




The PCI brand means quality

In my recent President's Update Webinar, I made a point of highlighting the prolific work of PCI's committees in updating and expanding our industry body of knowledge, including the new ninth edition of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete*. Over the years, PCI has developed a set of rigorous procedures for reviewing our technical documents, the highest level being the consensus and public comment procedures that earned PCI its designation as a standards-developing organization by the American National Standards Institute. All of these procedures ensure that our documents are technically accurate and of the highest quality. The result is that PCI documents are referenced directly by outside organizations, including the International Code Council, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the American Concrete Institute (ACI), and the American Institute of Architects (AIA). These organizations know that they can trust the quality and accuracy of PCI publications.

PCI's most important area of quality is, of course, our certification programs. PCI's plant certification program sets the standard with rigorous third-party audits unmatched in the concrete industry. Through the program's International Accreditation Service (IAS) accreditation, PCI-certified plants meet the requirements of the International Organization for Standardization's ISO/IEC 17021, *Conformity Assessment—Requirements for Bodies Providing Audit and Certification of Management Systems*. Through our partnership with IAS, PCI plant certification also meets the requirements of IAS AC157 approved fabricator accreditation. The *International Building Code* requires special inspections of fabricated structural load-bearing members unless an approved fabricator is used. Projects that use PCI-certified-plant-produced precast and precast, prestressed concrete systems do not require special inspectors. Owners and design professionals know that using a PCI-certified plant means that the producer has in place a top-quality control program.

Best-in-class, quality education programs have become another hallmark of the PCI brand. In the past several years, PCI has greatly increased its education offerings for design professionals, the academic community, and students. We have added courses on connections and lateral loads to the PCI Online Academy, and PCI offers dozens of webinar courses throughout the year. Last year, more than 54,000 design professionals started PCI courses for continuing education units (CEUs), with more than 42,000 CEUs completed. We now offer an array of teaching materials for university professors. In a proud moment at a session at the Spring 2026 ACI Concrete Convention, multiple professors were praising the quality and quantity of teaching materials available from PCI.

PCI members and staff take quality seriously. We will continue our dedication to the goal of ensuring that PCI is synonymous with quality products, publications, and programs. ■



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