

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Looking ahead to Columbus and 2023

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season. And now on to 2023!

Before we start thinking about the year ahead, I'd like to briefly mention the success of PCI in 2022. The 2022 annual report will be available on the PCI website in early February. I hope you'll take the time to look through and see that the state of the institute in all phases is very strong, perhaps as strong as it has ever been. As I think about PCI's many activities and programs reflected in the report, I was struck by how 2022 really, and finally, saw a return to some sort of business as usual. Back to stay were in-person meetings, and the sheer volume of business being conducted by PCI members and staff continues to be amazing.

At the highest level, 2022 saw the PCI Board of Directors adopt an updated strategic plan. Although many elements of the plan remain the same, several important changes were made. PCI's goal for a precast concrete code was modified to reflect our commitment to ACI-PCI 319, the precast structural concrete code, which was not yet a concept when the first plan was adopted. The second major addition to the plan was the addition of an objective regarding workforce development. A major emphasis this year by our chair, Matt DeVoss, as an issue critical to the industry for it to thrive and survive: workforce development. This has already resulted in the creation of the new Workforce Development Committee, which met for the first time at the 2022 PCI Committee Days Conference. The committee conducted a two-day workshop in mid-December to set priorities and identify activities for PCI to help our members attract and retain employees. In 2023, we will see that work put into action for materials and programs for PCI members.

Thanks to the dedicated PCI staff and the leadership of the PCI Executive Committee and board, PCI's finances continue to be historically strong. I thank Matt DeVoss and the rest of the Executive Committee for their leadership and guidance this past year, and I look forward to working with incoming chair, Matt Ballain; the council chairs; and rest of the board in 2023.

I encourage everyone to join us February 22 through 26 for the 2023 PCI Convention at The Precast Show in Columbus, Ohio. In addition to the many committee and council meetings, we have 45 education sessions planned, along with the daylong Precast Perspectives program on February 23. The 2022 PCI Convention at the Precast Show in Kansas City, Mo., had record attendance, and we are excited about the possibility of the event continuing to grow.

We're also excited to remind everyone that the PCI Design Awards will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2023, and we have special program plans on Friday evening during the convention to showcase special precast concrete projects through the decades.

I also recommend that PCI members try to take in the presentations of the students participating in the PCI Foundation's Project Precast. We had about 100 students at the convention in Kansas City, almost all from PCI Foundation programs. These young people represent the very future of our industry, so please consider participating in (or better yet, donating to) the silent auction benefiting the PCI Foundation as well as the After Dark Event.

Thanks as always to the dedicated and hardworking PCI volunteer members and staff. Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the business of the institute in 2022. It will help continue to drive PCI forward in the year ahead.

See you in Columbus! 



Bob Risser, PE
PCI President and CEO