

HEADLINES

Metromont Signs New Arena

GREENVILLE, S.C.

Metromont Corp. announced that it has secured contracts to build the new Spring Arena in Kansas City, Mo. and the University of Central Florida's (UCF) new Convocation Center. **HOK Sports** is the architect on both projects.

Spring Arena, a \$276-million facility that will seat 18,000 to 20,000 people, is scheduled to open in the fall of 2007. M.A. Mortenson is the general contractor.

The UCF Convocation Center also will open in 2007. The \$107-million facility will seat 10,000 people and will serve as the home to UCF basketball games as well as commencement ceremonies, concerts and other programs.

Precast Concrete Supports New American Home

ORLANDO, FLA.

For the fourth consecutive year, precast concrete components will help support — literally — the New American Home being built in the historic Lake Eola area of downtown Orlando. The home will be showcased during the International Builders' Show, February 7-10, 2007.

The three-story home features a structural precast concrete wall system and hollow-core flooring, along with other concrete products that include concrete roof tiles, cementitious exterior finishes, retaining walls and decorative concrete in both interior and exterior flatwork applications. The hollow-core flooring is provided by **Gate Precast Co.** in Jacksonville, Fla.

The **Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute** in Chicago and the **Portland Cement Association** in Skokie, Ill., are among the sponsors of the home.



Two Join AltusGroup as Innovation Partners

BALTIMORE

Meadow Burke Products and **A.L. Patterson** have joined **AltusGroup Inc.** as Innovation Partners. Both companies will contribute their technical and marketing expertise toward the advancement of CarbonCast carbon-fiber reinforced precast concrete made using the group's C-Grid reinforcement.

Meadow Burke Products in Tampa, Fla., makes precast lifting and handling inserts and hardware, as well as structural connections, slotted inserts and concrete accessories. A.L. Patterson in Fallsington, Pa., manufactures steel products, forms, form liners and curing systems.

PCI Adds Architectural Support CHICAGO

The **Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute** has expanded its educational support capabilities to architects with the addition of **Kristine C. McIntosh**, the Institute's first Director of Education. The position has been created to coordinate continuing education programs for both the design and construction communities and precast manufacturers across the country. McIntosh will work on developing programs at the local, state and national levels.

She formerly worked as an independent training and education consultant, serving such clients as the Gas Technology Institute to create technical courses and expand their available resources. She can be reached at PCI headquarters at (312) 786-0300; kmcintosh@pci.org.

In addition, **Michael Johnsrud**, formerly the executive director of the Minnesota Concrete Masonry Association (MCMA), has been named executive director of the **Midwest Precast Association (MPA)**. Johnsrud is the first executive named to lead this group, which to date has worked informally as an organizational member of PCI.

MPA consists of 12 precast concrete manufacturers based in Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The group is now formalizing its activities and creating a more comprehensive marketing program to familiarize area designers with its members and precast concrete's capabilities. Johnsrud can be reached at (952) 835-7531; mjohnsrud@mn.rr.com.

In other regional news, Michigan has joined the **PCI Central Region**, which is served by Regional Director Phil Wiedemann. Wiedemann can be reached at (437) 833-3900; phil@pci-central.org.



Battery Wharf Uses Innovative Precast Structural System BOSTON

The Battery Wharf mixed-use development being constructed along Boston's inner harbor features a precast concrete structural system that extends the shoreline out into the harbor, creating a courtyard around which the other buildings are focused. The precast concrete system features solid slabs, beams, pile caps, perimeter beams and specially designed "troughs," explains Henrik Pedersen, site engineer for **Pihl-RDA Battery Wharf LLC**, the joint-venture engineering team on the project.

The troughs are 4-foot-deep U-channels placed on precast concrete piles and supported temporarily with steel members. Reinforcing steel is run through the channel, and then the precast concrete slabs are laid over the open face of the channels. The center hollow portion then is filled with concrete, and another 3 inches of concrete is poured over the slabs. **Strescon Limited** in Burlington, Mass., is supplying the components.

Condominium and hotel structures will be built facing this courtyard, which also includes precast concrete parapet panels around the edges as a safety barrier for traffic and pedestrians. The components are being set from a barge owing to the logistics of working along the harbor.

The Architectural Team in Chelsea, Mass., is the architectural firm on the project, while Skanska USA Building Inc. in Boston serves as general contractor. McNamara/Salvia in Boston is the structural engineer on the project.

PCI Northeast Sets Fall Bridge Seminars BELMONT, MASS.

PCI Northeast will host three one-day seminars in different states this fall to discuss Precast/Prestressed Concrete Bridge Design using the AASHTO LRFD Specifications. The seminar begins with a practice tour of the design aids contained in the *PCI Bridge Design Manual* and shifts to the presentation of a complete design example using the AASHTO provisions.

The seminar will be hosted by the **Rhode Island Department of Transportation, New Hampshire Department of Transportation and Mass Highway Department**. The seminars are scheduled for October 10 in New Hampshire, October 11 in Rhode Island and October 12 in Massachusetts. More details are available at www.pcline.org.

Tindall Moves To Jackson County BILOXI, MISS.

The Tindall Corp. will move its precast concrete manufacturing operations to Jackson County, Miss., from Point Cadet in Biloxi, according to local reports. Hurricane Katrina's tidal surge damaged the Biloxi plant extensively but it returned to full capacity within three months.

The new, expanded Jackson County facility will include an 84,000-square-foot manufacturing plant. The company plans to be in full production before summer of 2007.

“Celebrate Precast Month” Plant Tours

CHICAGO

Below is a partial listing of the precasters conducting plant tours in your local area. Attendees will earn 4 hours of AIA/CES credit. For the most current listing visit: www.pci.org.

LOCATION	DATE	PRECASTER	LOCATION	DATE	PRECASTER
CALIFORNIA			NEW YORK		
Perris	Sept. 20	Coreslab Structures (L.A.) Inc.	South Bethlehem	Sept. 19	Oldcastle Precast, Inc. Building Systems Division
COLORADO			OHIO		
Denver	Sept. 15	Encon Bridge Company	Springboro	Sept. 21	High Concrete Technology, LLC
CONNECTICUT			PENNSYLVANIA		
Thomaston	Sept. 26	Coreslab Structures (CONN) Inc.	Denver	Sept. 9	High Concrete Structures, Inc.
Branford	Sept. 27	Blakeslee Prestress Inc.	Lebanon	Sept. 14	High Concrete Innovations, LLC
GEORGIA			SOUTH CAROLINA		
Conley	Sept. 15	Tindall Corporation	Greenville	Sept. 13	Metromont Corporation
Hiram	Sept. 21	Metromont Corporation	TENNESSEE		
ILLINOIS			La Vergne	Sept. 14	Metromont Corporation
South Beloit	Sept. 26	Mid-States Concrete Products Co.	TEXAS		
South Beloit	Sept. 28	Mid-States Concrete Products Co.	San Marcos	Sept. 19	Heldenfels Enterprises Inc.
Paxton	Sept. 28	High Concrete Technology, LLC	Waco	Oct. 6	Meridian Precast & Granite, Inc.
Crystal Lake	Oct. 4	Spancrete of Illinois, Inc.	Waco	Oct. 13	Meridian Precast & Granite, Inc.
MARYLAND			Waco	Oct. 20	Meridian Precast & Granite, Inc.
Edgewood	Sept. 21	Oldcastle Precast Inc. Building Systems Division	Waco	Oct. 27	Meridian Precast & Granite, Inc.
MICHIGAN			VERMONT		
Grandville	Oct. 12	Kerkstra Precast	Shaftsbury	Sept. 15	William E. Dailey Precast LLC
MINNESOTA			VIRGINIA		
Lino Lakes	Sept. 20	Molin Concrete Products	Cape Charles	Sept. 13	Bayshore Concrete Products Corp.
NEBRASKA			Chesapeake	Sept. 14	Bayshore Concrete Products Corp.
Bellevue	Sept. 21	Coreslab Structures (OMAHA) Inc.	Winchester	Sept. 28	Shockey Precast Group
NEW HAMPSHIRE			WISCONSIN		
Epsom	Sept. 15	Newstress Inc.	Waukesha	Sept. 20	Spancrete Industries, Inc.
Epsom	Sept. 16	Newstress Inc.	Valders	Sept. 27	Spancrete, Inc.

**‘Eight-Day Bridge’
Weathers Storms**

EPPING, N.H.

A total precast concrete bridge built in Epping, N.H., in only eight days was submerged this spring when heavy rains in the area caused the Lamprey River to surge well above its normal level. The 115-foot, single-span bridge features a precast concrete, butted box-beam superstructure and a precast concrete substructure. When the river subsided, the bridge was found to have sustained no damage.

For more details on the bridge, see the article in the Winter 2005 issue of *ASCENT*.

