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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CONCRETE CONTRACTORS

The VOICE

of the Concrete Contractor

JUNE 2020



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Message from the Executive Committee

Seasons of Change

Kevin Riley, Treasurer

What an interesting 90 plus days it has been. As I sit down to write this article, I think back on how much has happened since the last article I authored (December 2019). It is almost unfathomable how much has happened in the world and in our own backyards. We have endured and are enduring the effects of a global pandemic, and protests which have caused unrest and uncomfortableness in our lives.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused us all to change the way we function in our everyday lives. It has caused us to embrace new technologies that allow us to connect face to face without being face to face. It has required that we all make pivots in our business models and shift how we work and succeed moving forward.

The pandemic also caused a lot of uncertainty in our financial futures. From those who had to be furloughed or laid off, to those who had to shutter their doors or postpone their retirement.

The protests in response to the death of George Floyd have also had an impact in how we do business and how we interact with one another. For those of you who work in urban settings, where the protests in some cases turned violent, you worried about getting to and from our essential jobs. To those in more rural parts of the country, where the protests were more peaceful and a true sign of citizens invoking their constitutional rights. No matter the degree it has still impacted your life.

The last article I wrote I focused on thanking someone every day. I still try my very best to do that. But I feel that we now need to go further. We need to band together, listen to one another, and truly hear what we all have to say. We are in a season of change. And like all seasons of change, the only way we will make it through and be stronger, is together. As a TEAM.

Our Executive Leadership team at Belfast Valley uses this acronym which will be on our summer t-shirts and I feel it's more than appropriate to leave you with this: Together Everyone Achieves More.

Executive Director's Message

VAC

Bev Garnant

As much as Virtual Design & Construction (VDC) has gained a foothold in our industry, I never thought I'd be around for the day ASCC held a virtual conference. That's what we're about to do however, September 21-25. The week is the same as planned, but we've stretched out the dates, and eliminated Saturday.

INDUSTRY CALENDAR

Virtual Annual Conference
September 21 – 25, 2020

ACI Fall Convention
October 25 – 29, 2020
Raleigh, NC

Red = ASCC Event

Virtual Annual Conference

SEPTEMBER 21-25, 2020

Committee Meetings ■ Seminars ■ Roundtables ■ Sponsor Showcase

Register: ascconline.org ■ 866-788-2722

**WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU...
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!**

Welcome New Members

All Star Concrete Polishing, Fort Worth, TX
Concrete Restoration Inc., Seattle, WA
Concrete Services Hardware, Cedarburg, WI
Dash Concrete, Inc., Lockhart, TX
GCP Concrete Polishing & Restoration, Bertram, TX
Jocama Construction Corp., Old Bridge, NJ

Monday-Wednesday will be committee and board meetings. Not on top of each other like we usually have to do, but spaced out with a little time in between. This could give you the opportunity to sit in on a meeting of a committee you've been wondering about. The ASCC board will meet Thursday morning, as usual, and we'll start speakers and roundtables later that day.

We've been able to sign up the majority of our speakers for this alternate universe, and we're planning on nine ZOOM roundtables on a variety of current issues.

The platform we've chosen has a great sponsor showcase option which the MAC board has signed off on. "Booths" will be open at set times when you'll have a chance to see what the exhibitors have to show and demonstrate, ask questions, and leave your contact information.

It looks as if we'll be announcing the Decorative Concrete Council Project Awards at a virtual reception as well.

Please mark your calendar for that week of September. The final schedule will be posted soon.

Concrete Polishing Council

Challenges to Overcome in the Polishing Industry — Training for our teams..

Shawn Halverson, CPC Council Director

We all come from different places and learn polishing along the way. What happens over time is that new members of our teams get trained by previous members of our crew. But where their training came from could be from you, a friend, another company, or a weekend course. As we hire new finishers, training can be diluted.

It does not matter if your company travels the country or works locally. If you have multiple teams, training can be a challenge. The challenge is consistency. Let's say you have three teams working in the same locale, you might have an "A" team, or all your teams might be great, but are they producing the same quality product? Do they have the same knowledge, the same experience? Can you honestly say if you want to do three identical jobs with brand new concrete and the same square footage, and you sent a different team to each job, would they do the same quality work?

This is a challenge in our industry. When we're hired to do a job, the customer has an expectation we hope to meet. You probably have done a mockup and set their expectation. But your mockup was done by a different team than the team doing that installation. Is it going to resemble the mockup or meet what the customer is expecting? The more we train our teams, the more consistent we can expect our jobs to be. It costs a lot of money and takes a lot of time to train our people. Some companies have one team that seems to be their training team. In comes a new guy, you send him out to be trained, they work, they learn. Once comfortable they may be put onto a different team. Now we have a variation in consistency.

One element that we can help to minimize variations in the field is certification.

The CPC created a polishing certification program that helps educate our industry, helping new folks with basic terminology, polishing systems and how tos. It is a great way to get all teams on the same page. Most polishing guys probably never read a book on polishing, they just jumped into the slurry or dust.

Certification takes them through the Tradesman Manual and Review Course, gives them some basic knowledge. Once they pass, they come back to your jobs with a better knowledge of the overall process.

Back in the field you can track their hours to qualify them for the Craftsman certification level. It takes a lot of hours, but with the proper experience they can earn the next level and be leading your teams into the next decade.

It is a big commitment to have our teams go through the certification, but the benefit is consistency in the floors we produce.

With proper education and training we can work together with a common goal of making our industry rise above the challenges we face on a daily basis, and raise the bar for those who want to join us.

Q & A at ACI Concrete International

Bruce Suprenant, Technical Director

ACI *Concrete International* has featured a Q&A section at the end of the magazine for years. Recently, some of the Q&As are originating (see titles in italics) from the ASCC Contractor Email Forum. There have been a great number of these articles of value to contractors. Because of that, I have listed specific Q&A of interest to contractors in the last five years. You can find the articles at <https://www.concrete.org/publications/internationalconcreteabstractportal.aspx?s=ci> Enjoy reading!

Five Years of ACI Concrete International Q & A about Construction

| Title | Year | Month |
|--|------|----------|
| <i>Concrete Placement for Ogee Dam</i> | 2020 | June |
| <i>Form Tie Spacing Tolerances</i> | 2020 | June |
| Epoxy-Coated Reinforcement and Cryogenic Temperatures | 2020 | May |
| <i>Removing Chalk Lines from Concrete</i> | 2020 | April |
| <i>Eliminating Chair Feet Marks from Soffits</i> | 2020 | April |
| <i>Streaks in Polished Concrete</i> | 2020 | January |
| Contraction Joint Spacing in Concrete Walls | 2019 | August |
| Using Threaded Deformed Reinforcing Bars as Anchor Rods | 2019 | July |
| Using Nondestructive Testing for Evaluation of Concrete Strength | 2019 | June |
| Slump Requirements per ACI 301 | 2019 | May |
| Roughening of Existing Concrete to ¼ in. Amplitude per ACI 318 | 2019 | May |
| Repair of Joint Spalling | 2019 | April |
| Winter Protection of Hard-troweled Slabs and Scaling | 2019 | March |
| High Temperature of Mixing Water | 2019 | February |
| Curing Concrete Bridge Decks and Cracking | 2018 | December |
| Questions on Respirable Silica Dust Protection | 2018 | October |
| Air Entrainment in Interior and Exterior Concrete Slabs | 2018 | August |
| Tensile Bond Strength of Concrete | 2018 | July |
| Lateral Pressure of Concrete in Formwork | 2018 | June |
| Allowable Tolerances for Suspended Slab Edge | 2018 | May |
| Minimum Concrete Cover for Balconies with PT Cables | 2018 | April |
| Standard of Detailing of Concrete Reinforcement | 2018 | April |
| Acceptable Concrete Cracking | 2018 | March |
| Cleaning Slabs During Tilt-up Construction | 2018 | February |

| Title | Year | Month |
|---|------|-----------|
| Epoxy-Coated Reinforcement and Cover Depth Against Ground | 2018 | January |
| Rebound Hammer and In-Place Strength Testing | 2017 | December |
| Tolerances for Concrete Slabs Supporting Steel Tanks | 2017 | December |
| Welded Wire Reinforcement Placement | 2017 | November |
| Acceptance Testing Requirements in ACI Standards | 2017 | October |
| Field- Versus Standard-Cured Cylinders Made from High-Strength Concrete | 2017 | August |
| Joint Deterioration Mechanism and Prevention | 2017 | June |
| Tolerances for Floors Supporting Operable Partitions | 2017 | January |
| Curing Cylinders for Acceptance Testing | 2016 | December |
| Curing and Curling of Concrete Slabs over Vapor Retarders | 2016 | November |
| Cover Recommendations for Post-tensioned Concrete | 2016 | October |
| Concrete Slab Curling Over Vapor Retarders | 2016 | September |
| Dominant Joints in Concrete Slabs-on-Ground | 2016 | July |
| Maintenance of Pervious Concrete Pavement | 2016 | April |
| Cold Weather Cylinder Protection | 2016 | February |
| Concrete Cover for Unbonded Tendons | 2016 | January |
| Frequently Asked Post-Tensioning Question: Cracked Wedges | 2015 | October |
| Reinforcement Inspection | 2015 | October |
| Shotcrete Core Grades | 2015 | June |
| Concrete Splatter | 2015 | May |
| Chipping Hammer Weight Limit | 2015 | April |
| Winter Maintenance of a New Concrete Parking Lot | 2015 | February |
| Vapor Retarders and Durability of Slabs-on-Ground | 2015 | January |

Safety & Risk Management Council

Hot Weather, COVID-19, and Heat Related Illness; Oh My!

Joe Whiteman, Director of Safety Services

As the summer months approach, we all should begin the process of getting our workers trained on heat related illnesses. Although we are just beginning to experience elevated temperatures, we need to be mindful of another factor that can potentially exasperate those effects - the added layers workers must wear as protective measures from the hazards of COVID-19. This includes dust masks, cloth face coverings, face shields and even nitrile gloves. These precautions, although well intended and purposeful, contribute to the body being less efficient at dissipating heat. When the body cannot cool itself, heat illness may ensue.

Fortunately, workers have been wearing these added layers of protection for some time now and for the most part, are well acclimated. What they may not be used to is the rapidly increasing temperatures they will face over the next few months. We need to be cognizant that relying on the tried and true “watch out for your partner” and “recognize the physical indicators” of heat-related illness will now be harder to recognize due to the added layers.

With the typical physical indicators more disguised, we must implement concerted measures to recognize early symptoms. The easiest way is an emphasis on communication. Ensure employees are communicating with each other on their physical condition throughout the day. Add extra, mandatory water breaks to ensure workers are afforded the opportunity to stay hydrated. Set up multiple rest areas with plenty of shade to ensure each member of your crew has access, along with being able to maintain the 6' social distance. These are just a few measures that can be utilized to help combat the effects of heat illness and ensure the safety of those working in the heat.

Information Shared in the June 18 Safety & Risk Management Council COVID-19 Roundtable

69% of construction workers state that now is the most stressful time in their careers
 43% of construction workers state that they have become physically ill due to work related stress
 62% of construction workers state that they are losing at least 1 hour of sleep per day due to COVID-19 related stress.
 (Mental Health America, Non-profit)

ACI Concrete Convention, Raleigh, NC – October 25–29, 2020



American Concrete Institute

ACI is proceeding with all committee meetings, sessions, student activities, special events, and exhibit hall programs. The sixth annual ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards Gala presented by Advancing Organizational Excellence (AOE) will be held on the evening of October 26. ACI is also investigating new virtual participation options in addition to the face-to-face activities, and plans to announce details in the coming months. ACI continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation and will respond as more information becomes available.

Convention highlights that attendees can expect include:

- Technical Sessions and Committee Meetings
- Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards Gala presented by AOE
- International Lunch with special guest Erleen Hatfield
- ACI Egg Protection Device Student Competition
- Student Lunch with speaker Tyler Ley
- Architects' Day Lunch with speaker Thomas Sayre
- An industry exhibition showcasing more than 50 exhibitors

ACI will also offer five ACI inspector certification program exams at the Concrete Convention. Exams offered include:

- Concrete Quality Technical Manager (CQTM)
- Concrete Construction Special Inspector (CCSI)
- Concrete Transportation Construction Inspector (CTCI)
- Post-Installed Concrete Anchor Installation Inspector (PICAII)
- ACI Shotcrete Inspector

Registration is open online, and discounted rates are offered until September 20, 2020. To learn more about the ACI Convention and to register please visit aciconvention.org.

HOT LINE QUESTIONS

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

800-331-0668

Bruce Suprenant
ascchotline@asconline.org

POLISHED CONCRETE

844-923-4678

Chris Sullivan
csullivan@asconline.org

SAFETY & INSURANCE

833-281-9602

Joseph Whiteman
jwhiteman@asconline.org

DECORATIVE CONCRETE

888-483-5288

Chris Sullivan
csullivan@asconline.org

ASCC members have access to these toll-free numbers for assistance.

Webinars begin at 3:00 p.m. CST

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|---------------|---|--|
| July 8, 2020 | Decorative Concrete Applications and Finishes | Chris Sullivan, ASCC Decorative Concrete Specialist |
| Aug. 12, 2020 | Good Cyber Hygiene: How to Protect Yourself and Your Business | Rochelle Plue, Sr. Investigator, Los Angeles County District Attorneys High Tech Crime, FBI Task Force |
| Sept. 9, 2020 | Shoring / Re-shoring | Dr. Ken Hover, Cornell University |
| Oct. 14, 2020 | Embodied Carbon | Michael Cropper, Thornton-Tomasetti |
| Nov. 11, 2020 | Hardhats to Helmets | Scott Greenhaus, STRUCTURAL & Seth Randall, Clark |

Members no charge. Non-members \$35; MC, Visa, Amex only. Call 866-788-2722 to register.