



## OUR MEMBERS

### Oldcastle Precast rebrands as Oldcastle Infrastructure

Oldcastle Precast unveiled a new name and new brand: Oldcastle Infrastructure. The name was changed to more accurately reflect the breadth and impact of the company's products and services and its strategic direction.

"We want our new brand to reflect our strategic growth ambition, the products that we make, and the positive impact that they have on people's lives and their communities," says Simon Bates, president of Oldcastle Infrastructure. "We also want to demonstrate we are a part of CRH, a leading global building materials group, and can take advantage of the tremendous size and scale that our parent company offers."

—Source: Oldcastle Infrastructure

### AltusGroup precast concrete educational courses highlight innovative technologies

AltusGroup has produced three one-hour online continuing education sessions for architects and building teams. The courses are available through AEC Daily (at [AECDaily.com](http://AECDaily.com)), and each provides one American Institute of Architects continuing education unit in Health, Safety, and Welfare.

"Ultra-thin Prestressed Precast Panel Technology" educates about a lightweight precast concrete panel technology that offers the strength and aesthetic versatility of concrete at a fraction of the weight. Reviewed in this course are the benefits, design, and cost considerations as well as connection and fastening systems for architectural rainscreen systems, rainscreen facades, and decking. Five AltusGroup precasters manufacture this technology under the ARCIS brand name regionally across the United States.

"Creating Distinctive and Attractive Designs on Precast Concrete Faces" provides information about the technology behind graphically imaged precast concrete, which can be used by architects and designers to impart permanent and creative images and patterns on building facades and other precast concrete surfaces. Discussed are the fabrication process, design possibilities, and budgeting considerations. Global case studies present a range of applications of both stock and original designs. AltusGroup provides this technology in North America through an exclusive licensing agreement with Graphic Concrete.

"High-Performance Insulated Sandwich Walls Using Component Design" explains how high-performance, fully composite insulated precast concrete sandwich wall panels can be produced to achieve continuous insulation and structural performance, delivering increased *R*-values at lighter weights. It explores the pros, cons, and attributes of wythe connectors such as carbon fiber trusses and panel insulation options, manufacturing methods, third-party testing validation, and common installation methods. It concludes by providing a sample of projects to illustrate the range of building types and aesthetic treatments that can be created with insulated precast concrete sandwich wall systems. AltusGroup members market this licensed technology under the brand name CarbonCast.

AltusGroup also offers in-person lunch-and-learn sessions for CEU credit, in which various precast concrete topics are presented to architects, engineers, and other building team members. For more information, contact [info@altusprecast.com](mailto:info@altusprecast.com).

—Source: AltusGroup

### BASF concrete products get GreenCircle Certification

BASF now provides third-party-verified manufacturer inventory reports for all of its admixture and fiber products to meet the requirements of the LEED v4 Building Product Disclosure and Optimization—Material Ingredients, Option 1 credit.

In 2017, BASF was the first admixture company to provide third-party LEED v4-compliant manufacturer inventory reports through GreenCircle LLC. The environmental consultant company audited and verified that BASF's internal product compliance management system assesses the hazards of all ingredients that make up the product, including impurities. This verification provides BASF with the capabilities for certifying its entire portfolio of Master Builders Solutions products.

"With the GreenCircle Certification, we ensure an independent authentication of our company's product sustainability claims and help architects and design engineers make educated product selection decisions during the research and design phase of a project," says David R. Green, manager of applied sustainability for BASF Construction Chemicals.

—Source: BASF

## SlenderWall system passes one-hour fire rating test

Easi-Set Worldwide's SlenderWall architectural precast concrete cladding system passed the latest ASTM International *Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials* (ASTM E119-18a) and *Application of Hose Stream* (ASTM E2226-15b). The SlenderWall insulated composite panel contained the fire and held its structural integrity for the one-hour specified time period of resistance.

The test was performed by a third-party lab, Intertek Building and Construction in York, Pa., on August 28, 2018. The tested panel contained 2 in. (50 mm) of architectural precast concrete, 16-gauge steel stud frame, 6 in. (150 mm) of closed-cell polyurethane spray foam insulation, and 5/8 in. (15 mm) Type X gypsum board.

—Source: Smith-Midland

## Wells Concrete newest Easi-Set SlenderWall Producer

Easi-Set Worldwide, a subsidiary of Smith-Midland Corp., has added Wells Concrete Products Inc. as a licensed producer of SlenderWall architectural cladding.

The expertise Wells has in architectural precast concrete products will play a pivotal role in expanding SlenderWall's Midwest market opportunities. Their research and development skills, and relationships with accessories suppliers such as Empirehouse (plant-installed windows), will be a benefit to both Easi-Set as an organization and SlenderWall customers.

Since 1957, Wells Concrete has been building and installing structural and architectural precast concrete products, currently producing nearly 5 million ft<sup>2</sup> (460,000 m<sup>2</sup>) per year. It serves customers in seven U.S. states and the Canadian province of Manitoba with its four precasting plants and eight office locations.

"In an effort to expand our market share, and also listening to our customers, we are introducing a new lightweight panel system to our region," says Gregg Jacobson, Wells Concrete senior vice president of product development. "With the labor shortages we are experiencing in the field, we are bringing some of the site work into our plants, including installation of windows and the application of foam insulation. The lighter-weight SlenderWall system will allow multiple pieces on a load for shipping, which greatly improves the site logistics for the field services team as well as reduced loadings on the structure."

—Source: Smith-Midland

## Oldcastle Infrastructure expands to Illinois, Wisconsin

Oldcastle Infrastructure has acquired Concrete Specialties Inc., a manufacturer of pipe and precast concrete products that is headquartered in the Chicago, Ill., metropolitan area. With four manufacturing locations, Concrete Specialties provides water management products to Illinois and Wisconsin and provides a platform to expand Oldcastle Infrastructure into the upper Midwest.

—Source: Oldcastle Infrastructure

## AltusGroup brief details use of precast concrete for data center construction

AltusGroup has issued a technical brief outlining the benefits of using precast concrete in data center construction. Available as a PDF on the AltusGroup website at AltusPrecast.com, the two-page brief explains how using CarbonCast high-performance insulated wall panels in data center construction improves resiliency and energy efficiency in these buildings.

The technical brief details how precast concrete insulated wall panels protect against weather and fire and can limit vibrations from sound. In addition, precast concrete panels allow room for easy and flexible expansion, an important factor as the need for servers continues to grow. The lighter weight of CarbonCast precast concrete wall panels can reduce foundation and superstructure needs of the building, potentially lowering costs.

The last section of the technical brief includes comparisons of the strength and quality of precast concrete panels with those of tilt-up panels.

—Source: AltusGroup

### ROD NICHOLSON

Rod Nicholson, former president of Prestressed Concrete Inc., died September 1, 2018. He was 78.

Nicholson graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in electrical engineering. He started at Prestressed Concrete Inc. in Newton, Kans., in 1981 and retired in 2017. In 1986 and 1987, Nicholson served on the PCI Board of Directors.

## Spillman joins with Afinitas New Hampton Metal Fab

New Hampton Metal Fabrication (NHMF) LLC, an Afinitas company, has combined with the Spillman Co., a leading designer and manufacturer of custom wet-cast concrete forms. The company is also a provider of precast concrete accessories relating to plastic spacers, magnetic products, and automation solutions. This transaction expands NHMF's product portfolio for the wet-cast concrete industry.

Afinitas was formed to build out the vision of creating a global, comprehensive, customer-oriented infrastructure

equipment and services platform through organic growth and acquisitions.

Currently, the platform has three divisions, each with distinct brands, capabilities, and leadership teams: HawkeyePedershaab and BFS for dry-cast equipment, NHMF for wet-cast forming, and CAM products for consumables. Spillman represents the second addition to the wet-cast division.

Spillman, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, is led by president and chief executive officer Ted Coons, who will continue with the combined business.

—Source: Afinitas

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

## WELCOME TO PCI



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## 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/](http://www.pci.org/PCI_Certification/Plant_Certification/).

### Erectors

- Continental Erectors LLC, LaSalle, Ill.: S2
- Gotham Structures NY LLC, New York, N.Y.: S1
- RGR Erectors Inc., Cleveland, Ga.: S2
- Tricon Construction Group, Dubuque, Iowa: A, S2


### Plants

- Coreslab Structures (ORLANDO) Inc., Oka-humpka, Fla.: C2
- Heldenfels Enterprises Inc., El Paso, Tex.: B4
- Illini Precast-Speed LLC, Charlestown, Ind.: C3
- Kerkstra Precast Inc., Trenton, Mich.: C3
- Smith-Columbia, Hopkins, S.C.: B2, C1

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