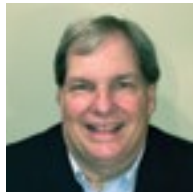


OUR MEMBERS

Shepherd promoted to COO at Standard Concrete Products

Joe Shepherd has been promoted to chief operating officer at Standard Concrete Products. He is starting his 20th year at Standard Concrete Products and has been the Savannah, Ga., division manager and the Georgia division manager. He is also a vice president of the company.



Joe Shepherd

As COO, Shepherd will oversee engineering, production, and sales for Standard Concrete Products' three prestress plants located in Atlanta, Ga.; Savannah, Ga.; and Tampa, Fla. These plants produce all major precast/prestressed components for bridges, piers, piling foundations, ship berths, and sound

walls. Standard Concrete Products works with departments of transportation to supply major infrastructure projects in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Puerto Rico, and the Bahamas. In addition, the plants participate in research with various state and federal entities to advance the use of concrete materials in building structures.

Shepherd previously worked for 15 years managing heavy civil construction projects throughout the southeast. He joined The Hardaway Company in 1993, which evolved into Standard Concrete Products in 1997. He received his BS in civil engineering from Auburn University in Auburn, Ala. —Source: Standard Concrete Products

County Materials tour takes UW students beyond classroom

Fifteen students from the University of Wisconsin–Stout's construction management program toured County Materials Corp.'s Roberts, Wis., production facility on May 3, 2017. The trip was organized after Heath Wiley, a UW-Stout professor, contacted Tom Peterson, regional manager for County Materials, about bringing students to see the manufacturing process for concrete construction products firsthand to back up the technical information from their textbooks and learn about the construction industry from a new perspective.

"I was excited to set up the tour with Professor Wiley," Peterson says. "This was a great opportunity for students to see the vibrant industry and learn about the complexities in manufacturing. Many young people interested in the industry do not understand how engaging the manufacturing process is."

Peterson, along with location manager Carlos Villarreal, prestress division sales manager Matt Fall, and prestress operations manager John Kaiser, led the tour and explained their different roles within the organization. The students visited County Materials' concrete block, precast concrete pipe, ready-mixed, prestressed bridge girder, and hollow-core production plants.

"The students gained great insight to the concrete industry from a leading concrete company," Wiley says. "I believe that if construction students can gain an understanding of the time and effort that is being put into high-end concrete products produced by the employees at County Materials, they will understand that they are the most valuable asset in a company."

Peterson says he was impressed with the students' knowledge and their in-depth questions. "One student asked how rain affected the moisture levels in production and what we do to manage it. I explained the machinery's moisture sensors to the class and our ability to make adjustments during production. I was really surprised by the technical questions they had."

Many of the students already work or have experience working for construction companies; however, they have not seen the production process for the materials they use. "The students seem ready for the industry," Peterson says. "I am excited that there is so much young talent interested in becoming a part of construction and manufacturing."

—Source: County Materials Corp.

Wells joins Clark Pacific as design-build executive

Clark Pacific has hired Dave Wells as an executive on its design-build delivery team. Wells will be based in the company's West Sacramento, Calif., headquarters, where he will accelerate Clark Pacific's collaborative design-build delivery approach to meet the growing market demand for prefabricated building systems.



Dave Wells

Wells joins Clark Pacific with more than 30 years' experience as a preconstruction and estimating executive for leading national general contractors in the California construction industry.
—Source: Clark Pacific

County Materials receives distinguished family business award in Wisconsin

County Materials Corp. received the Bridging the Skills Gap in the large company category at the 2017 Wisconsin Family Business of the Year Award program for its work in communities and industry education. The award was specifically created by the judges to recognize the company's "strong support of industry education, donations to youth facilities, and its robust youth mentoring activities."

Through the Sonnentag Foundation, the company has donated more than half a million dollars to youth mentoring programs, education and advocacy services for domestic violence victims, housing and training for veterans, and scholarships for graduating high school students whose parents work for the company.

The award was presented at the program's 14th annual award ceremony on May 4, 2017. During the award ceremony, County Materials' 70-year history was narrated. The company was one of eight awarded out of 31 nominees.

—Source: County Materials Corp.

Gate Precast to provide hollow-core for hotel site



Gate Precast Co. is providing precast concrete products for two Marriott hotels near the Orlando, Fla., Mall at Millenia. The hotels, shown in this rendering, are being built within a single structure as part of a dual-brand hotel concept. Courtesy of Gate Precast Co.

Two Marriott hotels near the Orlando, Fla., Mall at Millenia are being built within a single structure as part of a dual-brand hotel concept. Gate Precast Co. is producing and installing 158,841 ft² (14,757 m²) of 8 in. (200 mm) precast concrete hollow-core and 6156 ft² (572 m²) of 8 in. solid slab structural precast concrete for the project.

The connected hotels—a Springhill Suites and a Residence Inn—share a lobby, back-of-house space, and other amenities. They were designed by L2 Studios and are being built by Welbro Building Corp., both of Orlando. Despite sharing a building space, the two hotels are distinctly different. Unlike its counterpart, Springhill Suites calls for numerous cantilevered, prestressed solid slabs to achieve a faux balcony appearance along the building's exterior. The slabs, some reaching 30 ft 8 in. (9.4 m) in length, are directly connected to the hollow-core panels that compose the remainder of the flooring for both hotels.

Gate is trucking the precast concrete pieces from its Jacksonville, Fla., plant for just-in-time delivery to the site. Completion of the \$21 million Springhill Suites and Residence Inn at Millenia-Orlando is expected in early 2018.

—Source: Gate Precast Co.

PCI's NEWLY CERTIFIED PLANTS

PCI recently certified the following plants. For an explanation of the certification designations, visit http://www.pci.org/PCI_Certification/Plant_Certification/.

- Alfred Miller Contracting, Lake Charles, La.: C3
- Forterra Pipe and Precast, Louisville, Ky.: B3 and C3
- Forterra Pipe and Precast, Rapid City, S.Dak.: B1
- Wells Concrete Rosemount, Rosemount, Minn.: C3



Al Yee

Al Yee, PCI Titan, died April 21, 2017. He was 91.

Although he nearly went into medicine, Yee was a pioneer in the design of precast/prestressed concrete structures. He said in a 2010 interview with *PCI Journal* that while standing in line to enroll in premedical studies, he saw his friends signing up for engineering and thought that they might be more fun to go to school with. His career in precast/prestressed concrete engineering ended up spanning more than 65 years.

Yee spent 18 months in the Army after his sophomore year in college, after which he went on to obtain his BS in civil engineering from Rose Polytechnic Institute, now Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, in Terre Haute, Ind. He then spent a year earning a master's degree in structural engineering from Yale University, where he studied under Professor Hardy Cross. Yee graduated from Yale in 1949 and returned to his native Hawaii to take a position as a junior civil engineer in the bridge design division of the Territory of Hawaii Public Works Office for two years. He then worked for another two and a half years at the U.S. Navy Public Works Office in Pearl Harbor before starting a private consulting structural engineering practice out of his home in early 1954.

Yee said he was drawn to precast/prestressed concrete because of the cost, material, labor, and time savings, and the post-World War II development of new materials such as high-strength concrete and steel wires. In 1955, he started working on forming one of the United States' early mass-production precast, prestressed concrete plants in Hawaii. Arthur Anderson of Tacoma, Wash., became a major influence on Yee. Anderson owned and operated a precast, prestressed concrete plant and assisted Yee in designing his first precast, prestressed concrete plant in Hawaii in late 1955. Yee's plant began production in the spring of 1956.

Henry J. Kaiser, founder of Kaiser Aluminum, Kaiser Steel, and Kaiser Industries, also played an important role in Yee's career in precast/prestressed concrete. While Kaiser was building the Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort in Waikiki, Hawaii, in the 1950s, he discovered that he could get precast, prestressed beams made locally in Yee's plant within a week. It took laminated timber beams

from the West Coast about three months to be fabricated and arrive in Hawaii. By the end of 1956, the plant had fabricated and erected precast concrete elements for a 14-story condominium apartment, the first precast concrete high-rise building of its kind in the world. From this start, Yee went on to develop more than a dozen patents for construction systems and devices, such as the NMB Splice Sleeve mechanical connector and the Concrete Honeycomb Precast Framing System for large ocean platforms, and achieved much in his chosen field. Yee owned and managed the international structural engineering consulting companies Yee Precast Design Group Ltd. in Honolulu, Hawaii, and Precast Design Consultants in Singapore. His notable projects include the USS Arizona Memorial, Ala Moana Hotel, Queen Emma Gardens, and Kahala Hotel and Resort in Honolulu, and his tallest precast concrete building, The Sail at Marina Bay's 70-story tower in Singapore.

Yee was named a PCI Fellow in 1995 and a PCI Titan in 2004, and received the PCI Medal of Honor in 1997. He also accepted a number of awards for papers published in *PCI Journal*, including the Charles C. Zollman Award, the Martin P. Korn Award, the Robert J. Lyman Award, and the State-of-the-Art Award. In 2009, Al Yee received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering; was named an honorary member of the American Concrete Institute, the American Society of Civil Engineering, and the Cement and Concrete Products Industry of Hawaii; and received the Singapore Concrete Institute Lifetime Achievement Award. In recognition of his work in concrete technology, Rose-Hulman conferred upon him an honorary doctor of engineering degree.

Yee served on the PCI Board of Directors from 1970 to 1972 and served on the PCI Connection Details, Journal Awards, Prevention of Failures, Safe Prestressed Concrete Applications, Seismic, Technical Activities, and Technical Review Committees and the Technical Publications Review Board.

In the 2010 *PCI Journal* interview, Yee said, "The accomplishment that I am most proud of is participating in developing precast and prestressed concrete into practical use for the construction of buildings and civil-engineering structures to save millions of cubic meters of concrete and tons of steel through this technology during the past half century."