



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



PCI reinforces the industry


Many members may know that prior to coming to PCI, I served nine years at the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute, where I picked up a thing or two about making and fabricating reinforcing bar and wire. So with this issue of *PCI Journal* dedicated to reinforcement, I thought I would share some thoughts I've had over the years on the subject of concrete and reinforcement.

As PCI members know, the reinforcement is what makes our concrete products possible—starting, of course, with prestressing strands, but including the bar and mesh and other reinforcing products as well. I've often summarized the role of reinforcement in following manner: you can't make concrete go up in the air or down in the ground without reinforcement! Reinforcement holds the concrete together.


I'd like to think that PCI plays a similar role for the precast/prestressed concrete industry. PCI is the common ground that links our members together in our shared goals: growing the market; educating current and future practitioners; setting codes and standards; coordinating research and innovation to advance the industry; and providing other member services, such as workforce development or dealing with federal regulations, such as OSHA silica rules.

And fellowship! Active PCI members cite the relationships they've developed through their involvement at PCI as one of the greatest returns they get for the time and money invested. After all, PCI at its core is the people who make up this great institute and industry. Every involved member serves as a piece of reinforcement for the industry as a whole.

All of the reinforcement in a precast concrete member is important, of course, but some of the reinforcement takes more of the load than others. With that analogy in mind, I want to thank the members of the PCI Board of Directors who had their terms extended when we moved the board terms to coincide with the PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference in the spring. It's one more meeting and preparation from folks who've already given so much to the institute. I also want to thank Chairman Chuck Prussack and Immediate Past Chair Chris Pastorius for extending their service on the Executive Committee.

Last, I'd like to thank Chuck for his service as chairman of PCI this past year. His experience with PCI and the industry has been a guiding light to me and the PCI staff. His message of stewardship to this industry is truly inspiring. He has most definitely helped reinforce PCI for a great future! 

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