

Keith Wallis Jr.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Membership value?

Recently, representatives from PCI and the National Precast Concrete Association (NPCA) met to review the winter 2019 Precast Show and plan for the 2020 show. I have to admit, combining PCI's convention exhibit hall with The Precast Show has benefited all of the parties by all accounts. The 2019 Precast Show had over 4300 attendees and almost 70,000 square feet of floor space. The 2020 Precast Show in Fort Worth, Tex., already has 80% of the floor space committed by exhibitors. The expectations of both organizations' members that met starting in 2013 appear to have achieved one of their goals through The Precast Show.

Some other goals still in process and discussed during the recent meeting were working together on common issues related to governmental affairs, safety, and certification. NPCA is reviewing working with PCI in a combined effort to influence national legislators on bills concerning funding construction and safety issues. A plan is in place for both organizations to share current safety materials and work together on future safety materials. To provide clarity to specifiers, both organizations' certification programs are working to finalize a list of which organization certifies producers for different fabricated concrete products. As with PCI events, the opportunity to network with NPCA members at The Precast Show is one of the greatest outcomes.

Is your firm a PCI member just to obtain certification? If so, you are just eating the appetizer and missing the main course. Don't forget to look for future messages from PCI about the 2019 Committee Days and Technical Conference featuring the National Bridge Conference. This event will occur from September 25 to 28 in Rosemont, Ill., near Chicago's O'Hare Airport. PCI's nine PCI councils and their committees will conduct almost 60 committee meetings representing the products you make or design. If you are not taking full advantage of **YourPCI** membership by attending committee meetings, you are allowing others to direct and missing out on an opportunity to learn and grow. In today's busy world, you must measure cost and reward. Your membership offers numerous opportunities that will benefit your organization. Attending committee meetings is a cost in time and money versus a reward in personal growth/education, shaping PCI's objectives, and staying current with technological advances in design and production. The value is there—take advantage of **YourPCI** membership and get involved.

In other news, look for announcements from PCI of changes to the architectural certification program in early August. Clarity to designers and specifiers is planned through a more diverse category breakdown established by your fellow members. ¶



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