

Matt Ballain

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Success in Columbus

Thank you everyone for a very successful convention in Columbus! The energy in the meeting hallways is always a good barometer, and it was excellent. The enthusiasm and camaraderie were also apparent in the committee meetings. Great progress is being made, for which we are grateful. Attendance and trade show representation were both all-time records.

Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) were a hot topic in many committee meetings. These declarations are rapidly becoming requirements in many markets. It is evident we need to look at this from a national perspective to assist our members and educate specifiers on the EPDs for our products. To such end, the Technical Activities Council will take the lead on this with assistance from members of other pertinent committees.

The collaboration to develop teaching materials for a full-semester collegiate course in precast, prestressed concrete among PCI and some of the top precast, prestressed engineering professors in the country is coming along well. Chapters will include material properties; methods of prestressing, production, and prestressing technology; flexure, deflection, and camber; flexure-axial design; design for vertical shear; design for torsion; prestress losses; transfer and development length; end-zone reinforcement; and panel fabrication. The intention of these materials is to assist professors who are new to teaching these subjects and enhance the knowledge of those who are not as familiar with some of them. Each chapter can stand on its own, so professors can use the material as they see fit. This material should be available in the first quarter of 2024.

The summer meeting will be in the racing capital of the world, Indianapolis, Ind. The meetings will be held in the Bottleworks District, which is an old Coca-Cola bottling plant that has been repurposed into a hotel and entertainment area. This will be an enjoyable and productive event, and I look forward to welcoming all to my hometown. [D](#)



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