

PCI adds Smith as business intelligence senior manager

Mike Smith joined PCI as business intelligence senior manager on January 14, 2018. In this newly created position, Smith will maintain PCI's databases, provide ongoing iMIS support to PCI staff, and assist the iMIS project manager as a liaison with iMIS third-party providers. He is a member of the PCI technology team and is charged with developing and maintaining PCI's technology platforms.



Mike Smith

Smith has more than 15 years of database and application development experience with not-for-profit associations. He spent the past 12 years at the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) in Downers Grove, Ill., most recently as the manager of database operations. He received a bachelor of science degree in computer information systems from DeVry Institute of Technology.

Bonus point approved for EPP participation

At its 2018 PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference meeting, the Plant Certification Committee approved awarding one additional point during a plant audit if the plant participated in the Exceptional Precast Practices (EPP) program within 12 months of the audit date. This action is intended to promote participation in the EPP program and help more plants realize the benefits of continuous quality improvement associated with the program.

Plants are currently eligible to receive an additional bonus point during their audit if they have submitted strand-bond test (Peterman Bond Test) results within 12 months prior to the audit. The addition of the potential bonus point for EPP participation will allow precasting plants that do not manufacture prestressed products to also be eligible for a bonus point during their audits.

It should be noted that plants may only earn a maximum of one bonus point per audit. Plants cannot earn a bonus point for both EPP participation and strand-bond testing during the same audit. The awarding of the bonus point for EPP participation started with audits performed after January 1, 2019.

PCI revises yearly schedule, activities for events, awards

Beginning this year, PCI is restructuring event offerings to align them more closely with the goals set forth in the PCI strategic plan. The 2019 PCI Convention will include PCI's partnership with The Precast Show and all trade-show-related activities. PCI will also continue holding committee and council meetings and education sessions during its convention. The education sessions will now include a strong focus on workforce development, innovation, operations, and technical non-peer-reviewed topics and presentations.

The PCI Convention will also continue to include the always-popular PCI Design Awards reception and the annual membership meeting, along with presentation of the PCI Associate Member Award, Mario J. Bertolini Leadership and Innovation Award, PCI Fellows, and PCI Medal of Honor.

The most significant change is that the National Bridge Conference and all peer-reviewed paper presentations are moving to the 2019 PCI fall meeting, which has been renamed PCI Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference. The Transportation Activities Council and AASHTO T-10, Concrete Design, will still meet at the PCI Convention.

PCI's 2019 Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference will still feature committee and council meetings. PCI's popular membership awards luncheon will be a more robust program because it will now include some of the prestigious awards that historically have been presented at the PCI Convention, including the Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award, the Sidney Freedman Craftsmanship Award, the T. Henry Clark Award, the *PCI Journal* awards, the Distinguished Educator Award, and Educator of the Year. The Exceptional Precast Program participants, Safety Awards recipients, and Big Beam winners will also be recognized during the luncheon.

In addition, The Tour, which was previously held in the fall, will now move to the second week of May 2019.

OSHA denies variance request

PCI, through its consultant, Optimum Safety, has been informed that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) variance request for relief from the Walking-Working Surfaces and Fall Protection Rule was denied.

In response to this rule, PCI created the Fall Protection Task Group, which presented OSHA with a detailed job hazard analysis to aid in discussions while clarifying the issues. PCI and Optimum Safety are considering what the next steps should be regarding this important safety concern. More information is available under Business Resources in the Members Only section of PCI.org.

Sample silica exposure plan available to PCI members

The new Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Standard on Worker Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica for General Industry and Maritime went into effect on June 23, 2018. To help members avoid fines and comply with this standard, PCI has posted a sample exposure plan.

Only one citation was issued under 29 CFR 1910.1053 in 2018 because the OSHA fiscal year ends September 30. A total of 640 citations were issued by federal and state OSHA, covering all sectors. Of these, 523 were issued by federal OSHA during 189 inspections, with penalties totaling \$800,982. State plan enforcement for general industry is just now coming online. During the OSHA inspections for respirable silica, the main areas targeted for enforcement were exposure monitoring, lack of a written exposure plan, and inadequate training programs.

When an employer is inspected and cited, it is common for OSHA to issue multiple citations rather than having the compliance portion of the violation be grouped into single violation. The maximum OSHA penalty for a serious violation is \$12,934, with the top penalty for a repeat or willful violation set at \$129,336.

OSHA has also published a document addressing frequently asked questions for general industry. A summary of these can be found under Business Resources in the Members Only section of PCI.org along with a link to the OSHA website to download the complete document. Members can also find a sample respirable silica exposure plan, which can be easily tailored for their company's needs, under Business Resources.

PCI Design Handbook 8th edition errata posted

In 2017, PCI published the eighth edition of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete* (MNL-120-17). The committee devoted significant effort to providing an accurate document; however, some errata have been discovered. The approved errata have been posted to the PCI website at https://www.pci.org/PCI_Docs/Design_Resources/Guides_and_manuals/8th%20DH%20Errata.pdf and are intended to supplement, revise, or clarify the information provided in the handbook. PCI suggests marking the changes in your copy so that your handbook is as accurate as possible.

As this edition of the handbook is used, additional errata may be discovered. Please notify PCI of any potential errata for committee review and send any questions or comments to PCI regarding the material in the handbook and suggested improvements or clarifications. Comments may be directed to PCI at IHBerrata@pci.org.

Cement and Concrete Industry Fly-In set for April

PCI staff and members plan to participate in the North American Concrete Alliance's (NACA's) Third Annual Cement and Concrete Fly-In April 9–10, 2019, in Washington, D.C.

NACA, a coalition of 12 concrete-related trade associations that provide construction materials and equipment essential for America's transportation and infrastructure, will meet with congressional leaders, their staffs, and top federal officials to discuss policy issues that affect PCI members and the cement and concrete industries. In January, NACA member organizations sent a letter to the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee about addressing the need for more investment in transportation and water infrastructure.

2019 NORMAN L. SCOTT PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award, to be presented at the 2019 PCI Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference, September 25–28, 2019, at the Loews O'Hare in Rosemont, Ill., should be submitted via mail by June 15, 2019, to PCI Headquarters, Attn: President's Office, 200 W. Adams Street, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60606 or by email to Laura Bedolla, PCI's technical services administrative assistant, at lbedolla@pci.org. An official application form is available in the Submission Center under the Bookstore tab on PCI.org.

THERE'S A NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN



Jim Voss
PCI Foundation
Chairman

As of January 1, 2019, I have assumed the position of chairman of the board of the PCI Foundation. As my first order of business, I would like to thank my immediate predecessor, Dean Gwin of Gate Precast, for his fine work in guiding the fortunes of the Institute for the past several years. It has been a time of real growth and expansion of our studio program, bringing the joys of precast concrete to 25 schools around the country and reaching more than 2600 students!

Initially, I would like to restate to our readers exactly what the PCI Foundation is and what it does. We created the PCI Foundation in 2001 in recognition of a vacuum in industry efforts to cultivate and nurture a robust relationship with academia. (After all, where do our up-and-coming young professionals come from anyway?) The initial thrust was to reenergize our outreach to architectural and engineering schools with an eye toward including precast concrete in their curricula, maybe even create a precast concrete textbook! This plan had limited success as we found that competition for time and attention was fierce. Then, in 2007, came the studio programs. (Thank you, Spancrete.) This changed everything! We went from visiting schools, hat in hand, begging for some of their time and attention to *now*; schools are knocking on *our* door to take part in our very successful studio program—a whole semester of hands-on lectures and field work on all things precast concrete presented by the leaders of our industry!

Professors and students alike have embraced the concept ENTHUSIASTICALLY!

When the PCI Foundation was founded, it was a clear and definite decision to keep it separate from PCI. It was clear over the years that education always got less-than-desirable funding at budget time. By maintaining a separate organization, we ensure the program's sustainability and guarantee that our educational efforts are not lost in the larger mission of PCI.

This brings us to *how* we are funded. The PCI Foundation relies *solely* on contributions. There is *no* subsidy from PCI and nothing more than the generosity of our members to sustain the PCI Foundation. And make no mistake; we are not rich! Having said that, our donations have grown incrementally each year, yet we still have less than 10% participation in support from PCI members. The hope going forward is that by keeping our industry better informed of our activities and accomplishments, more support (both financial and in kind) will follow. Keeping in mind that the PCI Foundation *is us*, there need to be more of "us" involved.

In the past issue of *PCI Journal*, our fearless leader, PCI president Bob Risser, wrote a compelling President's Message, calling out the relationship between PCI and the PCI Foundation as "the essential partnership"! In it, he correctly points out that educating engineering and architecture students is essential in achieving our greater goal of increasing market share for our industry. Let's stress that "essential" part. He goes on to say, "The importance of maximizing the number of (studio) programs exposing the next generation of professionals to precast concrete has never been greater!" We couldn't agree more!

The PCI Foundation is aiming to "bump things up" this year ... and beyond. While I will continue to rely on the excellent efforts of our energetic executive director, Marty McIntyre, to keep you informed of our ongoing activities and accomplishments, it will be *my* task in future *PCI Journal* columns to keep you informed about *why* and *how you* can feel good about supporting the PCI Foundation.

Until next time!

QSM submittal guidelines document updated

The Electronic Quality System Manual (QSM) submittal guidelines, which describe the procedures for submitting revised QSMs to PCI for review and acceptance, have been updated.

The updated guidelines provide several minor clarifications and revised contact information for questions, and they reaffirm that only electronic copies of the QSM will be accepted. Also, some QSM signature pages that have recently been submitted have required reformatting to accommodate the PCI stamp. Therefore, a suggested format for the signature page has been added. For the updated document, click on Plant Certification Procedures under the Certification tab on PCI.org.

Precast concrete CEUs available through BNP Media

PCI has sponsored continuing education units (CEU) through BNP Media. “Innovation and Resilience: Precast Concrete Advancements and Attributes Help Designers Achieve Performance, Life Safety, and Welfare Goals” was originally published in *Architectural Record* and teaches readers about the resiliency, versatility, and efficiency of precast concrete.

The learning objectives are to describe how the attributes of precast concrete create energy and operational efficiency for buildings while aiding in risk reduction; discuss how a resilient structure not only encompasses durability and long service life but also ensures functional resilience and multihazard protection; define precast concrete’s versatility in regard to both design selections and special concerns, such as historic preservation, reuse, and storm resistance; and explain how cutting-edge innovations such as three-dimensional printing are reducing costs and increasing the versatility of precast concrete in buildings.

To participate, go to <https://continuingeducation.bnpm-media.com/course.php?l=precastprestressed-concrete-institute&c=innovation-and-resilience>. A list of the types of CEUs that can be earned is available on the website.

Prestressing strand bond testing rule now in effect

Effective January 1, 2019, plants using prestressing strand in their products are required to maintain test results for that strand, in accordance with ASTM A1081/A1081M, *Standard Test Method for Evaluating Bond of Seven-Wire Steel Prestressing Strand*. This new requirement was approved by the Plant Certification Committee at its 2018 PCI Committee Days meeting.

In pretensioned concrete applications, the prestressing steel strand is expected to transfer prestressing forces to the structural member via the bond between the exposed wire strand surface and the surrounding cementitious material. Manufacturing processes, subsequent handling, and storage conditions can influence the strand bond. ASTM A1081 provides a standard test method for evaluating that bond strength.

ASTM A1081 tests are typically performed by the strand supplier and should be requested by the plant from their supplier. Updated test results will be required on an annual basis, and plants must demonstrate that they have copies of this data during their semiannual audits.

2019 T. HENRY CLARK AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the T. Henry Clark Award, to be presented at the 2019 PCI Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference, September 25–28, 2019, at the Loews O’Hare in Rosemont, Ill., should be submitted to qualityprograms@pci.org by July 1, 2019. The T. Henry Clark Award nomination form is available at https://www.pci.org/PCI/About/Awards/T_Henry_Clark_Award.aspx.

The T. Henry Clark Award was established to recognize an individual, group of individuals, or firm that has delivered a resource that improves or enhances the quality of precast/prestressed concrete products or processes. T. Henry Clark believed in quality and quality processes, and this award is to recognize those who create or promote quality in a way that would have made him proud.

For more information, contact Gary Wildung, the Quality Activities Council chair, at gary.wildung@fdgcolorado.com or Mike Kesselmayer, PCI managing director of quality programs, at mkesselmayer@pci.org.

2019 SIDNEY FREEDMAN CRAFTSMANSHIP AWARD CALL FOR ENTRIES

PCI is accepting entries for the 2019 Sidney Freedman Craftsmanship Award. Launched in 2012, the award recognizes PCI-certified plants for excellence in manufacturing and craftsmanship of architectural precast or glass-fiber-reinforced concrete structures and individual components. Any kind, size, or type of structure and/or element may be entered. Judging is based on success in overcoming obstacles to production, solutions to formwork or finishing challenges, and quality of individual units. For more information, visit <http://www.pci.org/SFCA>. The deadline for all entries is July 1, 2019.

PCI CALENDAR

Events

For the most current information on PCI and industry events, visit <http://www.pci.org/events>.

PCI Northeast Spring Meeting Publick House, Sturbridge, Mass.	May 2, 2019
PCI Central Region 2019 Spring Event Cincinnati, Ohio	May 14-15, 2019
The Tour Sacramento, Calif.	May 14-16, 2019
PCI Summer Conference Kansas City, Mo.	June 6-10, 2019
Georgia/Carolinas PCI Annual Membership Meeting Hilton Head Island, S.C.	June 13-15, 2019
2019 PCI-IW Summer Membership Event Lake Geneva, Wis.	July 22-23, 2019
PCI Central Region 2019 Summer Event Belterra Casino & Resort, Florence, Ind.	August 27-28, 2019
PCI Northeast Annual Meeting Equinox Resort, Manchester, Vt.	September 11-12, 2019
PCI Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference Rosemont, Ill.	September 25-28, 2019
2020 PCI Convention in partnership with The Precast Show Ft. Worth, Tex.	March 3-7, 2020
2021 PCI Convention in partnership with The Precast Show New Orleans, La.	February 23-27, 2021
2022 PCI Convention in partnership with The Precast Show Kansas City, Mo.	March 1-5, 2022

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 continuing education senior manager, Sherrie Nauden, at snauden@pci.org or (312) 360-3215. Registration forms are available at <http://www.pci.org/schools>.

Level I/II	March 10-13, 2019 April 15-17, 2019 May 6-8, 2019	Phoenix, Ariz. Harrisburg, Pa. Austin, Tex.
Level III	May 8-11, 2019	Austin, Tex.

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