural precast concrete, as well as collaborate on design-assist projects. He will play an integral role in developing and maintaining strategic business relationships with designers, construction managers, and owners and developers. He will also work with Gate's regional sales and marketing managers to plan and implement a marketing strategy and product development programs targeted toward existing and new markets and develop and conduct continuing education programs across the country and at tradeshow.

Wright is a graduate of the University of Alabama.

—Source: Gate Precast

Spancrete recognized for company culture

The Good Jobs, an employment branding firm, has certified Spancrete as a Good Jobs Company. The group commended Spancrete for seven key attributes: Fun, Extreme Perks, Corporate Responsibility, Flextime, GreenDNA, Inclusion, and Career Development.

The Good Jobs helps employers become more transparent with their company culture story. This creates both more awareness and differentiation in today's competitive talent market. A team from Spancrete participated in the workshop with The Good Jobs to identify how it invests in its employees and communities.

"The partnership we developed with The Good Jobs and the knowledge gained has helped us develop greater awareness and understanding of our culture's effect upon employee retention and recruitment," says Spancrete president and COO Alan Antoniewicz.

Spancrete is displaying its Culture Badges on its Company Culture and Careers webpages to engage talent and share the company's cultural attributes.

—Source: Spancrete

Finley named a top structural firm to work for by Zweig Group

Zweig Group has named Finley to its "Best Firms to Work For" list in the structural category. The award recognizes the top architecture, structural engineering, civil engineering, environmental, and multidiscipline firms in the United States and Canada based on their workplace practices, employee benefits, employee retention rates, and more. For the past three years, Finley has made the list of top structural firms.

—Source: Finley Engineering Group

Branco to oversee European growth opportunities for Thermomass



Miguel Branco

Miguel Branco has been hired to head Thermomass's global business development efforts in his new role as international engineering manager. Branco previously served as a structural engineer for the company from 2009 to 2012 and worked as a consultant for Thermomass until now.

Originally from Portugal, Branco has a master's degree in civil engineering from the Technical University of Lisbon. He has extensive experience in structural design engineering, research and development, and technical sales both in the commercial and petrochemical industries.

In his new role, Branco will lead the development of numerous European permit and code approvals, serve as a point of contact for international industry associations, provide support and assistance for local customers and distributors, and identify additional opportunities for Thermomass products and services within the concrete sandwich wall connector market.

—Source: Thermomass

Ironrock adds capacity

Ironrock, makers of Metrobrick Architectural Thin Brick and Royal Thin Brick, has started using a third tunnel kiln at its manufacturing facility in Canton, Ohio.

The lighting of a third kiln is in response to the steady increase in demand for Ironrock's thin brick and quarry tile products over the course of the year. The additional capacity will also give Ironrock the added production and flexibility necessary to launch Royal Thin Brick, its new tumbled thin-brick product line, without disrupting Metrobrick production and delivery times.

—Source: Ironrock


Frakes joins CONAC as regional sales manager



Tim Frakes

Tim Frakes has joined CONAC Concrete Accessories as the new regional sales manager for the Midwestern territory. Prior to joining CONAC, Frakes held several positions in sales at Kerkstra Precast and most recently at Meadow Burke, where he worked as a district sales manager in

the precast division. Frakes will be based in Michigan.

—Source: CONAC 

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

DENNIS R. MERTZ



Dennis R. Mertz, PE, PhD, a professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and director of the Center for Innovative Bridge Engineering at the University of Delaware, died August 12, 2016. He was 63.

At PCI, Mertz contributed to updating the third edition of the *PCI Bridge Design Manual* and was a member and regularly attended the semiannual meetings of the PCI Bridges Committee. He also attended American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Subcommittee on Bridges and Structures T-10 Concrete Design meetings at PCI.

Mertz wrote the regular feature LRFD Specifications in every issue of *Aspire* magazine, from the inaugural issue in 2007 through the Summer 2016 issue. These articles, principally on the concrete provisions of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications*, serve as a historical record for bridge engineers by detailing why the specifications were first written or revised. Mertz was employed by Modjeski and Masters Inc.—where he started as an engineer in 1984—as co-principal investigator for the development, revision, and refinement of the AASHTO LRFD specifications. He was well known for his in-depth understanding of the AASHTO LRFD specifications. He was sought after as a presenter because of his skill in explaining the evolution of the AASHTO LRFD specifications and interpreting its provisions.

Following the adoption of the AASHTO LRFD specifications, Mertz continued to work with the AASHTO Subcommittee on Bridges and Structures and its numerous technical committees to advance the implementation of emerging technology through the development of new specification provisions. This included at least 16 years of work with AASHTO T-10. Mertz was always available to define intent, clarify language, and redirect committees when proposed changes became especially detailed. He was known for being able to take a complex subject and simplify it, and his technical presentations were well received.

Mertz was also the founding editor of the American Society of Civil Engineers' *Journal of Bridge Engineering* and received many awards for his contributions to the bridge industry. Earlier this year, he was the recipient of the International Bridge Conference's (IBC's) John A. Roebling Medal, which recognizes an individual for lifetime achievement in bridge engineering. In 2000, he received the inaugural AASHTO Bridge Subcommittee Chairman's Lecture Series Award for his contributions to the subcommittee and to the field of bridge engineering and to recognize him for helping advance LRFD theory and modern bridge design practices.

Mertz received his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa. He was a member of the IBC Executive Committee, the SEI Structures Congress National Technical Program Committee, and the Transportation Research Board Committee AFF30 Concrete Bridges and also participated in many National Cooperative Highway Research Program projects.

Erector Associates

EDI Precast LLC

11574 Duley Station Road, Suite B
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
(301) 877-2024
Primary contact: Michelle Della-Camera
Email: mdellacamera@ediprecast.com

Pinnacle Precast & Steel Erectors Inc.

4 Fox Run
Concord, NH 03301-1801
<http://www.ppse-nh.com>
(603) 493-9852
Primary contact: Shayne LeBreton
Email: slebreton@ppse-nh.com

RSM Development Inc.

2500 S. Broadway Ste. 100
Edmond, OK 73013-4039
<http://www.rsmdevelop.com>
(405) 471-6019
Primary contact: Justin Small
Email: rsm@rsmdevelop.com

Tutor Perini Corp. Civil

1000 Main St.
New Rochelle, NY 10801
<http://www.tutorperini.com>
(914) 739-1905
Primary contact: Terry Flynn
Email: tflynn@perini.com

Services Associates



Optimum Safety Management

1300 Iroquois Ave., Suite 260
Naperville, IL 60563-8476
<http://www.oshasafetymanagement.com>
(630) 759-9908
Primary contact: Stephen Yates
Email: syates@optimum-usa.com



PRSUS Inc.

PO Box 23
Lincoln University, PA 19352-0023
<http://www.prsus.com>
(610) 345-1130
Primary contact: Alec Altman
Email: a.altman@prsus.com

Supplier Associates



Contractors Material Co.

10320 S. Medallion Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45241
<http://www.cmcmmi.com>
(513) 733-3000
Primary contact: Monty Marsh
Email: mmarsh@cmcmmi.com



General Shale

3015 Bristol Highway
Johnson City, TN 37601-1511
<http://www.generalshale.com>
(800) 414-4661
Primary contact: Jim Riccio
Email: jim.riccio@generalshale.com

Interstate Brick Co.

9780 S. 5200 W
West Jordan, UT 84081-5625
<http://www.interstatebrick.com>
(802) 280-5200
Primary contact: Don Sackett
Email: don.sackett@interstatebrick.com

Specialty Foundry Products Inc.

1130 Raimund Muscoda Road
Bessemer, AL 35020
<http://www.specfoundry.com>
(205) 424-0307
Primary contact: Max Herndon
Email: mherndon@specfoundry.com

Water Recycling International Inc. d/b/a Water Treatment Solutions

6 Merrill Industrial Drive
Hampton, NH 03842
<http://www.watertreatmentonline.com>
(603) 758-1900
Primary contact: Ryan Nakken
Email: info@watertreatmentonline.com

Producer

Hessian Co. Ltd. T/A Faddis Concrete Products

2206 Horseshoe Pike
Honey Brook, PA 19344
<http://www.faddis.com>
(484) 556-4256
Primary contact: Al Tribuno
Email: info@faddis.com

Supporting Organizations

Kangnam Construction Co. Ltd.

#12, Seoun-ro 1-gil
Seocho-gu, Seoul 06733
Korea
<http://www.kangnamcon.com>
+82-40-7096-3522
Primary contact: Dongwoo Kim
Email: market1@kangnam.co.kr

Union Precast Factory Qatar LLC

Gabbro Area, Plot #38
Mesaieed Industrial City, Qatar
<http://www.upf-qatar.com>
97466560405
Primary contact: Francis Inot
Email: info@upf-qatar.com