

2018 productivity tour visits Minnesota producers

The Tour welcomed nearly 200 PCI producer and associate members for a three-day event in September, where attendees learned from Minnesota precast concrete producers about the latest processes and technologies.

This year's hosts were Wells Concrete in Albany and Rosemount, Molin Concrete Products in Lino Lakes and Ramsey, and Forterra in Elk River. The Tour provides an educational opportunity in maximizing production capacity, improving quality and safety, fostering a highly innovative culture, and attracting an interactive next-generation workforce. Evening events offer networking opportunities with industry peers.

The first-place 2018 Ideas That Pay Off winner was Mark Adams of Tindall Corp. for fall protection cable rails that can be easily adapted to any form. Second place was awarded to Chris Atwood of Unistress Corp. for a simple method of eliminating strapping marks from precast concrete. Chris McKay of Unistress Corp. took third place with wet edging to eliminate grinding chamfers from the finished product. Fourth place went to Keith Wallis of Prestressed Casting Co. with an innovative method for lifting three-level risers.

In the spring, The Tour will be held May 14–16, 2019, in Sacramento, Calif., and will include Clark Pacific, Con-Fab California LLC, Walters & Wolf Precast, and Sumiden Wire Products Corp. More information is available at PCI.org under News & Events.

PCI mobile app available

PCI has released the PCI Mobile App in the Apple and Google Play stores. You can use the app to view information about PCI's participation at World of Concrete in Las Vegas, Nev., and to personalize sessions, connect with attendees, and view exhibitor information at the PCI Convention at The Precast Show in Louisville, Ky.

To download the app, go to <https://pci.mosaic-mobile.net/share-app.aspx> or scan the QR code shown here.



PCI names Thompson director of Architectural Precast Systems

Donn Thompson has joined PCI as director of architectural precast systems. He will be working closely with the Architectural Precast Concrete Services and Manual Committee, the Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete Panels Committee, the Marketing Council, and PCI's local chapters to promote the use of architectural precast concrete. He started on October 8, 2018, and brings more than 30 years of experience in the U.S. construction industry to the position, including 14 years as an architect working with firms on a variety of commercial, institutional, and residential construction projects.



Donn Thompson

"Donn's addition to the PCI team is vital to our ongoing effort to work with the architectural community across the country to improve safety and cost-effectiveness of the built environment," says Bob Risser, PCI president and CEO. "PCI's ongoing R&D and education activities are in support of helping our producers and their partners in the architectural and engineering communities produce and maintain the highest-quality building systems in the world. Donn's experience will help us continue that mission."

Thompson's involvement in the concrete building industry includes 13 years with the Portland Cement Association in Skokie, Ill., where he oversaw many of the programs promoting the use of cement in buildings.

"Working for the trade association for U.S. cement producers, I was involved with actively promoting all types of concrete building systems," Thompson says. "I look forward to joining the PCI team to focus on direct education and promotion of architecture precast systems, a segment of the overall industry with so much growth potential."

PCI-IW taps Johnson for executive director position

Michael Johnson has been hired as the new executive director of PCI of Illinois & Wisconsin. Johnson started the new position on December 1, 2018.

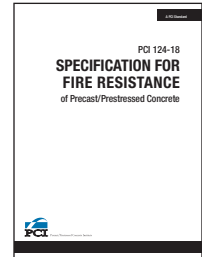
Johnson has more than 13 years of experience working in the precast/prestressed concrete industry in Illinois, having worked in sales, marketing, and quality control. Johnson's experience includes work involving prestressed bridge beams, sound walls, retaining wall systems, double-tee beams, and precast concrete building systems. Other concrete experience includes having worked in materials testing for nearly seven years and owning a small contracting business. Most recently, Johnson was a research engineer at the Illinois Center for Transportation in Rantoul (part of the University of Illinois Department of Civil Engineering), where he worked on transportation and pavement research projects.

Johnson holds a bachelor's degree in general engineering and a master's degree in civil engineering specializing in construction materials from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also has a number of industry certifications, including PCI Level III Quality Control and Assurance, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Level III Portland Cement Concrete, and IDOT 5-day Aggregate Technician, and he is a licensed professional engineer in Illinois.

Johnson can be reached at mike.johnson@PCI-IW.org and (815) 404-4690.

New PCI fire standard to be included in 2021 IBC

The new *Specification for Fire Resistance of Precast/Prestressed Concrete*, PCI 124-18, will be referenced in the 2021 *International Building Code*. Published in October 2018, it is available in hardcopy and e-book formats from the PCI bookstore at PCI.org. This is PCI's first specification since becoming an American National Standards Institute (ANSI)-Accredited Standards Developer in 2014.



PCI first issued a manual for the design for fire resistance of precast/prestressed concrete in 1977. A second edition was prepared in 1989 and a third edition in 2011. Although the PCI fire design manual, MNL-124, was not a standard, it was referenced in the first edition of the *International Building Code* in 2000 as being acceptable for prestressed concrete slabs not covered elsewhere. PCI 124-18 brings the knowledge of previous MNL-124 documents into standard language.

"This document would not have been possible without the hard work of the PCI Fire Committee, Technical Activities Committee, Standards Committee, and staff," says Edith Smith, PCI's codes and standards manager. "It is because of their diligence and commitment to the document that PCI 124-18 will be referenced in the 2021 *International Building Code* as a standard developed through an ANSI consensus process."

2019 PCI COMMITTEE DAYS CALL FOR PAPERS



PCI is accepting abstracts for technical papers to be presented at the 2019 PCI Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference, September 25-28, 2019, at the Loews O'Hare in Rosemont, Ill.

The papers allow authors to exchange ideas and information on precast/prestressed concrete design, fabrication, and construction. Abstracts submitted must be relevant to the precast/prestressed concrete industry. Abstracts and papers will be peer reviewed. Accepted papers will be published in the proceedings.

Abstracts are due no later than January 24, 2019. The authors of accepted abstracts will be notified via email on or about February 15, 2019. Papers for accepted abstracts are due no later than April 28, 2019.

For more information, visit https://www.pci.org/PCI/News_Events/Events/Call_for_Papers/PCI/News-Events/Call_for_Papers.aspx. For questions regarding submissions on buildings or materials, contact Roger Becker, PCI's technical services vice president, at rbecker@pci.org. For questions regarding submissions on bridges or transportation, contact William Nickas, PCI's transportation systems managing director, at wnickas@pci.org.

PCI hosts 3-D-printed form construction site tour

On October 30, 2018, PCI invited members of the trade press to tour the Domino Sugar Refinery redevelopment project construction site in Brooklyn, N.Y. The architectural window panels cladding the 42-story building on the site of the former Domino Sugar refinery were manufactured by Gate Precast Co. in Winchester, Ky.

Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Gate teamed up on the project. Three-dimensional (3-D)-printed molds were utilized to form the window openings in the panels. The panels were glazed in the Gate yard prior to shipping to the project site.

Attending were Roger Becker, vice president of technical services at PCI; Mo Wright, marketing manager at Gate Precast; and representatives of COOKFOX Architects and Two Trees Management. Read about the project in the Project Spotlight section of the November–December 2018 issue of *PCI Journal* and the Fall 2018 issue of *Ascent*.

Spliced-girder bridge paper receives 2018 Lyman Award

Tom Baker, M. Saiid Saiidi, Brian Nakashoji, Jed Bingle, Tim Moore, and Bijan Khaleghi, received the Robert J. Lyman Award for the best construction, production, or erection paper appearing in *PCI Journal* during a single year. The authors were recognized October 12, 2018, at the PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference Awards Luncheon in Rosemont, Ill.

Their winning paper, titled “Precast Concrete Spliced-Girder Bridge in Washington State Using Superelastic Materials in Bridge Columns to Improve Seismic Resiliency: From Research to Practice,” in the January–February 2018 issue of *PCI Journal*, discussed an innovative bridge design that



Tom Baker



M. Saiid Saiidi



Brian Nakashoji



Jed Bingle



Tim Moore



Bijan Khaleghi

was implemented for the reconstruction of the SR 99 Alaskan Way Viaduct south access connection bridge, a 400 ft (120 m) long, 30.5 ft (9.30 m) wide, three-span, precast, post-tensioned concrete spliced tub girder bridge in Seattle, Wash. The bridge substructure consists of two intermediate piers using shape-memory alloy (SMA) along with engineered cementitious composite (ECC) in plastic hinging regions of the columns. The focus of this paper is the experimental and analytical studies that were undertaken to evaluate and optimize SMA ECC columns for the bridge and to describe key aspects of the precast concrete spliced bridge design and implementation of SMA and ECC into the bridge.

Korn Award goes to paper with updated guidelines for L-shaped beam ledges

Mohamed K. Nafadi, Omar M. Khalafalla, Gregory W. Lucier, Sami Rizkalla, Paul Zia, and Gary J. Klein received the Martin P. Korn Award for their papers titled “Development of Design Guidelines for Ledges of L-Shaped Beams,” “Ledge Behavior and Strength of Long-Span L-Shaped Beams,” and “Ledge Behavior and Strength of Short-Span L-Shaped Beams” in the March–April 2018 issue of *PCI Journal*. The Martin P. Korn Award is given to the best design or research paper appearing in *PCI Journal* during a single year.

“Ledge Behavior and Strength of Long-Span L-Shaped Beams” and “Ledge Behavior and Strength of Short-Span L-Shaped Beams” present the findings of an extensive experimental program with the objective of developing design guidelines for the ledges of L-shaped beams that do not overestimate the ledge punching-shear capacity and investigate the effects of several parameters, such as global stress and prestressing on the ledge capacity, as well as the efficiency of selected reinforcement details. Research findings indicated that



Mohamed K. Nafadi



Omar M. Khalafalla



Gregory W. Lucier



Sami Rizkalla



Paul Zia



Gary J. Klein

even with low levels of global stress, the ledge design procedure provided in the seventh edition of the *PCI Design Handbook: Precast and Prestressed Concrete* could overestimate the ledge capacity. “Development of Design Guidelines for Ledges of L-shaped Beams” presents the development of a proposed design procedure for the eighth edition of the *PCI Design Handbook* to evaluate the punching shear strength of ledges of L-shaped beams. Based on the failure surfaces observed throughout a comprehensive experimental program, an idealized failure surface was determined. The results of extensive finite element analyses and a large experimental program were used to evaluate the effects of global stress on ledge capacity, and a procedure to evaluate the punching shear strength of the ledge was developed.

The authors were recognized October 12, 2018, at the PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference Awards Luncheon in Rosemont, Ill.

2018 Nasser Award goes to Bao paper

Yihai Bao received the George D. Nasser Award for the papers titled “Performance of Precast Concrete Moment Frames Subjected to Column Removal: Part 1, Experimental Study” and “Performance of Precast Concrete Moment Frames Subjected to Column Removal: Part 2, Computational Analysis” in the September–October 2017 issue of *PCI Journal*. The George D. Nasser Award recognizes authors 40 years of age or younger who write outstanding *PCI Journal* papers on design, research, production, or construction. H. S. Lew, Joseph A. Main, Fahim Sadek, Vincent P. Chiarito, Stephen D. Robert, and Jorge O. Torres-Alamo were coauthors of this paper.

The first paper presents a full-scale experimental study of two precast concrete moment-frame assemblies (one ordinary and the other special) representing portions of seismically designed perimeter moment frames from two 10-story prototype buildings. The assemblies were subjected to monotonically



Yihai Bao

increasing vertical displacement of the unsupported center column to observe their behavior and failure modes under simulated column removal. The failures of both the ordinary moment frame and special moment frame specimens were characterized by fractures of the bottom anchorage bars at the welded connection to the center column and diagonal cracking and shear deformation of the end columns under outward forces generated by arching action in the beams.

The second paper presents a computational study of two precast concrete moment-frame assemblies; one was a part of an ordinary moment frame, and the other was part of a special moment frame. Each assembly had three columns and two beams and was subjected to displacement-controlled vertical loading of the unsupported center column to simulate a column removal scenario. Finite element models of each assembly were developed to compare performance of the assemblies.

Bao was recognized October 12, 2018, at the PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference Awards Luncheon in Rosemont, Ill.

2018 Zollman Award goes to Brandes, Kurama

Michael Brandes and Yahya Kurama received the Charles C. Zollman Award for the best state-of-the-art precast and prestressed concrete paper appearing in *PCI Journal* during a single year. Their paper “Effect of Recycled Concrete Aggregates on Strength and Stiffness Gain of Concrete and on Board Strength of Steel Prestressing Strand” appeared in the March–April 2018 issue of *PCI Journal*.

The paper investigates the effect of recycled concrete aggregate (RCA) on the rate of concrete compressive strength and stiffness gain with time and on the bond strength between seven-wire steel prestressing strand and concrete. The use of RCA did not have a significant effect on the rate of concrete compressive strength or stiffness gain, but it did have a small



Michael Brandes



Yahya Kurama

NORMAN L. SCOTT PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Norman L. Scott Professional Engineer Award, to be presented at the 2019 PCI Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference, September 25–28, 2019, at the Loews O’Hare in Rosemont, Ill., should be submitted via mail by August 15, 2019, to PCI Headquarters, Attn: President’s Office, 200 W. Adams Street, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60606 or by email to Jason Krohn, PCI’s technical activities managing director, at jkrohn@pci.org. An official application form is available in the Submission Center under the Bookstore tab on PCI.org.

effect on the strand bond strength that was consistent with the effect of RCA on the concrete compressive strength. For the materials tested, RCA from precast concrete performed better than RCA from returned ready-mixed concrete and demolition concrete.

Kurama and Brandes were recognized October 12, 2018, at the PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference Awards Luncheon in Rosemont, Ill.

Precast studio students visit Embassy of Brazil

The Embassy of Brazil in Washington, D.C., hosted a group of architecture students from professor Carlos Barrios's precast studio at Clemson University. The group attended a presentation about Brazil, its bilateral relations with the United States, and the contributions of Brazilian modernism to architecture.

The precast studio includes 11 senior architecture students and 8 civil engineering students from the reinforced concrete class of Brandon Ross, a Clemson professor who will provide consulting on specific projects.



Clemson University students visited the Embassy of Brazil in Washington, D.C., as part of their precast studio. Courtesy of Carlos Barrios.

PCI Foundation releases new promotional brochures for faculty, industry partners

Two new brochures from the PCI Foundation are available to help faculty or industry partners interested in applying for a PCI Foundation Curriculum Development Grant understand the process and send them on a successful path.

The "Getting Started Guide" is intended for professors who are interested in learning more about submitting a grant proposal. It provides information on grant eligibility, deadlines, criteria, and finding a partner that will provide help along the way. It is also a helpful handout to share information about the PCI Foundation to precasters who are visiting schools. A sample memorandum of understanding, list of expected deliverables, and proposal guidelines are included in the brochure.

The "Partners Guide" is designed for the industry partner working with the school. It includes case studies of schools that have had successful partnerships, the ways that partners have worked with different schools, and insights on what makes a professor or school right for a PCI Foundation program.

Each of these documents is available on the PCI Foundation website at pci-foundation.org. For printed copies, please contact Marty McIntyre, PCI Foundation executive director, at (708) 386-3715 or martymci@pci-foundation.org.

2018–2019 Mertz Fellowship goes to Chhetri

Sandip Chhetri has been named the recipient of the 2018–2019 Dennis R. Mertz Bridge Research Fellowship. He was awarded the \$35,000 fellowship for "Strand Lifting Loop Capacity in Precast Concrete Bridge Beams." Chhetri is a master's student at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. The advising professor on the project is Rachel Chicchi, and the supporting PCI member companies are Concrete Technology Corp., Precast Systems Engineering, Northeast Prestressed Products, and Coreslab Structures (INDIANAPOLIS) Inc.



Sandip Chhetri

This fellowship was established in memory of Dennis Mertz, who was a professor at the University of Delaware and one of the principal investigators in the development of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' *AASHTO LRF Bridge Design Specifications*. It is intended for research that improves the state of the art of precast/prestressed concrete bridge design, materials, and/or construction and has potential for market impact as a result of the research.

PCI staff volunteers at Greater Chicago Food Depository

The PCI headquarters staff volunteered on September 26, 2018, to help pack and distribute food for the hungry at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Staff members packed a total of 382 cases, or 4936 lb (22 kN) of bread, which is the equivalent of 5932 meals.

Each year the Greater Chicago Food Depository distributes the equivalent of 179,000 meals in Cook County, Ill. Last year alone it distributed almost 70 million lb (310,000 kN) of food. In 2017, the food depository fed 812,000 individuals, or 232,100 households, in greater Chicago.

PCI Foundation Professors Seminar scheduled for May

The PCI Foundation will hold its annual Professors Seminar May 21–23, 2019, at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C. The three-day program is open to both professors and precast concrete partners interested in learning more about how precast concrete is being taught at schools of architecture, engineering, and construction management that are recipients of PCI Foundation grants.

In addition to providing time for professors to share pedagogy ideas, precasters will share best practices and new technology advancements. Local architects will share their own best practices for designing with precast concrete, and the group will tour local precasting plants and jobsites.

The program is free to qualified attendees, and hotel costs for U.S. professors of architecture, engineering, and construction management will be paid by the PCI Foundation. Local partners are encouraged to attend with a professor. Beginning in 2019, professors who receive a grant from the PCI Foundation must attend the Professors Seminar or the PCI



PCI staff members work the bread packing line at the Greater Chicago Food Depository September 26, 2018, as part of a volunteer effort.

Convention (with a preference for the Professors Seminar) before the grant will be issued.

For more information, contact Marty McIntyre, PCI Foundation executive director, at (708) 386-3715 or martymci@pci-foundation.org or visit the PCI Foundation website at PCI-Foundation.org.

EPP participants reconized at 2018 Committee Days

Exceptional Precast Practices (EPP) participants were recognized at the 2018 Committee Days and Membership Conference during the awards luncheon on October 12 in Rosemont, Ill. The EPP program gives producer plants an opportunity to self-assess various aspects of their operations as a tool for continuous improvement.

This year's participants were Atlanta Structural Concrete Co. of Buchanan, Ga.; Conewago Precast Building Systems of Hanover, Pa.; Crossland Prefab of Columbus, Kans.; Forterra Structural Precast LLC of Salt Lake City, Utah; Forterra Structural Precast LLC of Caldwell, Idaho; International Concrete Products Inc. of Germantown, Wis.; International Precast Solutions LLC of River Rouge, Mich.; Mid-States Concrete Industries of South Beloit, Ill.; Northeast Prestressed Products LLC of Cressona, Pa.; Prestressed Casting Co. of Springfield, Mo.; Prestressed Concrete Construction LLC of Newton, Kans.; Rocky Mountain Prestress (Architectural Plant) of Denver, Colo.; Rocky Mountain Prestress (Structural Plant) of Denver, Colo.; Standard Concrete Products of Atlanta, Ga.; Standard Concrete Products of Savannah, Ga.; and Wells Concrete of Albany, Minn.



The 2018 PCI Foundation Professors Seminar was held at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., and included a visit to Gensler's St. Louis office. Courtesy of PCI Foundation.

RESEARCH SHOWS: PCI FOUNDATION LEARNING TO LOVE NEW MATH



Marty McIntyre
PCI Foundation
Executive Director

When the trustees started the PCI Foundation, the thought was to get precast concrete design into architecture, engineering, and construction management curriculum. As we have seen that goal achieved at the various schools we have worked with, we have noticed another phenomenon. The money that the PCI Foundation puts toward a program seems to multiply—and at rates we never knew were possible.

At the end of October, the PCI Foundation held its Board of Trustees meeting at Arizona State University in Tempe. In addition to hearing from the two newer grant recipients—ASU and University of Arizona—we asked Adel EISafty of the University of North Florida School of Engineering and the PCI Foundation’s Academic Council chair to report on how his program is going.

If you have followed the PCI Foundation programs, you will remember that EISafty was the first recipient of a grant for an all-engineering studio. He says, “Since we started with our PCI Foundation Studio grant in April 2009, I was able to get \$2.5 million in the last nine years. When we go to the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and National Science Foundation and we say we work in collaboration with the PCI Foundation and we are conducting this research, it helps. We then ask them, can you partially fund us? And they were able to do that. FDOT [Florida Department of Transportation] gave me about 10 projects in the last seven years.”

So while the money from a PCI Foundation grant is not used for research, research follows the grant. As professors learn about the industry and its needs and as other funding sources find that schools are working with industry, they become more interested in working with those schools as well.

Peter Finsen, executive director of the Georgia/Carolinas PCI, says that along with the professors at University of North Carolina at Charlotte, his group calculated that all told, more than \$250,000 of additional support—beyond the PCI Foundation grant—based on in-kind donations and other support was received by the school.

Professors have also told us that knowing industry is interested in a college program often helps research move to the top of a funding list more quickly. “And the other advantage is that if I get [a National Science Foundation] project, 47% to 57% of it is going to overhead,” EISafty says. “In our PCI Foundation grant, I can negotiate with the research office to have only 5%, so the money that you’ve got from the PCI Foundation goes a long way.”

The flexibility allowed by a PCI Foundation grant provides professors with the means to travel and to integrate into the precast concrete industry by attending conferences and meetings. This has proved to be helpful not only to the professors, but also to the industry, because we are able to learn from the research that the professors conduct and help steer the types of curriculum students receive.

During his presentation, EISafty also touched on some of the changing trends he is seeing in ways that professors are being evaluated for tenure. Although publishing and research dollars continue to play an important role, schools are also asking professors to exhibit engagement with the community, often by partnering with members of their industry. Our programs could not come at a more opportune time for many of the professors we are seeking to connect with. In addition, the trend in teaching is experiential learning; students don’t want to sit and be lectured but instead want to be “doing”: walking in a plant, creating molds, casting concrete.

During the PCI Convention at The Precast Show this winter in Louisville, Ky., you will have an opportunity to meet many of the students and professors through the education session on Saturday morning and through the student posters on the show floor. Stop by there to see how you might help a school near you appreciate the PCI Foundation’s “new math.”

2018 Concrete Chefs raises more than \$12,000 for PCI Foundation

A crowd of more than 300 gathered at JVI headquarters in Lincolnwood, Ill., for the 12th annual Concrete Chefs fundraiser for the PCI Foundation. This year, the event raised just over \$12,000 for the PCI Foundation, which provides schools of architecture, engineering, and construction management with curriculum development grants to create experiential learning-based programs about precast concrete.

The dinner celebrates those PCI Foundation team members who have made an individual personal commitment to help fund the PCI Foundation. Each year, these individuals make monthly, quarterly, or annual personal donations totaling about \$60,000 per year to the PCI Foundation. To become a PCI Foundation Team member, visit the PCI Foundation website at PCI-Foundation.org.



Sustaining donors were on hand to celebrate the success of another year of PCI Foundation programs during the Concrete Chefs fundraiser for the PCI Foundation at the JVI headquarters in Lincolnwood, Ill. Courtesy of PCI Foundation.

USC Village, Coreslab (LA) take home Freedman Award

A panel of judges selected Coreslab Structures (LA) Inc. of Perris, Calif., for its work on USC Village at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles as the winner of the 2018 Sidney Freedman Craftsmanship Award. The annual award recognizes PCI-certified plants for excellence in manufacturing and craftsmanship of architectural precast and glass-fiber-reinforced concrete (GFRC) structures and individual components.

This year's award was presented October 12, 2018, at the PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference in Rosemont, Ill. The judges were Chris Fister of Fister Quarries Group Inc., Les Kempers of GPRM Prestress LLC, Bradley



Coreslab Structures (LA) Inc. of Perris, Calif., was recognized with the 2018 Sidney Freedman Craftsmanship Award for its work on USC Village at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Courtesy of Coreslab Structures.

Williams of Clark Pacific-Fontana, Dean Schmidt of Endicott Thin Brick & Tile LLC, and Bill Henderson of Gate Precast.

Judges evaluated projects on a variety of criteria the industry has identified as key measures of manufacturing excellence, including forming, overcoming obstacles to production, finishing, and the overall quality of the end product. The award is named after Sidney Freedman, retired PCI director of Architectural Systems. Freedman served as a leading voice in precast concrete architectural design for more than 43 years.

“The sheer magnitude of the project and Coreslab’s attention to every detail, such as 1 million linear feet of grout joints, set the USC Village ahead of all others,” says Chris Fister, president of Fister Quarries Group Inc., who served as one of the judges. “Judging was very difficult, as all entries displayed superior workmanship and a true passion for their art.”

The winning Oxford-inspired project is a multiple-building complex on the USC campus, and it encompasses the many facets and intricate details of collegiate gothic architecture. The eye-catching five-story buildings are clad with precast concrete thin brick wall panels.

Each erected panel includes several previously cast pieces inset into larger forms that included the various architectural features along with elastomeric thin brick forms. Typical pieces include separate window surrounds, cornices, medallions, and other design elements that were carefully coordinated and placed in the forms before the final pour. More than 1.5 million bricks were hand-placed into elastomeric liners to capture the individual bricks in highly controlled random patterns. The project included erecting 1050 wall panels; however, the total project included more than 3000 precast concrete pieces.

“This project was the largest individual development the school had ever tackled,” says Jon Clausen, vice president and general manager of Coreslab Structures (LA). “The volume of unique and challenging details, coupled with an extremely tight schedule, demanded a high level of commitment from every team member.”

For more on the winning project, visit https://www.coreslab.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Coreslab-LA_USC-Village-Final.pdf.

PCI employees tour Illini Precast plant

The morning of September 14, 2018, PCI staff members boarded a bus to Romeoville, Ill., for a tour of PCI member Illini Precast. PCI scheduled the tour to help acquaint nontechnical staff members with the precast/prestressed concrete industry.

Don Caithamer, QA manager at Illini Precast, led the tour, and Illini Precast president Craig Wagenbach also met with staff. Highlights included a tour of a newly installed state-of-the-art batch plant. The plant was renamed and is getting up and running again by new owners after being unused for several years.



Don Caithamer, QA manager at Illini Precast, shows PCI employees where hardware will be cast in the panel during a tour of Illini's plant in Romeoville, Ill. Courtesy of Nikole Clow.



PCI staff members tour Illini Precast September 14, 2018, in Romeoville, Ill. Courtesy of Nikole Clow.

PCI CALENDAR

Events

For the most current information on PCI and industry events, visit <http://www.pci.org/events>.

2019 PCI Convention in partnership with The Precast Show Louisville, Ky.	February 26–March 2, 2019
PCI Central Region 2019 Spring Event Cincinnati, Ohio	May 14–15, 2019
The Tour Sacramento, Calif.	May 14–16, 2019
PCI Summer Conference Kansas City, Mo.	June 6–10, 2019
Georgia/Carolinas PCI Annual Membership Meeting Hilton Head Island, S.C.	June 13–15, 2019
2019 PCI-IW Summer Membership Event Lake Geneva, Wis.	July 22–23, 2019
PCI Central Region 2019 Summer Event Belterra Casino & Resort, Florence, Ind.	August 27–28, 2019
2019 PCI Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference Rosemont, Ill.	September 25–28, 2019
2020 PCI Convention in partnership with The Precast Show Ft. Worth Tex.	March 3–7, 2020
2021 PCI Convention in partnership with The Precast Show New Orleans, La.	February 23–27, 2021
2022 PCI Convention in partnership with The Precast Show Kansas City, Mo.	March 1–5, 2022

PCI personnel training and certification schools

If you have any questions about the Quality Control School schedule or need help completing a registration form, please contact PCI's continuing education senior manager, Sherrie Nauden, at snauden@pci.org or (312) 360-3215. Registration forms are available at <http://www.pci.org/schools>.

Level I/II	January 22–24, 2019	Las Vegas, Nev.
CFA	January 22–24, 2019	Las Vegas, Nev.

Compiled by K. Michelle Burgess (mburgess@pci.org)