From PCI Headquarters

PCI cancels ICC-ES evaluation reports

ICC-ES evaluation report ESR-3010 for "precast concrete diaphragms" is canceled effective October 2022. This evaluation report was developed to facilitate the use of the DSDM (Diaphragm Seismic Design Methodology) under the 2012 and 2015 *International Building Code* (IBC). Because PCI supported adopting the DSDM into the American Society of Civil Engineers and Structural Engineering Institute's ASCE 7-16, *Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures*, which is referenced by the 2018 and 2021 IBCs, the evaluation report is no longer necessary to use the DSDM.

ICC-ES evaluation report ESR-1997 for "design of fire-resistive construction for precast/prestressed concrete, using the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI) third edition manual MNL 124-11" is cancelled effective March 2023. As the description suggests, this evaluation report was developed to facilitate the use of the third edition of MNL 124, *Design for Fire Resistance of Precast/Prestressed Concrete*. Since PCI published PCI 124-18, *Specification for Fire Resistance of Precast/Prestressed Concrete*, which is referenced by the 2021 IBC, this evaluation report has also been superseded by the new standard.

As of these effective dates, any use or reference to these evaluation reports must be removed per ICC-ES policy. Any questions may be directed to technical@pci.org.

Dixon, Fink added to PCI Mid-Atlantic leadership

PCI Mid-Atlantic has made some additions to its leadership. The regional chapter welcomes Sean Dixon, vice president of construction services at High Concrete Group in Denver, Pa., to its board as a director at large. In addition, Evan Fink with Northeast Prestressed Products LLC in Cressona, Pa., has been named the producer member director, PCI Mid-Atlantic, on the PCI Board of Directors.

PCI Foundation Board of Trustees names new members

PCI Foundation chair Gregory Force of Tindall Corp. recently announced Ray Clark, executive director of Georgia/Carolinas PCI, is the newly appointed vice chair and Monty Oehrlein of Coreslab Structures (TEXAS) Inc., moved to secretary.

Joining the PCI Foundation Board of Trustees are Paul Ramsburg of Sika Corp., Chris Kercsmar of CEG, and Matt Shea of the University of Colorado Denver. To learn more about the PCI Foundation whose role it is to expand precast concrete education in colleges and universities, visit PCI-Foundation.org.

2023 T. Henry Clark Award call for nominations

Nominations for the T. Henry Clark Award, to be presented at 2023 PCI Committee Days, October 4–8, 2023, at the J. W. Marriott, Tampa, Fla., should be submitted to qualityprograms@pci.org by June 1, 2023. The T. Henry Clark Award nomination form is available at https://www.pci.org/PCI/About/Awards/Clark.

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 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.

NSF awards precast concrete buckling-restrained braced frame research project

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded a nearly $1.4 million grant for a precast concrete–focused research project titled: "Analysis, Design and System-Level Performance of Repairable Precast Concrete Buckling-Restrained Braced Frames under Seismic Loads." This project seeks to develop a repairable precast concrete buckling-restrained braced (BRB) frame structure with a new type of nonproprietary precast concrete diagonal brace. The research plan includes numerical analyses and testing of isolated braces and their connections and culminates in tests on the seismic performance and repair of a scaled three-story building on the University of California San Diego (UCSD) outdoor shake table in La Jolla.

Yahya Kurama

Laura Redmond

Jose Restrepo

Leading the research team are Yahya C. Kurama, the principal investigator and professor of civil and environmental engineering and earth sciences at the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Ind., with coprincipal investigators Laura Redmond, assistant professor of civil engineering at Clemson University in Clemson, S.C., and Jose Restrepo, professor of structural engineering at UCSD.

The PCI Research and Development Council has committed to fund an additional $400,000 to support this project over the three-year duration. PCI producer members that have expressed commitments to support the project include Clark Pacific, Concrete Technology Corp., Coreslab Structures (INDIANAPOLIS) Inc., Metromont Corp., MidState Precast, NAPCO Precast, and Tindall Corp.

Additional interested contributors are encouraged to contact technical@pci.org. More information on the NSF award is available at https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=2230187&HistoricalAwards=false.

2023 Foundation studio grants to be announced April 1

Preliminary proposals for PCI Foundation studio grants are due by December 1 each year. On or before April 1, after a process of refining proposals and discussion with members of the PCI Foundation Board of Trustees, recipients are announced.

For more information and guidelines on how to apply for a PCI Foundation grant, please visit https://www.pci-foundation.org/proposal-guidelines-checklist-faq. Currently the foundation works with 43 universities in North America. A map of studio locations is available at https://www.pci-foundation.org/studio-info.

Welcome the students

Greg Force
PCI Foundation Chair

As we have grown over the past 10 years or so, one of the goals that has evolved at the PCI Foundation is the idea of working collaboratively with the professors receiving our grants. Not only having them work with the industry but also with each other. Research shows that collaborative problem-solving leads to better outcomes.

People are more likely to take calculated risks that lead to innovation if they have the support of a team behind them. This is why one of our most successful programs since the beginning of our educational programs has been the PCI Foundation Professors Seminar. While the seminar does allow time for industry members to share our knowledge and state-of-the-art research with professors, we also have purposely designed the three-day program to be collaborative to give plenty of time for professors to share best practices and real-world examples of quality pedagogical outcomes.

The result has been amazing. Professors want to come year after year because of the relationships they have formed, not only with industry friends, but also with each other. Their willingness to share their successes and challenges from day one of the PCI grant curriculum grant program has been a major factor in its success.

This year we are opening up the Professors Seminar and inviting our friends from the north. The Canadian Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute is a cosponsor, as is PCI, which will be sharing its latest teaching tools with the professors. More collaboration means more problem solving and even better outcomes all around.

If you have a professor you work with now, even one that is already teaching precast concrete, please sponsor them to come to the PCI Foundation Professors Seminar.

USC Carapace project wraps up with ribbon cutting

PCI West and the PCI Foundation hosted a ribbon cutting of the award-winning Carapace Pavilion on December 11, 2022, at Joshua Tree National Park in California.

Designed and constructed by University of Southern California students and made of ultra-high-performance concrete, the Carapace Pavilion construction was a multiyear, student-driven project made possible by the PCI Foundation, Clark Pacific, JVI, Walter P. Moore, PCI West, and PCI. In October 2021, it received a Citation Award for Installations from the Los Angeles chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The Carapace Pavilion was featured in a Project Spotlight in the January–February 2022 issue of *PCI Journal*.

The Carapace Pavilion, designed by University of Southern California students, was celebrated with a grand opening on December 11, 2022, after it was installed at Joshua Tree National Park in Southern California. Courtesy of Douglas Noble.

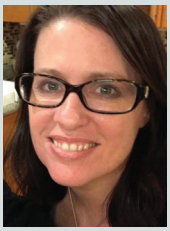
2023 Sidney Freedman Craftsmanship Award call for entries

PCI is accepting entries for the 2023 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. Therefore, entries should include source documents, shop drawings, production photos as well as finished project photos to fully demonstrate the complex solutions implemented for the project. For more information, visit http://www.pci.org/SFCA. The deadline for all entries is July 1, 2023.

Sarah Fister Gale

Sarah Fister Gale, a long-time writer for *PCI Journal*, died November 3, 2022. She was 54.



Sarah Fister Gale

Gale studied English literature and journalism at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, earning a bachelor of arts degree.

In 2007, Gale started writing the Meet personality profiles that appear on the last page of *PCI Journal*. Over the next decade and a half, she also wrote various Project Spotlight and feature articles for *PCI Journal* and covered the winners of the annual PCI Design Awards for PCI's periodicals and website.

Gale was a freelance journalist and ghostwriter based in Chicago, Ill., who covered a variety of industries and topics, including precast concrete, blockchain, artificial intelligence, workforce technology, human capital management, project management, finance, and biopharma industry trends.

In addition to *PCI Journal*, Gale's writing was featured in *Workforce Management Magazine*, *Talent Economy Magazine*, *PM Network*, *Chief Learning Officer*, Salon.com, *Chicago Parent*, *Jezebel*, University of Chicago publications, and other media outlets.

2023 Irwin J. Speyer Young Professional Engineer Award
call for nominations

The Irwin J. Speyer Young Professional Engineer Award honors the legacy of Irwin J. Speyer by recognizing young professional engineers who have made significant contributions to PCI during their early careers and who demonstrate their intent to continue serving the precast concrete industry as Speyer did during his career. The award will be presented in October at the 2023 PCI Committee Days Conference in Tampa, Fla.

Complete award details and the official nomination form are available at http://www.pci.org/PCI/About/Awards/Speyer-Award. Nominations must be submitted by May 1, 2023.

2023 Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award call for nominations

The Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award honors the legacy of Norman L. Scott by recognizing professional engineers who have made significant contributions to PCI, the American Concrete Institute, the precast concrete industry, and the engineering profession at large. The award will be presented in October at the 2023 PCI Committee Days Conference in Tampa, Fla. Complete award details and the official nomination form are available at http://pci.org/PCI/About/Awards/Norman_L_Scott. Nominations must be submitted by May 1, 2023.

PCI's Calendar

Events

PCI event details are subject to change. For the most current information, visit https://www.pci.org/events.

PCI Productivity Tour Charlotte, N.C.	May 1–3, 2023
2023 PCI Northeast Meeting Westbrook, Conn.	May 9–10, 2023
PCI West 2023 Summer Board Meeting Woodland, Calif.	May 24, 2023
Georgia/Carolinas PCI Summer Meeting Hilton Head Island, S.C.	June 14–16, 2023
2023 PCI Board of Directors Meeting Indianapolis, Ind.	June 20–23, 2023
PCI of Illinois & Wisconsin Summer Meeting Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, Wis.	July 11–12, 2023
Florida Prestressed Concrete Association Summer Meeting Charlotte Harbor, Fla.	July 27–30, 2023
PCI Gulf South Summer Convention Fairhope, Ala.	July 27–30, 2023
PCI Mid-Atlantic Summer Membership Meeting Annapolis Waterfront Hotel, Annapolis, Md.	August 3–4, 2023

2022/23 Big Beam Contest Call For Entries

The PCI Student Education Committee is inviting entries from students to participate in the Engineering Student Design (Big Beam) Competition for the 2022/23 academic year.

Each student team must work with a PCI producer member to build a precast, prestressed concrete beam that is 20 ft long. The beams will be tested and prizes awarded for best performance in the stated areas. Students must discuss both the structural design and the concrete mixture proportions for the beam. For more information, visit https://www.pci.org/BigBeam. All intending to submit a report must submit an application online at http://www.pci.org/bigbeamapp. Final reports are due to PCI by June 12, 2023.

PCI personnel training and certification schools

Quality Control School event details are subject to change. If you have any questions about the Quality Control School schedule or need help completing a registration form, please contact PCI's education department at education@pci.org. Registration forms are available at https://www.pci.org/qc_schools.

Levels I and II	May 10–12, 2023 June 26–29, 2003 September 18–21, 2023 October 25–27, 2023 November 13–16, 2023	Chicago, Ill. online online Nashville, Tenn. online
Level III	May 9–12, 2023 August 14–17, 2023 October 24–27, 2023 December 11–14, 2023	Chicago, Ill. online Nashville, Tenn. online
Certified Field Auditor	April 10–13, 2023 September 11–14, 2023	online online
Certified Company Auditor	April 14, 2023 September 15, 2023	online online

Compiled by K. Michelle Burgess (mburgess@pci.org)