From PCI Headquarters

Registration opens for 2013 convention

Registration is now open for the 2013 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference, which has the theme of High Performance. The convention is September 21–24 in Grapevine, Tex. Visit www.pci.org/convention for more information and to register. The early-bird registration deadline is August 16.

PCI seeks IAS accreditation, creates new committees

PCI is in the process of becoming accredited by the International Accreditation Service (IAS) to the new ISO 17065 standard for product and process certification. This will give the program significant additional stature worldwide. The preassessment phase was completed in early December 2012.

PCI is also seeking accreditation to ISO 17024. To comply with the ISO requirements for independence and impartiality, the training and certification functions of the personnel training and certification committees must be separate.

A new Personnel Training Committee will be established under the Educational Activities Council and the current PTCC committee will become the Personnel Certification Committee, remaining under the Quality Assurance Council.

As PCI advances through the accreditation process, you will likely see additional modifications to PCI’s certification programs necessary to comply with the relevant standards.

If you have questions about the committee or are interested in joining it, download a committee member application from http://committees.pci.org and submit it to Alex Morales at amorales@pci.org.

PCI of Illinois and Wisconsin Executive Director

PCI of Illinois and Wisconsin (PCI I-W) is seeking an executive director to manage association affairs and help grow the precast/prestressed concrete market through technical, educational, and marketing promotion to architects, engineers, owners, contractors, state departments of transportation, and students throughout Illinois and Wisconsin and assist in promoting region/chapter Producer Members. The executive director reports to the PCI I-W Board of Directors and Executive Committee and manages the day-to-day affairs of the association. The applicant should have a bachelor’s degree (master’s preferred) in architecture, business, or engineering; at least five years of organizational management experience; past success working with a board of directors with the ability to cultivate existing board member relationships; strong marketing, public relations, and fundraising experience; and strong written and verbal communication skills. Please send all resumes and communication to kwacker@spancrete.com.
PCI Journal paper receives 2013 T. Y. Lin Award

The authors of “Development of a Rational Design Methodology for Precast Slender Spandrel Beams” have been selected for the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 2013 T. Y. Lin Award. Part 1 of this paper appeared in the Spring 2011 issue of PCI Journal and part 2 in the Fall 2011 issue. Established in 1968, this annual award honors outstanding engineers and their contributions in the field of prestressed concrete and is bestowed on authors of meaningful papers that advance the field.

The authors of the winning paper are Gregory Lucier, laboratory manager at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C.; Catrina Walter, engineer at BergerABAM in Portland, Ore.; Sami Rizkalla, distinguished professor at North Carolina State University in Raleigh; Paul Zia, distinguished professor emeritus at North Carolina State University in Raleigh; and Gary Klein, executive vice president at Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates Inc. in Northbrook, Ill.

The paper reports on a comprehensive program of experimental research and analysis for a design methodology for precast concrete slender spandrel beams. It demonstrates the validity of using open web reinforcement in precast concrete spandrel beams and proposes a simplified design procedure. Open web reinforcement helps to alleviate congestion of reinforcement, particularly near the ends, in such beams. The results demonstrate the safety and effectiveness of properly designed open web reinforcement, which offers an efficient alternative to closed stirrups for precast concrete slender spandrel beams.

Professor T. Y. Lin, an eminent prestressed concrete pioneer, endowed the award to ASCE in 1968 to recognize outstanding engineers and their contributions to the field of prestressed concrete. The award is presented each year to the best paper written or coauthored by members of ASCE in the various publications of ASCE, PCI, and the American Concrete Institute during a 12-month period.

The award will be presented at the 2013 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference in Grapevine, Tex.

The paper is available online at www.pci.org/publications/journal.

New Field Safety Task Group formed

PCI has formed a task group to study both actual and near-miss accidents on job sites for the purpose of uncovering underlying causes and then improving or augmenting existing publications, procedures, and programs to a more robust level of safety assurance.

Once a collapse or other serious event is known, the PCI Erectors Certification Committee will take steps to advise member companies of possible disciplinary action, as well as to solicit that company’s intended corrective action to eliminate the future occurrence of a similar event.

At the upcoming convention, an executive track session will highlight what happens when such an event occurs and what steps should be taken to maximize prevention of such an occurrence in the first place.
Winners announced for 2013 Sidney Freedman Craftsmanship Award

Gate Precast Co. in Kissimmee, Fla., and Hillsboro, Tex., and Rocky Mountain Prestress in Denver, Colo., are the winners of the second annual Sidney Freedman Craftsmanship Award, which recognizes PCI-certified plants for excellence in manufacturing and craftsmanship of architectural precast concrete and glass-fiber-reinforced concrete (GFRC) structures and individual components. Judging is based on success in overcoming obstacles to production, creating solutions to formwork or finishing challenges, and the quality of individual architectural precast/prestressed concrete or GFRC units.

Gate Precast’s Kissimmee plant was recognized for the Science Classroom Complex BT-876 at Florida International University in Miami. The major element was an elevation of precast concrete panels with integral sunshades designed to maximize shading based on the azimuth of the sun traveling across the elevation. The resulting protruding sunshade boxes around the window openings had angles varying from 0 to 15 degrees horizontally and pitched down as well.

Rocky Mountain Prestress was recognized for the ventilation towers at Denver Union Station’s underground bus terminal. Two of the towers are for exhaust, and one is for air intake. Each tower comprised six unique precast concrete elements, resulting in 18 different forms.

Gate Precast’s Hillsboro plant received an honorable mention for the artistically detailed cladding panels on the Latter Day Saints Temple in Gilbert, Ariz.

Parking chart compares precast concrete to cast-in-place concrete

The PCI Marketing Awareness Committee has finalized a chart that compares the benefits of precast concrete parking structures to cast-in-place concrete parking structures. The chart is mostly qualitative and takes a high-level view of such aspects as design, construction, and quality. The chart is available as a free download on the Parking Structures section of the PCI website. Color hardcopies are also available online through the PCI Bookstore for $1.50 each.
NJIT architecture students develop hurricane-resistant precast concrete structures

A group of students and faculty from New Jersey Institute of Technology’s College of Architecture and Design recently experienced some Beyond the Classroom events as part of the ongoing work of the PCI Foundation. The spring 2013 Design Studio focused on the application of high-performance precast concrete technologies to the design of prototypical next-generation construction solutions for communities affected by Hurricane Sandy in coastal New Jersey. In addition to presenting work as part of their academic program, students will also provide presentations on their work to communities affected by the hurricane.

The class is sponsored by the PCI Foundation and the Mid-Atlantic Precast Association as an educational and research initiative focused on state-of-the-art innovative approaches to the integration of precast concrete design, fabrication, and construction. NJIT is one of six universities around the United States that have developed a dedicated precast concrete design course in the school of architecture or engineering, or sometimes as an integrated program for both schools.

The first visit was to Architectural Polymers Inc. in Palmerton, Pa., a leader and innovator in the concrete form fabrication industry. This learning experience was organized by PCI program coordinator Matt Burgermaster, assistant professor at NJIT, as a resource for the students to learn about the company’s advanced production technologies and methods and their applications in innovative architectural design solutions. The group met with Architectural Polymers president and CEO Marshall Walters for a presentation and tour of the state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities, where they saw examples of computer numerically controlled fabrication, elastomeric formliner molds, thin-brick inlay systems, and custom photo-engraved image transfer technologies.

In addition to the tour of the Architectural Polymers plant, the studio will feature other partnerships with local industry partners, such as Universal Concrete Products in Stowe, Pa., a PCI-certified manufacturer of architectural precast concrete products. In a presentation and tour of the facilities led by Don Evans and Bill Hydock of Universal Concrete, the students saw precast concrete wall panels in various stages of production and learned about the complex processes involved in translating design ideas into built reality, from panel customization and shop drawing production to formwork fabrication, factory quality control measures, and shipping logistics.
PCI Foundation raffle nets nearly $3000

The PCI Foundation received $2700 from its 2013 Committee Days and Membership Meeting Raffle of Choice. Chris Zarba won the Harley gift set, Don Meinheit won Capital Grille items, and Reid Castrodale won a Bose headset and FitBit. Tickets were pulled by PCI Foundation chairman Tom D’Arcy during the PCI luncheon on Friday, April 26. Prizes for the auction were donated by the PCI Foundation trustees.

The next fundraising events for the PCI Foundation will take place during the PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference this fall. Plans are underway for a golf tournament on Friday, September 20, and a silent auction on Saturday, September 21.

Conference brings architects precast/prestressed concrete

In February 2013, the PCI Foundation with PCI West and Clark Pacific worked with the School of Architecture at the University of Southern California to create a half-day conference on precast/prestressed concrete in architecture. ThiN-Wall, Coreslab Structures, and Thermomass also helped sponsor this event.

This conference connected the architecture profession with the precast/prestressed concrete industry to educate architecture professionals on the expanded capabilities of precast/prestressed concrete and to see what architects are trying to accomplish.

The free event included about nine presentations and was followed by a reception.

Certification, membership year changing to match fiscal year

PCI has shifted its annual membership and certification cycles to align with its fiscal year, which is July 1 to June 30. As a result, qualification or certification and membership were extended three months to June 30, 2013. Certification fees for this one-time extension period are prorated from the current annual fee.
McIntyre named PCI Foundation executive director

The PCI Foundation has named Marty McIntyre as its executive director. McIntyre came from the PCI Illinois and Wisconsin chapter. In her new role, McIntyre will provide development, marketing, and program support for the PCI Foundation.

Current PCI Foundation programs include Precast Studios at six U.S. schools of architecture or engineering. The focus of the program is to help students not only learn about designing with precast concrete but also learn to take an integrated approach to design by combining classes with architecture and engineering students working together. A local sponsor also works with the studio to provide classroom lectures, plant tours, workshops, and other items.

New edition of architectural precast QC manual out

The fourth edition of the Quality Control Manual for Architectural Precast Concrete is now available. A1- and AT-certified plants will have until September 1, 2013, to comply with the new MNL-117 requirements.

Some of the more significant revisions include the following:

- reorganization of many sections to match the section sequence in MNL-116, the Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Structural Precast Concrete Products
- inclusion of information on self-consolidating concrete found in TR-6-03, the Interim Guidelines for the Use of Self-Consolidating Concrete in Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute Member Plants
- updated accelerated concrete curing temperature requirements that have been harmonized to better match the requirements set forth by other concrete industry organizations
- information and requirements for strand bond testing

The new manual is available electronically, at no cost to PCI members, on the members-only section of the PCI website. The manual is also available in hard copy from the PCI Bookstore for $45 for members or $90 for nonmembers. For more information, contact QualityPrograms@pci.org.

PCI-relevant ASTM standards bundled

PCI has made arrangements with ASTM International to bundle 75 quality-related ASTM standards into a customized book and CD for PCI members. The standards were selected from the 117 ASTM standards that PCI MNL-116, Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Structural Precast Concrete Products, and MNL-117, Quality Control Manual for Architectural Precast Concrete, reference collectively.

PCI is making this collection available to PCI members for $225 and to nonmembers for $450 through the PCI Bookstore. Please call the PCI Bookstore at (312) 786-0300 or visit the bookstore online.
PCI Foundation seeks auction items

Plans are under way for the annual PCI Foundation Silent Auction during the PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference in Grapevine, Tex. The planning committee recently started work and is looking for donations of items that will be auctioned to raise funds to support the work of the PCI Foundation.

The committee already has secured a few of the most popular auction packages, such as the Mi-Jack Indy 500 weekend, an Orvis Fishing School donated by A. L. Patterson, and the Concrete Chefs dinner, donated by JVI Inc. New items in the business solutions category include a one-page advertisement in the North American edition of Concrete Plant International and in PCI Journal. Other items that have been donated in the past included a MacBook, Nirve bicycle, a Roomba vacuum, Lego sets, and a wealth of unusual and fun items. A full range of prize packages is needed to make the program a success.

“We have some new events planned that will make this auction really stand out and be fun to attend,” says Auction Committee Chairman Todd Adams of JVI. “But to make it really successful, we rely on the generous support of companies and individuals in our industry. Every donation goes to help extend the successful programs that we have seen blossom at schools of architecture and engineering in many regions of the U.S.”

Jim Voss of JVI has sponsored a matching grant and will match donations of $250 or more. Those companies and individuals who wish to sponsor a package but do not want to shop can ask the auction committee to choose an item in any price range. Prize package donations are tax deductible. To make a donation to the auction, contact Marty McIntyre at martymci@pci-foundation.org or call (708) 386-3715.

Donations are requested by August 1.

PCI launches new Discussion Forum

PCI has completed setup of the new PCI Discussion Forum at http://forums.pci.org.

The forum is a place where members can post questions and share information among peers. The goal is to provide an efficient means of communicating to help improve the overall industry along with developing and educating employees. All employees of PCI member companies are encouraged to post questions, download pictures and videos, correspond with other members, and exchange answers, suggestions, and ideas.

The site is divided into various community boards or topical areas currently covering production, safety, and human resources.

Register now and join the conversations. If you have suggestions for a new discussion area, please contact Roger Becker at rbecker@pci.org.
PCI submits letter to Senate supporting S.904

PCI recently joined several other industry organizations in signing a letter addressed to Senator Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Senator Roger Wicker of Mississippi in support of S.904. This legislation was introduced regarding extreme weather and the importance of assisting communities with their efforts to build with greater resiliency.

Compiled by K. Michelle Burgess (mburgess@pci.org) and Whitney Stephens (wstephens@pci.org)

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### PCI Calendar

#### Events


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<tr>
<td>PCI-IW Business Meeting and Golf</td>
<td>July 31, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCI Central Region Fall Event</td>
<td>September 4–5, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbus, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCINE Annual Meeting</td>
<td>September 9–10, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodstock Inn, Woodstock, Vt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference</td>
<td>September 21–24, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center, Grapevine, Tex.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCI-IW Business Meeting</td>
<td>October 23, 2013</td>
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<td>North Suburban Chicago, Ill.</td>
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<td>PCI Productivity Tour</td>
<td>November 5–8, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference</td>
<td>September 6–9, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Md.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference</td>
<td>September 20–23, 2015</td>
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<td>Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, Tenn.</td>
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PCI Personnel Training and Certification Schools

If you have any questions about the Quality Control School schedule or need help completing a registration form, please contact PCI’s educational activities director, Alex Morales, at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219. Registration forms are available at http://www.pci.org/schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>October 23–25, 2013</td>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
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<td>November 4–6, 2013</td>
<td>Calgary, AB, Canada</td>
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<td>December 9–11, 2013</td>
<td>Nashville, Tenn.</td>
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<th>Level III</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 6–9, 2013</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 6–9, 2013</td>
<td>Calgary, AB, Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 11–14, 2013</td>
<td>Nashville, Tenn.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Certified Field Auditor and Industry Erection Standards School</th>
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