



The Voice

November 2020

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INDUSTRY CALENDAR

ASCC Committee Meetings

January 18-21, 2021

[Registration Form](#)

[Registration Link](#)

World of Concrete

June 8-10, 2021

Education: June 7-10, 2021

Las Vegas, NV

ASCC Concrete Executive Leadership Forum

July 15-18, 2021

Fairmont Orchid, Waimea, Hawaii

ASCC Annual Conference

September 23-26, 2021

St. Louis, MO

Welcome New Members

- Advance Concrete Construction, Marlborough, MA
- Berenguel SA, Benavidez, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Brownstone Concrete Surfaces, Rapid City, SD
- Crete Quote, Waunakee, WI
- Diagrind, West Goford, New South Wales, Australia
- Evergreen Marketing Group, Farmers Branch, TX
- Innovative Chemical Products, Ft. Worth, TX
- Spencer Concrete, Appleton, WI
- T & T Concrete, Inc., Orchard Park, NY

DCC Project Awards Submission Now Open

To view the awards brochure and see more information about submitting online, [please visit our website](#).

Message from the Executive Committee

Perseverance

Bill Bramschreiber, First Vice President

As a country we are now some eight months into these unprecedented, uncertain and constantly changing COVID-19 pandemic times. Joe Whiteman, ASCC director of safety services, detailed in ASCC's September issue of The Voice, that per statistics on the CDC website, an individual American has a 99.96% chance of survival for COVID-19. Excellent odds for sure, but many of our government agencies having jurisdiction continue to have various lock downs and restrictions in place for public health, safety and well-being; and perhaps rightly so.

There was outstanding news this month that early data shows that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was found to be more than 90% effective in preventing the disease. However, it may take until mid-2021 or later to get the vaccine fully tested, produced and distributed to the 80% of the country likely needed to offer widespread protection. Which is what it may take to remove the lock downs and restrictions, find our new normal, and be able to get the economy fully up and running again.

In the meantime, the eight month long pandemic uncertainty has weakened the upcoming demand for construction projects and continues to confuse future markets for construction. An ENR News Alert on October 28th reported that in October the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) released a survey where 75% of the contractors surveyed indicated "they have experienced a project cancellation or postponement due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic." This was up from the 60% reported by the AGC in August. Our firm is one of these contractors. We have experienced both the cancellation and postponement of projects, and are looking at an appreciably reduced volume of work for 2021.

This month our country elected a new president from the Democratic Party, while the Republican party may have barely remained in control of the Senate. Regardless of the final Senate outcome, we remain a divided country regarding our governmental priorities. This is nothing new. John F. Kennedy said "Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer. Let us not seek to fix blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future." Hopefully a nationwide investment in infrastructure construction would have bipartisan support, and be an early bill where federal government could find the common ground to make it happen.

As a reminder, Whiteman has gathered COVID-19 resources from ASCC members and governmental agencies on protecting your employees' health, legal advice on business continuity, workplace regulations, and other vital topics. This useful information can be found [here](#).

Let's all continue to be optimistic that the future will be positive; that yes, times are tough, but we will all get through this together.

Executive Director's Message

Thankful for Partnerships

Bev Garnant

ASCC places a tremendous value on its partnerships with other concrete and cement industry organizations. Long standing strategic alliances with the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA) and the American Concrete Institute (ACI), have resulted in innumerable benefits for members. Likewise are shared efforts between ASCC and other organizations, the Portland Cement Association, the Tilt-up Concrete Association and the American Concrete Pumpers Association, to name a few.

Jon Hansen, Senior VP, Paving, NRMCA, recently reminded ASCC of the accomplishments resulting from the time he became that organization's liaison with ASCC in 2013, and joined our

board as a specialty director. Certainly the partnership began long before then, long before I came on board in 2003, with some noteworthy accomplishments including the *Checklist for the Concrete Pre-Construction Conference*.

Since Hansen has “joined ASCC” as it were, we have had more direct contact between NRMCA and our contractor members that has raised the bar, and definitely, I believe, “enhanced the capabilities” of those whose markets include paving, parking lots, and pervious concrete specifically.

For example, a number of our members use NRMCA’s Design Assistance Program (DAP) and Jointing Plan Assistance Program (JPAP) in the promotional and design stages of a project. In 2015, Hansen and Myron Hillock, Somero, worked with ASCC to re-establish the NRMCA/ASCC Joint Paving Committee. Contractors, producers, cement companies and other manufacturers sit on this committee, whose mission it is “To provide concrete contractors the tools to promote and install the highest quality paving installations.” Ray Merlo, Merlo Construction Co., Inc., is the current chair.

One of the committee’s more significant accomplishments has been the creation of the Paving Tool Kit, a compilation of resources to help contractors promote, sell and install new paving and overlays. In addition, a number of Parking Lot Boot Camps, one held at an ASCC Annual Conference and others at members’ offices, walk the contractor through best practices for promoting, selling, evaluating pavements, designing for best use and installing a successful final product. In 2018, a *Parking Lot Pre-Construction Checklist* was published. And in addition, several of our paving contractor members have been invited to speak at NRMCA events, to share the contractors’ perspective with producers.

Recently the NRMCA used an ASCC webinar, “Trends in Decorative Concrete,” developed by decorative concrete specialist Chris Sullivan, to showcase this facet of the industry for their audiences. They are also interested and supportive of our Hard hats to Helmets initiative. Industry partnerships bring new ideas and experience to the table. They provide added support for initiatives and broaden our networks for acceptance. We should all be proud and grateful for our ongoing alliance with the NRMCA.

Notable Changes in ACI 301-20

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Q. I’ve heard that ACI 301-20 will be available in October 2020. What notable changes can I expect in this new document?

A. ACI 301-201 is now available. The first notable change is the title: “Specifications for Structural Concrete (ACI 301-16)” has been revised to “Specifications for Concrete Construction (ACI 301-20).” The new title recognizes that the specification covers diverse topics such as architectural concrete and industrial floor slabs, as well as the minimum requirements of ACI 318-192 (the Code). Many of the changes reflect code requirements from Chapter 26 of ACI 318-19 on information the engineer must provide in the construction documents to achieve compliance with the Code.

ACI 301-20 also includes new provisions for shotcrete, zinc-coated reinforcement, lightweight aggregate used for internal curing, mineral fillers, recycled concrete aggregates, and evaluation requirements if modulus of elasticity (MOE) test data are required. Further, it contains changes in durability requirements, in provisions for cold weather placement, integrating higher-strength concrete, curing by ponding, adhesive anchors, self-consolidating concrete (SCC), mass concrete, post-tensioned concrete, joint fillers for industrial floor slabs, tilt-up surface finishes, and optional requirements for qualifications of precast concrete fabricators.

Notable changes in selected sections of ACI 301-20 are:

SECTION 1—GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Section 1.3 includes several new definitions for clarity. Definitions of specialty concretes covered in separate chapters were removed. Specifiers need to refer to specialty concrete chapters and designate portions of the work meeting specific types of specialty concrete;
- Optional requirements include a preconstruction conference to review project requirements, acceptance criteria, and responsibilities (1.6); and
- Shotcrete was previously out of scope but is now included. Specifiers must designate portion of work to be constructed with shotcrete and specify the requirements for shotcrete, based on both ACI 506.2 and ACI 318-19.

SECTION 3—REINFORCEMENT

- Zinc-coated (galvanized) reinforcing bars for structures designed in accordance with ACI 318-19 must still conform to ASTM A767/A767M but zinc-coated reinforcement conforming to ASTM A1094/A1094M may now be specified for other applications where a lesser zinc coating thickness is required (3.2.1.2(a)).

SECTION 4—CONCRETE MIXTURES

- Slump flow for SCC at the point of delivery must be provided (4.1.2.1(b)). The selected target slump flow cannot exceed 30 in. and shall be used as the basis for acceptance (4.2.2.2);
- Minimum cementitious materials requirements for concrete floors were removed from 4.1.2.9;
- Recycled aggregate may be permitted if documentation as required in the contract documents is submitted and its use is accepted (4.1.2.3(c) and 4.2.1.2(a));
- Lightweight aggregate for internal curing is limited to prewetted fine aggregate conforming to ASTM C1761/1761M (4.1.2.3(d) and 4.2.1.3);
- Mineral fillers must be in compliance with ASTM C1797 and be obtained from the same source and the same type as in trial mixtures (4.1.2.3(e) and 4.2.1.5);
- If specifying MOE (4.1.2.8), test data for proposed mixtures must be submitted. The average of at least three cylinders from the same concrete sample, tested at 28 days, must meet or exceed the specified value (4.2.2.8);
- Aggregates susceptible to alkali-carbonate reaction per ASTM C1778 testing are not allowed (4.2.1.2);
- Different limitations are imposed on concrete mixtures qualified to reduce the potential of alkali-silica reaction (4.2.2.6(a));
- Requirements for sulfate exposure provided in Table 4.2.2.6(b) were updated to match requirements in ACI 318-19;
- Compliance with specified chloride ion limits can be verified using the water-soluble chloride ion content or the total chloride ion content (4.2.2.6(e)); and
- For concrete cast on stay-in-place galvanized steel forms, the maximum water-soluble chloride content must comply with the limits for Exposure Class C1 (4.2.2.6(f)).

SECTION 5—HANDLING, PLACING, AND CONSTRUCTING

- For placement in cold weather, unless otherwise specified, massive metallic embedded items in concrete and individual or bundled metallic embedded items and formwork must be above 10°F. Contact surface temperature of ground, subbase, or mud mats has to be above 32°F (5.3.2.1(b));
- For integrating higher-strength concrete with floor systems, high-strength concrete should extend through full floor system depth at least 2 ft past each face of columns and walls, and be consolidated to achieve a monolithic mass (5.3.2.4(i));
- Surface finish SF-2 has been established as the default formed finish (5.3.3.1); language defining concrete exposed to view has been revised (5.3.3.1); color, texture, and bug hole requirements have been clarified (5.3.3.3); and language describing rubbed and other finishes has been updated (5.3.3.4);
- When curing by ponding, the temperature of ponded water has to be at least 50°F and not be more than 35°F colder than surface temperature of the concrete at the time the water and concrete come in contact (5.3.6.5(b)); and
- Adhesive anchors must be installed according to manufacturer's instructions (5.3.8), in at least 21-day old concrete (5.3.8.1), and by certified installers if in horizontally or upwardly inclined holes (5.3.8.2).

SECTION 8—MASS CONCRETE

- Improvements were made to provisions in thermal control plan submittals, including permissible changes that do not require update to thermal control plan (8.1.4).

SECTION 9—POST-TENSIONED CONCRETE

- Nonencapsulated tendons are allowed in slabs-on-ground not exposed to chlorides or slabs-on-ground with stressing pockets not subjected to wetting or in direct contact with soil (9.2.1.2); and
- For tendons with encapsulated anchorages, excess lengths of tendons beyond anchorages must be removed to ensure proper fit of encapsulation cap. Cutting of tendons should not damage wedges or compromise encapsulation system (9.3.8.2(a)).

SECTION 11—INDUSTRIAL FLOOR SLABS

- Joint filler materials must have 100% solids content, a Shore A hardness of at least 85 when measured in accordance with ASTM D2240 at 70 to 77°F, and an elongation below 90% when measured in accordance with ASTM D638 (11.2.8).

SECTION 12—TILT-UP CONSTRUCTION

- Unless otherwise specified, Smooth Panel Finish (SPF)-2 is required (12.3.9) and compliance requirements are provided (12.3.9(b));
- SPF-3 Architectural requires preparation of mock-up panels. Surface compliance requirements are provided (12.3.9(a));
- SPF-1 Utility compliance requirements are also provided (12.3.9(c)); and
- Per the Mandatory Requirements Checklist, type, location, and extent of each finish has to be specified (12.3.8).

SECTION 13—PRECAST STRUCTURAL CONSTRUCTION and SECTION 14—PRECAST ARCHITECTURAL CONSTRUCTION

- Fabricator qualifications include optional requirements for an alternative certification program from the National Precast Concrete Association (NPCA) applicable to some structural precast concrete products, except those which are prestressed (13.1.4.2 and 14.1.3.7).

References

1. ACI Committee 301, "Specifications for Concrete Construction (ACI 301-20)," American Concrete Institute, Farmington Hills, MI, 2020, 69 pp.
2. ACI Committee 318, "Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete (ACI 318-19) and Commentary (ACI 318R-19)," American Concrete Institute, Farmington Hills, MI, 2019, 623 pp.

Thanks to Michelle L. Wilson, Portland Cement Association, Skokie, IL, for reviewing this answer. Wilson served as Chair of ACI Committee 301, Specifications for Structural Concrete, during the 2016-2020 document cycle.

Concrete Polishing Council

Challenges to Overcome in the Polishing Industry - Relationships in POLISHING IN AN EMERGENCY

Shawn Halverson, Council Director

I have previously addressed the importance of maintaining relationships. What they mean to me, and many members of the CPC, is the ability to have a meeting to discuss materials, installations, new products, challenges, or just life. Those relationships are great. This also applies to our

involvement in the CPC and those we surround ourselves with, in meetings at the WOC for example, or monthly board meetings. We are all willing help each other. And when you need help from say a manufacturer or vendor who is a member and is active in CPC, that value is priceless.

Recently I realized the importance of relationships with other polishers. Not only those in the CPC, but some just trying to grow their businesses and make it through another day.

One of our crews was away from home and a burnisher broke down. They fiddled with it but to no avail. I got the call and started making a plan to ship or drive one to the site or maybe call around and buy one nearby. Like we need another burnisher?

Instead I got smart and I investigated our CPC Membership Directory. I made a couple calls, and within minutes found a faithful CPC polisher and another polishing contractor friend within an hour of our site; both of whom were willing to loan us a burnisher. Even though I offered to pay, they were willing to loan it. I was incredibly surprised and thankful to both for the quick response, the thoughtfulness, and the friendship that this industry has brought. A big shout out to Kim Robles of Robles Concrete Design and Terry Keener of DTI Industrial Flooring. I really appreciate you both for your kindness.

Funny part is my guys worked on ours and got it running in another hour, so it all worked out. But when we were in need, fellow polishers were there for us.

Don't always look at your competitors as the competition. They could actual be an ally hidden under the slurry!

Safety & Risk Management Council

Winter is Upon Us, Enter Flu Season

Joe Whiteman, director of safety services

As if we do not already have our plates full dealing with the effects and hazards of COVID-19, the winter months are here and bringing with it, flu season. It's important that we get out in front of this by talking about the similarities and differences between the two. As you will see, the symptoms of the traditional flu are much the same as those of COVID-19. Where we can make inroads is understanding the few differences, as well as the precautionary measures that can be taken to minimize the confusion and ensure quick and proper mitigating action.

Similarities:

- Head and body aches
- Fever and cough
- Shortness of breath
- Stuffy or runny nose
- Sore throat
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Fatigue

Differences:

- With COVID-19 you may experience a loss of taste or smell
- Flu symptoms show up after exposure to another positive individual between 1-4 days whereas COVID-19 can take anywhere between 2-14 days.
- With COVID-19 you may experience red, swollen eyes and skin rashes.
- Flu Symptoms tend to have a rapid onset of illness with high fever and severe body aches. COVID-19 has a slower onset of symptoms with mild headaches, body aches and fever.
- COVID-19 symptoms last much longer than the flu, weeks to months as opposed to a few days.

Although there are some differences between the two, they tend to be on the subjective side and leave much to interpretation. Your best bet is to treat any employee exhibiting the above-mentioned symptoms as if it is COVID-19. Have the employee tested, and follow CDC and company COVID-19 policies and guidelines. If you have not already taken advantage of [ASCC's](#)

[COVID-19 resources page](#), there are some great tools there to guide you through this process.

Fortunately for the flu, the biggest difference between it and COVID-19 is an available vaccine. Although not a 100% guarantee you will not contract the flu, getting the flu vaccine has shown in many cases to reduce the severity of flu symptoms if contracted. Take the time to talk with your employees. Remind them again about the symptoms of both the flu and COVID-19. Encourage them to always self-report the moment they are feeling any sort of symptoms to allow proper control and protection of the situation. And encourage everyone to get their flu vaccine this season!

Kennedy Center Expansion Project, Washington, DC, United States, Awarded Highest ACI Honor

The American Concrete Institute (ACI) announced the winners of the 2020 Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards, who were honored during the Institute's Virtual Concrete Convention, on October 26, 2020. The highest honor was presented to the Kennedy Center Expansion Project, Washington, DC, United States. The Kennedy Center Expansion, known as the REACH, consists of three new buildings—the Welcome, Skylight, and River Pavilions—situated on the 4.6 acre (1.9 ha) campus along the Potomac River. Each structure features titanium-white, board-formed concrete, sweeping curves, and crisp clean lines that complement the existing monument.

The Welcome, Skylight, and River Pavilions are interconnected below-grade under a green roof where visitors can meander through the labyrinth of concrete curves. Multiple board form patterns and custom “crinkle” form liners add to the texture of the architectural concrete both above and below-grade. While the “crinkle” concrete creates a wonderful acoustic effect in the performance and rehearsal rooms, the visual effect is absolutely stunning.

The ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards were created to honor the visions of the most creative projects in the concrete industry, while providing a platform to recognize concrete innovation, technology, and excellence across the globe. To be eligible for participation in the Excellence Awards, projects needed to be nominated by an ACI Chapter or International Partner.



THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORS!



Upcoming Webinars

December 9, 2020

Engaging the Design Community: Tips and Tools for the Polishing Contractor

Tom Collupy, Solomon Colors

January 13, 2021

Concrete Overlays of Existing Asphalt Surfaced Streets & Parking Lots

Jon Hansen, NRMCA

Webinars begin at 3 pm Central

[Register Here](#)

Attachments

[Concrete Cares](#)

HOTLINE QUESTIONS

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

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