



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



# Stronger together

Over the past few months, I have had the opportunity to attend several regional affiliate meetings and speak with members about the current direction of PCI. One of the most important messages I have been trying to convey is that PCI president Bob Risser and the rest of the PCI staff are actively soliciting input from membership regarding not only the current activities of PCI but also future initiatives that PCI could get involved with.

The goal here is to see what initiatives could be more effectively addressed collectively as a group versus each member addressing them individually. Following are a few recent examples of how PCI could expand value:

- providing electronic marketing materials for free
- researching the best ways to address new silica and walking-working surfaces regulations
- forming a task group to address legislation affecting the transportation industry

In all three of these broad areas, individual companies certainly could have done the research or work themselves, but the cost would have been far more than their share of a larger group effort.

To expand on this concept, Bob and the PCI Board of Directors will be holding a strategic planning meeting in November. To make this successful, we really need to hear from members as to where they will see value from PCI in the future. Once we know what members would like to see from PCI, we obviously need to figure out how to pay for it. To use one of my examples above, an individual company could have done its own research on how to address new silica regulations and spent \$100 to do so. As part of a larger group, its portion of that same research may be \$10. This is clearly a cost-effective decision, but the \$10 still needs to come from somewhere.

My parting message at each of the regional affiliate meetings is that when you consider the concept of addressing needs as a group, if you have an opinion on the role of PCI, please speak up to someone who can make a difference. The board structure has been changed to help facilitate communication, and whether you're more comfortable talking to your regional executive or the board member representing your affiliate, they are available to represent your thoughts. **J**



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