



This rendering shows how the new Convention Center Hotel in Spokane, Wash., will connect to the adjacent convention center via a skyway. The new hotel, the largest in the city, will be constructed with a precast concrete structural system.

## 15-Story Hotel Features Precast Concrete Structure SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Construction is under way on a 15-story hotel with 720 rooms across the street from the Spokane Convention Center. The \$50-million hotel, the city's largest, features a total-precast concrete structural system, and is expected to be completed in 2015.

The hotel is being built by Davenport Hotel Collection, with Brick & Mortar Architecture Development serving as the architect of record. Worthy Enterprises is the general contractor on the project, and DCI is the structural engineering firm.

The complex will offer facilities for meetings as well as a 900-space parking garage. Spokane Public Facilities District is funding a skywalk to connect the hotel with the adjacent Convention Center.

The project features 4,373 precast concrete components fabricated by **Oldcastle Precast** in Spokane. That total comprises hollow-core slabs, solid slabs, inverted tee beams, rectangular beams, transfer floor beams, columns, stair-tower walls, elevator walls, demising walls, parking stairs, and wall panels.

## Clark Pacific Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary WEST SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Clark Pacific celebrated its 50th Anniversary on November 19th, at the Bently Reserve in San Francisco. More than 200 professionals from the state's developer, architectural, engineering, and construction community attended.

"Over the last 50 years, we have specialized in creating and revolutionizing how structural precast concrete and architectural concrete can be integrated into building design to improve the overall quality and lifespan of the structure," said Don Clark, president of business development for Clark Pacific.

"In recent years we've developed new techniques that enable buildings to meet new sustainability and energy-efficiency requirements while meeting aesthetic goals and furthering the seismic resilience of the building. We are excited to move forward and grow, to continue improving and innovating in our field, and to continue shaping the built environment in California."

## LaFarge Teams with Solidia To Reduce Precast Footprint

PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY

**LaFarge** has signed a partnership agreement with Solidia Technologies, a New Jersey-based start-up company, to industrialize an innovative technology that could reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the manufacture of precast concrete by as much as 70%.

As part of the agreement, LaFarge will work with Solidia to demonstrate feasibility of commercial-scale production during the first half of 2014. The two companies will collaborate to market the technology. The program continues LaFarge's efforts to minimize concrete's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which have helped reduce emissions by nearly 25% per ton of cement since 1990, the company says.

## Stresscon Wins Two DBIA Awards

COLORADO SPRINGS,  
COLORADO

Stresscon Corporation won two awards from the Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) at its annual convention in October. The precast manufacturer earned a National Design-Build Award in the Civic Buildings category for the C-5-159th Readiness Center in Cheyenne, Wyo., the first design-build project produced for the Wyoming Military Department. It also won a Merit Award in the category for the Brigade Complex Company Operation Facility (COF) project in Fort Carson, Colo.

DBIA projects must achieve budget goals, schedule goals, and demonstrate advanced and innovative application of total integrated project delivery. This 10,000-square-foot total precast design-build project is a heated building solution providing space for vehicle storage and maintenance.

The C-5-159th project is owned by the Wyoming Army National Guard. The fast-track design project was erected in a week and incorporates a prestressed roof system of 10-foot-wide and 32-inch-deep double tees supported by 10-inch-thick insulated Structural Plus brand walls.

The COF project, owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Omaha District, was erected on in 10 days and met the targeted budget of \$15.3 million. It features prestressed 12-inch-thick insulated wall panels and split-face CMU formliner. The structural gray precast wall panels were painted after erection to achieve the desired aesthetic appearance.



**One of Habitat for Humanity's new NetZero homes, built with precast concrete, is unveiled and handed over to its new family during a recent ceremony in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.**

## Stantec Designs First Precast Concrete NetZero Homes

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

Stantec Inc., working with Lafarge and Habitat for Humanity, has designed and built the first two NetZero energy homes in North America to be constructed with precast concrete components. The homes are expected to attain LEED Platinum certification.

The precast concrete design provides high thermal mass and energy efficiency. For the next two years, the homes' energy performance will be monitored by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to determine if the high-efficiency design delivers on an operational basis. Results from all stages of the project will be incorporated into other sustainable residential solutions.

"These types of projects are so important if we are to find sustainable solutions to affordable home ownership," said Alfred Nikolai, president & CEO of Habitat for Humanity Edmonton. "The partnership between Habitat, Lafarge and Stantec demonstrates how community partners can work together for the benefit of humanity."

"Working with Lafarge and this group of designers to find solutions that make sustainable precast concrete homes a reality has been an exciting challenge, and the result is a testament to the teamwork that has taken place over the last two years," says Keith Shillington, Edmonton Capital Region vice president for Stantec. "Habitat for Humanity is such a valuable partner in the community for Stantec, and designing homes for two of their families made this project even more meaningful for our team."

Submit your headline news for consideration in a future issue of *Ascent* to Brian Miller at [bmiller@pci.org](mailto:bmiller@pci.org).

### Spancrete Adds Director of Construction Services

WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN



– Per Faivre

Spancrete has added Per Faivre as director of construction services. In this newly created position, Faivre will oversee and direct project managers, superintendents, erection crews, subcontractors, and related services, the company said.

Faivre is a civil engineer with a degree from the University of Illinois. He previously worked as the precast division leader at Area Erectors Inc. in Rockford, Ill.

### Meadow Burke Appoints Marketing/ New Products Manager

ATLANTA, GEORGIA



– Denise Senior

**Meadow Burke** has named Denise Senior to develop sales and marketing capabilities via new-product innovation and development. She spent the previous eight years with a global-contract services company developing new business sales and marketing strategies. She will work to continue Meadow Burke's success providing engineered product solutions to the concrete construction market.

### Nominations for 2014 PCI Titans Now Being Accepted

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

**PCI** is continuing its Titans of the Industry program in 2014. Up to 10 more Titans will be honored at the 2014 PCI Convention as we celebrate our 60th anniversary. Nominations for the 2014 Titan award are now open and will be accepted until April 18, 2014. If you would like to nominate a deserving person who qualifies, please send your nomination to PCI President's Office, 200 West Adams St., Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60606-5230, or email it to [presidentsoffice@pci.org](mailto:presidentsoffice@pci.org).

For a list of qualification or more information, visit [http://www.pci.org/About\\_PCI/PCI\\_Awards\\_Programs/](http://www.pci.org/About_PCI/PCI_Awards_Programs/) or contact Rebecca Coleman at [bcoleman@pci.org](mailto:bcoleman@pci.org).

### Prestress Engineering Bought by County Materials

PRAIRIE GROVE, ILLINOIS

**Prestress Engineering Co.** has been purchased by County Materials Corp. in Marathon, Wis., which has 42 locations in the United States. Stockholders decided to sell the company, which had annual revenue of more than \$5 million, due to slumping business. Prestress owner Chris Newkirk, who had been with the company for 30 years, plans to continue his philanthropic work in McHenry County, Ill., along with his wife, Kristine.