PCI Goes to Washington, Joins Highway Materials Group

On May 10 and 11, PCI chairman Chuck Prussack and secretary/treasurer Mason Lampton joined PCI president Bob Risser to participate in the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) annual fly-in to Washington, D.C. Led by the Associated General Contractors (AGC) and the American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA), the TCC is a broad coalition of construction contractors, suppliers, and labor organizations advocating for long-term and necessary funding for America’s transportation infrastructure.

PCI continues to be a member of TCC. The purpose of the fly-in was to hear from political and administration officials and to visit members’ representatives in Congress advocating for much needed increases in transportation funding to support the U.S. economy. Although the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act passed in December 2015 with five years of funding, the investment level is not adequate for current needs. There is also a long-term funding gap with the current Highway Trust Fund reliance on dwindling gas tax revenues that needs to be addressed.

PCI representatives also attended a meeting of the Highway Materials Group (HMG), an informal coalition of material and equipment suppliers to the highway construction segment. Members include other concrete industry groups such as the Portland Cement Association (PCA), Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI), and National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA), as well as the National Sand, Stone, and Gravel Association, asphalt paving contractors, and equipment distributors. PCI is now a member of HMG and signed on to a joint letter to Congress, urging that any future tax overhauls include consideration of long-term highway funding.

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**PCI Precast Careers: Your Job-Search Solution**

We've just launched [PCI Precast Careers](#), a

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Suggestions?

Do you have comments or
A site dedicated to showcasing the most desirable career opportunities in the precast profession. Whether you’re just starting out on your career journey, are a corporate executive, or anywhere in between, you’ll find the most exciting precast career postings here. Simply find the job that interests you and follow the application instructions for that job.

Our goal is to ensure that the PCI Precast Careers site will become your go-to job resource as you pursue a career in this dynamic field. You’ll discover a position that’s perfect for you, whether it’s for an operations manager, chief financial officer, salesman, design engineer, dispatcher, vice president, cad technician, or a myriad of other positions within our industry.

Post your open positions on the Precast Careers site to find the talent you need to succeed! Contact Rebecca Coleman at bcoleman@pci.org for complete details.

PCI Members Have Exclusive Access to Helpful Contract Clauses When Negotiating Contracts

The Financial/Risk Management Committee led by Patty Peterson has been working on contract clauses with preferred language that PCI members could use when negotiating contracts. The committee solicited the help from an attorney associated with the American Subcontractors Association (ASA) in Washington, D.C. who was helpful in outlining the issues and providing members with options. The work has been completed and members now have access to the information on the Members’ Only page, on the Business Resources tab.

PCI Awards Policy Update

An updated copy of PCI Policy 26: Awards, as approved by the PCI Board of Directors at its March 2016 meeting, is now available. Take a minute to review the updated policy. It lists all PCI Awards and provides criteria for each, online nomination forms, and related information. We encourage you to nominate a deserving colleague for one of these awards!
Iowa State University hosts "First International Interactive Symposium on UHPC," July 18-20, 2016, in Des Moines, Iowa

Supporting Professional Organizations include ACI, CSCE, PCI,FHWA, fiband Iowa DOT.

The interest in UHPC related research and structural application is rapidly growing, especially in North America. The strong interest as well as the urgency to address current knowledge gaps and the lack of design guidelines provided the motivation to organize an interactive symposium on UHPC in the U.S. The main objectives of the symposium are facilitating active participation and openly sharing the knowledge in the field of UHPC material and structural design for the advancement of the technology. The interactive symposium will provide a platform to present recent UHPC activities and innovations as well as to participate in thematic workshops, led by various topic leaders, where active participation is encouraged. This symposium will include topics related to a) latest developments in UHPC material design and characterization with emphasis on enhanced performance, sustainability, durability and cost efficiency, b) material characterization methods adapted to UHPC, c) numerical material and structural modelling, d) small- and large-scale application, e) repair and retrofitting, and other aspects to further spread the theoretical knowledge and practical experiences.

Department News

Education News

You're Invited!
Register for a Free "FYI from PCI" Members'-Only Webinar

Your PCI membership keeps you "in the know" so you can stay current on critical precast issues and continually improve your business operations. That's why we're introducing a new series of FREE webinars created exclusively for active PCI members. Individual members and those employed by PCI member organizations are eligible to attend. We are currently working with our committees to bring you up-to-date information on a variety of important topics and issues, such as:

- Government affairs, including the recent silica ruling
- Markets of interest, like wind energy
- New technologies
- Institute programs, such as the Exceptional Precast Practices program

One Professional Development Hour (PDH) credit will be offered for each webinar.

Government Affairs

Ask Adele: New Silica Regulations Q&A—Coming soon!

After an incredibly successful webinar on the new silica regulations, members wanted an opportunity to ask Adele Abrams, Esq., questions about the future of this regulation. Her expertise in this area is widely respected and the follow-up webinar is going to be one you don't want to miss! Stay tuned for more scheduling information.
Prepare for Your Certification Exam with PCI

PCi offers training courses (QC Schools) to prepare individuals for PCI personnel certification examinations. It is important to note that passing an examination satisfies only one of the requirements of personnel certification and that the final decision on certification is made independently by the PCI Quality Assurance department. Learn more about certification requirements, including related experience requirements. Course registration includes all course texts and study materials. You will receive your textbook(s) in the mail with your registration confirmation. Registration forms are available here.

Upcoming PCI Quality Control Schools

Level I/II
Harrisburg, Pa.
June 20-22, 2016

Chicago, Ill.
August 31 - September 2, 2016

Nashville, Tenn.
December 5-7, 2016

Level III
Chicago, Ill.
August 30 – September 2, 2016

Nashville, Tenn.
December 7-10, 2016

CFA/CCA
Nashville, Tenn.
June 20-23, 2016

Nashville, Tenn.
December 5-8, 2016
May 2016 PCI Webinar: The Use of EPDs and the Role of Transparency in Sustainable Development

Register [here](#) for Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. EDT
Register [here](#) for Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. PDT

Environmental product declarations (EPDs) are the latest trend in sustainability reporting by manufacturers. Leading-edge industries in the construction materials sector are on board; they're using EPDs to understand and transparently communicate the environmental footprint of their products.

In this webinar, you'll learn more about EPDs and how they can help earn points in LEED v4. You'll also:

- Gain an understanding of the purpose and content of PCRs and EPDs
- Understand the value of LCA and product transparency in sustainability
- Be able to know how to utilize EPDs for LEED v4 points
- Identify limitations and benefits of EPDs for making smarter product selection decisions

Jennifer O'Connor, president of the Athena Sustainable Materials Institute, a non-profit think tank and consultancy enabling the adoption of life cycle assessment in the construction sector, will present the webinar. She has been working in building-industry sustainability for more than three decades, with diverse multidisciplinary roles in research, design, and education in the U.S. and Canada. Her background in both architecture and engineering provides a strong technical foundation in many building systems.

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**PCI Is Proud to Be Major Sponsor of ICC Building Safety Month: May 2016**

Founded by the International Code Council (ICC), Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign to help individuals, families, and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures.

This year’s theme is *Building Codes: Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience, and Safety*. The campaign reinforces the need for the adoption of modern, model building codes, a strong and efficient system of code enforcement, and a well-trained, professional workforce to maintain the system.

The campaign is presented by the ICC and its 57,000 global members, along with an diverse partnership of professionals from the building construction, design, and safety community. Corporations, government agencies, professional associations, nonprofits, and more come together to support Building Safety Month because they understand the need for safe and sustainable structures where we live, work, and play.

PCI is proud to play a role in promoting awareness of the vital need for safe, sustainable structures through Building Safety Month. For more information, click [here](#).

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**The Search for Excellence: 2016 PCI Design Awards**

PCI's 2016 Design Awards submission site will open on June 6, 2016 with entries closing on October 3, 2016. We've added some new categories to the awards so now is the time to reach out to your architect and engineer partners and discuss entering your projects. Please note that PCI will recognize PCI-certified erectors on each project as applicable at the design awards and in the program. We are also asking for more information on if and how BIM was incorporated into the project. [Learn more](#) about PCI's 2016 Design Awards.
Newly Refocused Program Recognizes Producer’s Operations

The Quality Enhancement Committee refocused and renamed the program formerly known as QA2020. The program’s new name is Exceptional Precast Practices, and it is designed to recognize improvement in the operations of producers. The structured, self-assessment tool is now available. Certificates will be awarded to participating producer plants at the Fall Committee Days meeting in October 2016.

This self-assessment appraisal measures your use of business management programs and practices of proven worth to precast producers. It also provides you with a path forward for further improvement. The program measures processes that are recognized to reduce costs, improve quality, and increase effectiveness. They cover the gamut of operations from plant, marketing, field, office, and safety. The annual certificate awarded signifies to the recipient plant and its clients that this plant:

- is professionally managed,
- uses the best tools and techniques,
- seeks continuous improvement, and
- exceeds minimum requirements.

A copy of the self-assessment spreadsheet and program details can be found on the PCI web site, members’-only section under Quality Assurance Resources. For more information, contact Dean Frank at dfrank@pci.org.

PCI E-Pubs

The following publications are available for download at www.pci.org/epubs.


Decades of research have proven that precast, prestressed concrete is a cost-effective, durable solution for parking structures. This recommended practice contains more than 140 pages of the latest concepts in design and construction, including 16 pages of full-color photography as well as many details and design examples. It’s the most comprehensive publication of its kind.


This manual presents, in detail, design of hollow core slabs for gravity and lateral loads. A complete revision of the diaphragm chapter includes the latest design information. This third edition of the manual has added hollow core wall panels and is updated to 2012 IBC, ACI 318-11, and PCI 7th Edition Design Handbook.

*Second Edition: Calculation of Interaction Diagrams for Precast, Prestressed Concrete Piles*

This free eBook, *Calculation of Interaction Diagrams for Precast, Prestressed Concrete Piles*, 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 compute lifting points of precast concrete piles.

*The PCI Recommended Practice for Lateral Stability of Precast, Prestressed Concrete Bridge*
Girders

This is a new comprehensive methodology to analyze the lateral stability of long slender bridge girders. It is an industry-consensus recommended practice that provides methods to calculate the factors of safety during each of several stages of a girder's life. This is a must-have publication for all stakeholders in bridge design, fabrication, and construction.

Second Edition of the SCC Guidelines

PCI is proud to announce the publication of the second edition of the Guidelines For The Use Of Self-Consolidating Concrete In Precast/Prestressed Concrete. These guidelines have been updated to incorporate developments that have taken place since the first edition was published in 2003. The term "interim" has been removed from the title in recognition that these guidelines represent current recommended practice of using SCC in the precast/ prestressed concrete industry. These guidelines address the use of SCC in precast, prestressed concrete manufacturing plants, and reference PCI plant quality manuals MNL-116-99 and MNL-117-13. Construction site use of SCC is not addressed in the guidelines. The goal of this publication is to present recommendations for best practices for use of SCC as applicable to current North American practice.

Supplier Associate Corner

Reach Your Target Audience: Advertise in a PCI Publication

It's time to secure your contract for the summer issues of Ascent magazine (Innovation) and PCI Journal (Rehabilitation and Repair). Due dates are:

**PCI Journal**—Contracts are due May 27, 2016; ad materials due June 3, 2016.

**Ascent magazine**: Contracts are due June 19, 2016; ad materials due June 26, 2016. This issue will receive bonus distribution at the Offsite Construction Expo, September 21-22, 2016, in Washington, D.C., providing even more visibility for your company and products. For more information about PCI ad opportunities, please view our 2016 Media Kit.

Upcoming Events

**Upcoming Events**

- June 10-14, 2016, [PCI Summer Conference](#), Spokane, Washington
- June 20-22, 2016, [PCI Quality Control School](#), Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- February 28-March 4, 2017, [PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference at The Precast Show](#), Cleveland, Ohio
- February 20-24, 2018, [PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference at The Precast Show](#), Denver, Colorado

In Case You Missed It...
Click here (login required) to view news and reminders that have previously appeared in PCI Update.

Do you have comments or suggestions for PCI Update? E-mail them to Madeleine Miller, PCI Update Editor, at mmiller@pci.org.

If you wish to select which PCI e-bulletins you’d like to receive, please click "Update Profile/Email Address" below. If you would prefer to unsubscribe from ALL PCI e-bulletins, please click "Unsubscribe."

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