President’s Letter

What a crazy hot, dry summer! Hard to believe we’re not even to the half-way point. I wonder if sales of ACI 305R-10 “Guide to Hot Weather Concreting” have been as sizzling as the sidewalks?!

It’s an honor to take the reins as President of ICACI this term. Many thanks to outgoing President Jack Springer for his service on the Board these past years, as well as to former Directors Justin Lowder and Charlie Scheuermann, for their many hours of effort and insightful ideas. It’s been a pleasure to have worked with you!

Much is happening at ICACI and we’re looking forward to some exciting offerings to our membership ahead. First off – make plans now to attend the Annual Scholarship Golf Outing in October! We’ve moved to an early fall date in the hopes of nice weather, a great turnout and an extended opportunity to spend time with colleagues, clients and friends. We’ve included a new wrinkle with the raffle of a wheelbarrow full of fun (see the registration flyer attached to this newsletter). If at all possible, please plan to support this great event to raise funds for scholarships for deserving students.

In a new initiative, the Board of Directors is developing a Chapter website with a hopeful rollout date near the end of the year if all goes smoothly. We want to provide a readily accessible portal that allows easier access to Chapter information, Event registrations, Certifications sign-ups, Scholarship applications, Newsletters, archive files and more.

This is your ACI Chapter. Please do not hesitate to contact any Director if you have ideas how the Chapter can better serve you, or if you would like to get more involved with Chapter activities. There are always opportunities for volunteers and each year we look for motivated individuals as nominees for Director positions. Speaking from experience, it is extremely rewarding to work with representatives from all facets of the concrete industry and you will continually learn new things, no matter how long you stay involved.

All the best,

Don Corson
ICACI President

Upcoming Events

Date TBD: Project-of-the-Year Breakfast Program/Tour – Juan Solomon Park
October 9: ICACI Scholarship Golf Outing – Plum Creek Golf Course
The “P2P” Initiative – A View from the Trenches

Editor’s Note: The views expressed in this article are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the ICACI Board or the Newsletter Committee. Comments are welcomed by emailing the Newsletter staff at dcorson@structurepoint.com.

The Lowest Price Is Seldom The Highest Value

P2P stands for “prescription to performance”. It is an effort within the ready mix industry to move away from the practice of specifiers naming the amount and type of every ingredient in the concrete toward specifying a level of performance. The contractor/ready mix producer team would agree on a mix and method for delivery of the requested performance. It would include additional parameters including set time, placement problems, durability, and opening time to name a few. The P2P idea is that everything would improve for everyone involved.

The contractor will always be the center pin of our industry. As such he should always have a say in what can be done on a project. For instance: 6 bag cement, .40 w/c ratio , 4” slump max (2” to 4”), 6% air entrained concrete is not necessarily durable, deliverable, or placeable 40 minutes out on a hot day in August. Many specifiers still believe this description works for exterior concrete in all conditions. To make this mix placeable, changes should be made; there may be additional cost, or delays. Mid range admixtures, fly ash, slag, retarders, accelerators, or increased cementitious are all available. Why ask for .40 water cement ratio where there is no steel or deicers? Why spend additional dollars and assume additional risk for no purpose? Concrete has no value until it is placed and finished. By attempting to provide a safety factor on the design side we expose ourselves to additional risk on the placement side. Our specifications typically underestimate the process and the risk involved of placing and finishing.

From my perch in the construction food chain, producers are at the top of the blame list. When weather or placement problems cause variation, everyone acts surprised. Our blame culture takes over and the concrete is suspect. To protect ourselves, ready mix producers use recorders for orders, load outs, weather information, and delivery practice. The difficult part for us is that we often find ourselves defending and / or attacking valued members of the construction team. Most of this can be avoided. Think performance of the finished product not the “as delivered” product. Think cost in place not cost as delivered. Problems, randomness and risk are ever present.

P2P is not for everyone. Our industry still has people in it that are not working for the best possible outcome for all. P2P is 10 years old and evolving. It may be different in the future but in my eyes it is more a culture change than a method change. We could focus on productivity. We could stop doing things that add pain, cost, and delays. Ready mix producers are the only ones on the team that know what the latest options and mixes can do. Our company is now actively talking about: internal curing, “crack free” floors, no curling floors, rapid moisture dehydration. Our goal is to get the crew home for dinner, reduce overtime, reduce crew size, increase productivity, and make the work look better. What is the true cost of risk and randomness in our industry? What can be done to reduce our exposure and deliver a more dependable finished product? The better ready mix producer knows and the contractor is involved.

Article submitted by Chris Wolf, Director of Technical Services – Shelby Materials
Ohio Valley Concrete Promotional Committee Recruits Educators to Obtain ACI Level 1 Certifications

A promotional committee formed with tri-state ready mix producers and ready mix concrete suppliers; the Ohio Valley Concrete Promotional Committee (OVCPC), is taking its commitment to the concrete industry to educate to college.

The committee represents fifteen companies from all facets of the ready mix industry. The mission of the group is to educate and train construction professionals with the concrete fundamentals necessary to secure high quality concrete and workmanship. This year the committee added educators to its target audience; getting the correct information to the source, the education system. Two professors from Ivy Tech University’s Construction Management Program took the committee’s offer to split the cost for ACI Level 1 Certification. Both of the college instructors said the class and study book were very informative and they will incorporate the information into next year’s curriculum.

Two college seniors, a civil engineering student from the University of Southern Indiana and a construction management student from Ivy Tech, took advantage of the ACI student rate discount to have an added advantage to their resume.

The OVCPC group plans to continue this initiative finishing three more of the five seminars this year for contractors, estimators, city/county officials, architects, engineers, professors and college students.

*Article submitted by Paula Mayfield (IMI Southwest)*

ACI Seminar “Troubleshooting Concrete Construction” Held in Indianapolis

Our Indiana Chapter ACI helped host this National Seminar in Indianapolis on May 6. A total of 18 people attended this one-day seminar. The topic was Troubleshooting Concrete Construction: "When you have problems with concrete, this seminar provides the solutions." Areas covered included:

- Problems with Fresh concrete
- Problems with Slabs
- Problems with Vertical concrete
- Problems with Structural Concrete
- Field and Laboratory Techniques used in Concrete Problem Solving

The Speakers were: W. Calvin McCall, PE, FACI, Senior Materials Engineer, Concrete Engineering Specialists, Charlotte, NC, and Kim D. Basham, PhD, PE and President of KB Engineering, LLC located in Cheyenne, Wyoming.
Scholarship Winner Offers Note of Thanks

My name is Garrett VanKirk and I will be a sophomore at Purdue University, West Lafayette campus, majoring in Building Construction Management Technology this fall. I am from Ferdinand, a small, rural area in Southern Indiana. When I received news I was chosen as the recipient of the $3,000.00 scholarship from the Indiana Chapter of the American Concrete Institute, I was very excited. I feel honored and blessed to have been chosen for such a generous scholarship.

Attending college is not a cheap task to complete. Even though I attend an in-state public university, the cost is still overwhelming. Tuition for the 2012-2013 academic year at Purdue is estimated to be $10,472.00, and the ACI scholarship will alleviate much of the burden of paying for my education in such a struggling economy. Receiving this scholarship will help me promote a positive attitude; motivate me to work and study hard as I maintain a respectable GPA as I continue my education at Purdue University.

A simple “thank you” just does not seem sufficient. Please know this honor has taught me the importance of ‘paying forward’ and I hope to continue that legacy in the future. This scholarship will be used to help me further my education at Purdue University, and I am truly grateful to the Indiana Chapter of the American Concrete Institute in accepting this honor. – Garrett VanKirk

Editor’s Note: One of the main goals of ICACI is to support student-scholars in their pursuit of education in concrete-related fields of study. Through the current down economy, due to the generous support of our membership and patronage of events like the Scholarship Golf Outing, Annual Meeting and Awards Program, Concrete 101 and other programs, we have been able to maintain annual contributions of $6,000 to students at Indiana colleges and universities. We are thankful to our membership for making this possible and it is always great to hear words of thanks from those that have benefited.
ICACI Scholarship Golf Outing – Tuesday, October 9 at Plum Creek Golf Club

REGISTER NOW!!

ICACI Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

Tuesday October 9, 2012
10:30 Registration/11:30 Shotgun Start
Lunch and After-Round Appetizers/Beverages

SPECIAL RAFFLE:
Enter for a chance to win a wheelbarrow full of fine wine, craft beer and top shelf adult beverages!

Please make every effort to attend this great event to raise scholarship proceeds for deserving students at Indiana colleges and universities in fields related to the concrete industry.

Further information and registration form is attached to this issue of the Palindrome.
For more information, contact John Krupski at jkrupski@structurepoint.com
Upcoming Certification Dates

ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician, Level 1 programs are indicated below. Additional dates will be determined in the near future.

August 23 (tentative)    Ft. Wayne
September 7/8    Indianapolis

First Day: Review Class; Second Day: Written and Practical Exams

Certification Program Policy: Examiners and Supplemental Examiners (Proctors) are required to be a Member of Indiana Chapter ACI; either through an Individual Membership or under a Company Membership.

ACI Concrete Flatwork Finisher Certification: August 21, Anthis Career Center, Ft. Wayne (Certification program for high school students)

For a registration flyer or questions about the program, please contact Eileen Dick ~ phone (317) 872-6302.

The ACI – Indiana Chapter extends a big “THANK YOU!!” to Builder’s Concrete for hosting the Indianapolis area certification programs in 2012.
ICACI Officers and Board of Directors

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(317) 576-8058 ssmith@patrioteng.com
Director: Mike Browne – Irving Materials, Inc.
(317) 536-6650 mike.browne@irvmat.com

Indiana Chapter ACI Website
The Indiana Chapter has a website where you can find information on upcoming events, such as, ACI certification classes, programs, and golf outings. Membership applications, Award nomination forms, Scholarship applications and other information are also available. Please go to www.concrete.org, then click on the “Chapters” tab and select “Indiana”.

IC-ACI Tax-Exempt Status
As a tax-exempt organization, the Indiana Chapter American Concrete Institute is required to file an annual Return to the Internal Revenue Service. The Return is available for review by any member of IC-ACI. For information, contact Tom Grisinger, Secretary/Treasurer at 317-409-3218 or tgrisinger@lehighcement.com.
YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE ICACI ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GOLF OUTING

DATE: Tuesday, October 9, 2012
TIME: Shotgun Start @ 11:30 am
(registration begins @ 10:30 am)
LOCATION: Plum Creek Golf Club
12401 Lynnwood Boulevard
Carmel, Indiana
COST: $150/person for golf outing (includes golf,
unlimited range balls, lunch, prize fund,
after-round appetizers and drinks)

For more information or to RSVP, contact
John Krupski at jkrupski@structurepoint.com or
317.523.0176

Enter for a chance to win a
wheelbarrow full of fine wine,
craft beer, and top shelf liquor.
Purchase one ticket for $10 or
two for $15. Available at event
or in advance by contacting
John Krupski.
*must be 21 to enter

ICACI Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

Contact Name: ____________________________
Company: ________________________________
Address: __________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________
Foursome Names: ____________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________

Costs: Total Cost:

Golf/Lunch/Cocktail Hour: $150 per player/$600 per
foursome*
Mulligans: ______ x $5 each (maximum 2/player)
Skins: $20 per foursome (50:50 split on proceeds)
Hole Sponsorship (18 available): $150 per hole*
I don’t play golf; but here is a contribution to the
Scholarship Fund:
Total Enclosed:
I can donate the following Items for Door Prize/s:

* Note: Approximately $62.90 of the registration fee per person, all of the Hole Sponsorship & Mulligans, and half of
the Skins are considered as donations to the Scholarship Fund and are therefore tax deductible.

Please fax the entry form to: Tom Grisinger @ 317-819-1605 or
TGrisinger@lehighcement.com ASAP.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Please mail checks (payable to Indiana Chapter ACI):
Tom Grisinger, Indiana Chapter ACI
7905 Dawson Drive, Fishers, Indiana 46038

CREDIT CARD: (Please fax or mail information with entry form)

Type of Card (Check One): [ ] Visa  [ ] Mastercard
Card Number: ___________________________
Expiration Date: ________________________
Cardholder Name: _______________________
Security Code: __________________________
Cardholder Signature: ___________________
Amount: ________________________________
Address: _____________________________
City: __________________ State: __________
Zip Code: _____________________________

Note: Security Code may be found next to the signature line on the back of the card.