



PCI™ Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute

**NEWS
RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute's
Convention/*fib* Congress Sets
Attendance and Exhibitor Records**

Rare international event emphasizes sustainability, state-of-the-art practices, innovative technology, and the global marketplace

CHICAGO, Ill. – With more than 1,700 attendees—including 700 industry professionals from 55 countries beyond the United States—the recent PCI Annual Convention & Bridge Conference in conjunction with the Third International *fib* Congress and Exhibition was an unparalleled, international success.

Held May 29 to June 2, 2010, at the Gaylord National Resort near Washington, D.C., the event featured more than 125 educational sessions and hundreds of technical papers, as well as some 93 exhibitors in more than 100,000 square feet of exhibit space. The record number of attendees, papers, and exhibitors made this unique event the largest in the 56-year history of the Precast/Prestressed

Concrete Institute (PCI).

Thanks to a strong architectural track, the program also attracted a record number of architects and design engineers. More than 100 architects turned out for the *Sustainable Design and Construction in the 21st Century* seminar that provided a full eight hours of HSW/SD CEUs/LUs and included a tour of the Gaylord National Resort and National Harbor area, which is substantially constructed of precast concrete. The seminar was cosponsored by AIA Maryland, AIA Baltimore, AIA Chesapeake Bay, and the Society of American Registered Architects.

The event represented the first time the *fib* Congress was held in the United States. *fib* stands for the Fédération Internationale du Béton (International Federation for Structural Concrete), which is headquartered at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne. The *fib* Congress is held only once every four years. It was held in 2006 in Naples, Italy, and before that in 2002 in Osaka, Japan. In 2014, it will be held in Mumbai, India.

The body of knowledge at work

The program included a number of PCI committee and council meetings, as well as *fib* commission, task group, and technical council gatherings. Educational sessions covered tracks on architectural topics, research, sustainability, operations, business development, and executive subjects. The substantial technical program included the presentation of hundreds of peer-reviewed technical papers, including 53 papers on building systems, 160 papers on engineering and design, 160 on bridges and transportation, 86 papers on materials, and 25 papers on ultra-high-performance concrete.

All of the peer-reviewed technical papers are available in the 2010 Congress Proceedings, which can be ordered by visiting www.pci.org and clicking on Bookstore under the Publications menu.

Other highlights of the event included the Bridge Conference plenary session, which offered a presentation by Myint Lwinn of FHWA and featured the event's Showcase Project, the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Extension; and the keynote speech for the combined PCI/*fib* event by Jim Hartzfeld, Managing Director, InterfaceRAISE LLC and Past Chairman of the Board, U.S. Green Building Council.

Industry awards

During the PCI Convention, PCI President James G. Toscas, P.E., presented the PCI Fellows, Medal of Honor, Distinguished Educator, and Young Educator awards, and announced the 2010–2011 Leadership PCI Class. Winners of these awards can be found on the PCI website at www.pci.org/news/press/index.cfm.

During the *fib* Congress, *fib* President Michael Fardis presented the Freyssinet Medals for outstanding technical contributions in the field of structural concrete to Nigel Priestley of New Zealand and Jiri Strasky of the Czech Republic. *fib* Honorary President Hans-Rudolf Ganz presented the *fib* Awards for Outstanding Concrete Structures. Nominated structures included two U.S. precast concrete projects: Logan Airport Central Parking Garage in Boston, Mass., and the Sound Transit Central Link Light Rail project in Seattle, Wash.

fib Congress activities also included presentation of the first complete draft of the 2010 *fib* Model Code for concrete structures (a follow-up to the 1978 and 1990 CEB/FIP Model Codes).

Social programs for the PCI/*fib* event consisted of a Potomac River dinner cruise and post-congress plant tours of the nearby precast plants of Smith-Midland Corporation and The Shockey Precast Group.

The 2011 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, October 22–25, 2011.

For more information on this record-setting event, contact Brian Miller, Managing Director, Business Development, Tel: (312) 360-3216; or Email: bmiller@pci.org.

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About PCI

The Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI), founded in 1954, is the foremost developer of standards and methods for designing, fabricating, and constructing precast concrete structures. PCI also operates the world's leading certification program for firms and individuals in the precast concrete structures industry.

PCI publishes a broad array of periodicals, technical manuals, reports, and other informational documents, including an award-winning technical journal. It also conducts educational seminars, technical conferences, conventions, exhibitions, and awards programs.

Institute members include firms comprising the precast concrete structures industry as well as architects, consultants, contractors, developers, educators, engineers, materials suppliers, service providers, and students.

PCI has 11 regional affiliates across the United States, and maintains relationships with other organizations, both national and worldwide, having interest in precast concrete.

About fib

The International Federation for Structural Concrete (Fédération Internationale du Béton or fib) is headquartered at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne. It was created in 1998 from the merger of the Euro-International Concrete Committee (Comité Euro-International du Béton) and the International Federation for Prestressing (Fédération Internationale de la Précontrainte). Visit www.fib-international.org.