PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Success in 2023: PCI Convention and PCI Cares

2023 was another very successful year for PCI and our members. PCI is really running on all cylinders. PCI volunteer members and your dedicated staff continue to produce programs and products that are of value to our members and help advance the industry.

The hot topic this year has been the demand for PCI members to provide environmental product declarations (EPDs) to their customers. PCI sprang into action and has provided members with a tool to calculate EPDs at a much lower cost, also providing whitepapers, webinars, and other tools to help members navigate this new era. All of this is available on the PCI website.

Student outreach was a top priority in 2023. We had 147 students at the PCI convention, held a first-ever job fair for them, completed an update to Prestressed-in-a-Box, and completed work on teaching materials for a 13-week course on prestressed concrete. Another milestone was the launch of the new student version of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete*, available free electronically to students and professors—a goal that had been discussed for many years.

There were many more accomplishments in 2023. I urge all PCI members to take the time to look through the 2023 annual report on the PCI website to see all the value we are delivering to PCI members. I want to thank Matt Ballain, this year's PCI chair, and the entire PCI Executive Committee for their leadership, support, and friendship. I look forward to working with Jim Fabinski, incoming chair, in 2024 to continue our progress in our never-ending task of excellence and value.

Since the 2019 convention in Louisville, Ky., PCI Cares has been committed to supporting local charities. For this year's convention in Denver, Colo., we have partnered with an organization called Urban Peak. Urban Peak's mission is to ignite the potential in youth to exit homelessness and create self-determined, fulfilled lives. It is their vision that all Colorado youths have safe housing, supportive relationships, and the opportunity for self-sufficiency and success. They believe that ending youth homelessness changes trajectories, saves lives, and creates a lasting impact on the community.

Please go to UrbanPeak.org for more information about Urban Peak, or visit their donation page at https://www.urbanpeak.org/support to support this great organization.

I hope you will be able to join us in Denver for the 2024 convention. In addition to the committee meetings, The Precast Show, and its education sessions, we will be honoring the next group of PCI Titans of the Industry as PCI celebrates its 70th anniversary throughout 2024. See you in Denver!



Bob Risser, PE PCI President and CEO