President’s Message

As usual, the ACI Houston Chapter has made a vibrant start this year with three highly successful events, both educational and social, so far and with more to come. We launched a new program called the Distinguished Lecture series in which eminent concrete technologists of international repute deliver lectures on hot topics. So far we have had two of these, with Dr. Narendra Gosain, P.E. and Dr. Colin Lobo, P.E. as speakers. Two more with Professor P.K. Mehta and Dr. V. Mohan Malhotra as speakers are scheduled for later this year. Next week we have a joint Panel Discussion with AGC on a highly interesting topic.

As a note of information, Texas Transportation Institute of Texas A&M University has recently developed a new testing protocol to predict alkali silica reactivity (ASR) -resistant concrete mix designs. The test requires the use of a special apparatus called the dilatometer. The tests involving the selection of a suitable ASR -resistant mix design can be completed within a relatively short period of time, and is based on direct measurement of expansion of ASR gel which is produced in a closed system. This is a totally new approach, is quite different from conventional ASR tests for measuring ASR expansion, and is considered to be performance based. For further information, contact Dr. Dan G. Zollinger, P.E., TTI, Texas A&M University, e-mail: d-zollinger@tamu.edu or Dr. Shondeep L. Sarkar, P.E., TTI, Texas A&M University, e-mail: s-sarkar@ttimail.tamu.edu

ACI - Houston Chapter Board Members

President: Shondeep Sarkar, Ph.D., P.E., P.G. Sarkar & Associates, Inc. shondeep@aol.com, 713-686-0638
Vice President: Eric Green, P.E. Walter P. Moore Engineers & Consultants egreen@walterpmoore.com, 713-630-7300
Treasurer: Pradhumna B. Shrestha, P.E. Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc. pshrestha@rkci.com, 713-996-8990
Secretary: Robyn Hutchinson Alliance Laboratories, Inc. rhutchinson@alliancelabs.net, 713-934-8999
Past President: William “Bill” Wygle, P.E. Texas Industries lwylge@txi.com, 281-351-7778
Directors: 1) Joel Tucker Degussa— Master Builders, Inc. Joel.tucker@degussa.com, 713-849-2292 2) Bob Nussmeier Baker Concrete Construction nussmeier@bakercement.com, 713-864-0657 3) Bob Rogers Degussa - Master Builders, Inc. Bob.rogers@degussa.com, 713-849-2292 4) Jeff Roberts, P.E. HBC-Terraco jroberts@teraco.com, 713-690-8989 5) Steve Kaiser Paradigm Consultants, Inc. stevek@theleabtexas.com, 713-686-6771 6) Dave Marsh Metropolitan Transit Authority dm09@ridemetro.org, 713-739-6951 7) Gene Potter Dorsett Brothers Concrete Supply, Inc. gp@dorsettbrothers.com, 281-487-0264

Editor: Pradhumna B. Shrestha, P.E.
Co-Editor: Eric Green, P.E.
Marketing: Jeff Roberts, P.E.
Steve Kaiser

ACI - Houston Chapter Distinguished Lecture Series

ACI - Houston Chapter Cordially invites you and your colleagues to the following Panel Discussion:

“Cementitious Materials, Water and Aggregate – The Three Cinderellas of Concrete”

DATE: Wednesday, June 9, 2004
TIME: 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
PLACE: Houston Chapter AGC, 3825 Dacoma, Houston, Texas 77092
PRICE: FREE!

PANEL CHAIR:  Mr. Jeffrey Roberts, P.E., Principal, HBC/Terraco, Houston, Texas
PANELISTS:  Mr. H. erb Brown, Director of Technical Services, Campbell Concrete & Materials, L.P.
Mr. D onald Taubert, Director, Promotion & Technical Services, Capitol Cement
Dr. Richard Szachy, P.E., Vice President, Lattimore Materials
Dr. Dallas N. Little, P.E., Professor of Civil Engineering, Texas A & M University

Come and listen to what the experts have to say about the roles of cement, fly ash, slag, silica fume, water, and aggregates in concrete. The panelists will answer questions such as - can we really use recycled water in concrete, how much water is needed for a practical concrete mix design, what are the actual benefits of using supplementary cementing materials and their availability in Texas, how much and what type of cement to use, what are the different types of available aggregates and their impact on the properties of concrete, how important are shape and texture of aggregate? etc.

Ask as many questions as you want, express your views freely, exchange ideas and information about cement, fly ash, slag, silica fume, aggregates and water.

RESERVATIONS:  F A X:  713-843-3777 or 713-934-8905; E M A I L: susan.n@agchouston.org or rhutchinson@alliancelabs.net
MA I L: Houston Chapter AGC, P. O. Box 662, Houston, TX 77001 or Houston Chapter ACI, Alliance Laboratories, Inc., 5650 Guhn Road, Houston, Texas 77040.
## ACI - Houston Chapter Calendar of Events

### ACI Certifications
Contact Mr. Steve Kaiser for details at: stevek@thelabtexas.com, Phone: 713-686-6771

1) Concrete Field Testing Technician - Grade I  
   September 11, 2004

2) Concrete Laboratory Testing Technician - Grade I  
   September 11, 2004

### ACI Concrete Finish Certification
Please contact Mr. Al Mikolas for details at: mikolas@bakerconcrete.com, Phone: 713-864-0657

### Other ACI-Related Events:
October 7, 2004, Austin, Texas - Seminar on Troubleshooting Concrete Floor Problems.


October 24 - 28, 2004, ACI Fall Convention - Hilton San Francisco, San Francisco, California

April 17 - 20, Spring, 2005, ACI Spring Convention - New York and New Jersey Hilton, New York

## ACI - Distinguished Lecture Series

1) March 10, 2004 at 3:00 pm - Dr. Narendra Gosain, P.E., Senior Principal and Executive Director, Structural Diagnostics Services, Walter P. Moore and Associates, Inc. on “The Challenges of Retrofit and Repair of Concrete Structures”.

2) May 12, 2004 at 12:00 noon - Dr. Colin Lobo, Vice President Engineering, National Ready Mix Concrete Association (NRMCA) on “Performance Based Specifications for Concrete - NRMCA’s P2P (Prescriptive to Performance) Initiative”.

3) June 9, 2004 - Panel Discussion: Cement, Aggregates, and Water - The Three Cinderellas of Concrete.

4) July 7, 2004 - Prof. P. K. Mehta, University of California, Berkeley, on “A Holistic Approach to Building Durable Concrete Structures.”

5) September/October 2004 - Dr. V. Mohan Malhotra, P.Eng, Emeritus Scientist, CANMET, Canada.

NOTE: Electronic Handouts will be provided at the Lecture venue.

## About ACI (1904-2004)
Founded in 1904 and headquartered in Farmington Hills, Michigan, ACI is a technical and educational society with 30,000 members and 93 chapters in 30 countries.

ACI has produced more than 400 technical documents, reports, guides, specifications, and codes for the best use of concrete; conducts more than 150 educational seminars each year; and has 13 different certification programs for concrete practitioners, as well as a scholarship program to promote careers in the industry.

As ACI approaches a century of progress through knowledge, it has retained the same basic mission: develop, share, and disseminate the knowledge and information needed to utilize concrete to its fullest potential.

Visit http://www.concrete.org

---


Dr. Colin Lobo giving lecture on “Performance-based Specifications for Concrete - NRMCA’s P2P (Prescriptive to Performance) Initiative” at Degussa-Master Builders lecture room on May 12, 2004. Dr. Lobo is vice president of National Ready Mixed Concrete Association.
Sporting Clay Shoot 2004

Friday, May 14, 2004 looked like it was going to be another day of flooding and heavy rain, however we had a great luck. The clear sky made for some fun clay shooting, as long as you had some waders to keep your feet dry. We had approximately 75 shooters show up, and all had fun. Sporting Clay Shoot has been an annual event of Houston Chapter of ACI. This will be continued in future years too.

Texas Workshop on Self-Consolidating

Co-sponsored by ACI Houston Chapter, more than 165 engineers and students participated in the Texas Workshop on Self-Consolidating Concrete at the University Hilton, University of Houston, on March 11, 2004. Eighty five participants visited Old Castle Precast Plant in Houston in the morning of March 12, 2004. The contents of the workshop were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Presenter/Moderator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Session 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to SCC and Federal Efforts</td>
<td>C. Vipulanandan, UH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Perspective of SCC</td>
<td>Myint Lwin, Director, Office of Bridge Technology, FHWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Aspects of SCC</td>
<td>Glenn Schaefer, Grace Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Experience in SCC</td>
<td>Richard Szecsy, Lattimore Materials Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precast Concrete Producer’s Perspective and Experience</td>
<td>Paul Zia, North Carolina State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel 1: Potential Applications for SCC</td>
<td>Bruce Williams, Texas Concrete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Tour and SCC Demonstration</td>
<td>Thomas T.C. Hsu, UH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Session 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances in Admixture Technology and Mix Design for SCC</td>
<td>S. Sarkar, TAMU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCC with Steel Fibers</td>
<td>Joseph Daczko, Master Builders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing Research in SCC</td>
<td>Y.L. Mo, UH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel 2: Research Needs in SCC</td>
<td>S.P. Shah, Northwestern University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Trip: SCC Demonstration</td>
<td>Peter Chang, FHWA, Ralph Browne, TxDOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harry Hiscott, Oldcastle, Houston, TX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FHWA, ACI, PCI, and ASCE Houston Chapter were also the co-sponsors for the workshop. The workshop was very significant to Texas and the Nation and was very successful because the speakers and attendees came from all over the nation. If you are interested in the further development of this workshop, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Y.L. Mo at yilungmo@egr.uh.edu.
SARKAR & ASSOCIATES, INC.
Forensic Petrography of Concrete, Scanning Electron Microscopy, XRD, Thermal and Chemical Analyses
2501 Central Parkway, Suite A-3
Houston, Texas 77092
Phone: 713-686-0638 . Fax: 713-263-0550
www.sarkaranandassociatesinc.com . Shondeep@aol.com
Shondeep L. Sarkar, Ph.D., P.E., P.G.

HBC
Terracon
Environmental Consulting
Geotechnical Engineering
Construction Materials Testing
Facilities Engineering
Our Mission:
Delivering Success for Clients and Employees
Austin 512-442-1122
Dallas 214-630-1010
Fort Worth 817-268-8600
Galveston County 409-945-3503
Houston 713-690-8909

WALTER MOORE
ENGINEERS + CONSULTANTS
Civil Engineering
Parking Consulting
Research & Development
Structural Diagnostics
Structural Engineering
Traffic Engineering
Transportation Engineering
1.800.364.7300
www.waltermoore.com

Raba Kistner
Serving Texas for Over Three Decades
Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc.
8601 Jameel, Suite 150
Houston, Texas 77040-5064
(713) 996-8990 • www.rkci.com
Environmental • Facilities • Forensics • Geotechnical • Materials

Baker
Concrete Construction
Southern Operations
5300 Hempstead Road
Houston, Texas 77008
713-864-0657 office
713-864-9783 fax
281-831-9749 mobile
ruasmeier@bakerconcrete.com
Robert Nussmeier
Business Development Manager

New Products
RediWall®:
steel studs w/ pre-cast, pre-finished thin shell concrete - structural exterior wall panel system
RediWall ICF:
ICF panels using steel studs & cladding strips w/ built-in wiring chases & rebar
Tex Rite Building Systems
Toll free: (866) 716-7500
(281) 935-7500
(832) 715-7500

HBC
Terracon
Our Mission:
Delivering Success for Clients and Employees
Austin 512-442-1122
Dallas 214-630-1010
Fort Worth 817-268-8600
Galveston County 409-945-3503
Houston 713-690-8909

WALTER MOORE
ENGINEERS + CONSULTANTS
Civil Engineering
Parking Consulting
Research & Development
Structural Diagnostics
Structural Engineering
Traffic Engineering
Transportation Engineering
1.800.364.7300
www.waltermoore.com

Raba Kistner
Serving Texas for Over Three Decades
Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc.
8601 Jameel, Suite 150
Houston, Texas 77040-5064
(713) 996-8990 • www.rkci.com
Environmental • Facilities • Forensics • Geotechnical • Materials

Baker
Concrete Construction
Southern Operations
5300 Hempstead Road
Houston, Texas 77008
713-864-0657 office
713-864-9783 fax
281-831-9749 mobile
ruasmeier@bakerconcrete.com
Robert Nussmeier
Business Development Manager

NEW PRODUCTS
RediWall®:
steel studs w/ pre-cast, pre-finished thin shell concrete - structural exterior wall panel system
RediWall ICF:
ICF panels using steel studs & cladding strips w/ built-in wiring chases & rebar
Tex Rite Building Systems
Toll free: (866) 716-7500
(281) 935-7500
(832) 715-7500

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
Be a member of Houston Chapter ACI and support the mission for what it stands for. Your ACI International (National) membership does not allow you to be Local Chapter Member. Please fill the attached Membership Form and respond immediately.

progress through knowledge
EXPERIENCED TECHNICIAN NEEDED

CMT Technician with 2 to 6 yrs experience in earthwork, and construction. NICET Level I or II helpful. Troxler Certificate a plus. Salary according to experience w/ Benefits.

Send resume to dbach@ulrichengineers.com or Fax 713-706-3686. Ulrich Engineers, Inc.

Ash Grove, Alamo team up on powder distribution for Houston market

Source: Ash Grove Cement Co., Overland Park, Kansas

Ash Grove Cement and San Antonio-based Alamo Cement Co. have announced a venture to build a Port of Houston cement terminal with annual throughput capacity of 1.5 million metric tons. The venture will add a 100,000-metric ton terminal, scheduled for completion in the spring of 2006, to an existing Ash Grove facility with 1 million-mtpy throughput. Sales from the terminal will be managed separately by Ash Grove and Alamo to their respective customers.

The venture represents a new partnership in Texas for Ash Grove. The company had held a 50 percent stake in the Port of Houston property and the 900,000-tpy North Texas Cement Co. (Midlothian) plant; it assumed full ownership in January 2003 following a $125 million transaction with London-based Hanson Plc. The venture marks the first distribution property outside San Antonio for Alamo Cement, which has a 1.4 million-tp-capacity plant and is one of the U.S. cement industry’s original producers. The company is owned by Buzzi Unicem SpA of Italy and operates as a separate entity from Buzzi Unicem USA, a recently established umbrella for the former Lone Star, RC, Hercules, Heartland and Signal Mountain cement brands.
2004 Membership Application

Date: ____________________________________________

Please return to the address above

_____ Mr. _____ Mrs. _____ Ms. _____ Dr.   Date of Birth Month / Day/Year ________________________

Name: ____________________________________________
      First Name   Middle Initial   Last

Employer: ____________________________________________
          Title

Business (_____) Check for Preferred Address   Home (_____) Check for Preferred Address

________________________________________________________________________
      Street           Suite                    Street
                                                                ____________________________________________________________________
      City    State   Zip      City           State  Zip

Phone/Fax ____________________________________________

E-Mail address: ____________________________________________

DUES SCHEDULE
Effective January 1 through December 31
Please make checks payable to: Houston Chapter ACI

_____ Contributing - $50.00+ (Anyone wishing
   To lend greater Chapter support)

_____ Organizational - $40.00 (One designated
   Member per company)

_____ Student - $10.00 (12 hr/semester
   minimum)

_____ Individual - $15.00 (must be ACI
   international member)

   ACI International Member # __________

_____ Affiliate - $25.00 (Local Chapter member only.  NOTE: You will NOT be an ACI International member)

MEMBER PROFILE INFORMATION (PLEASE CHECK ONE)
Principal Occupation/Specialty:

_____ Architecture    _____ Civil Engineering    _____ Consulting Engineer
_____ Materials Engineering    _____ Distribut. Or Manufacturer    _____ Education
_____ Environmental Engineering    _____ General Contractor    _____ Governmental Agencies
_____ Structural Engineering    _____ Pavement Contractor    _____ Research
_____ Ready Mix Concrete    _____ Specialty Contractor    _____ Other __________

Specialty/Area of Expertise: ____________________________________________

progress through knowledge
Do NOT miss the opportunity to participate in this exciting panel discussion on
Cementitious Materials, Water and Aggregate
– The Three Cinderellas of Concrete

DATE: Wednesday, June 9, 2004
TIME: 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
PLACE: Houston Chapter AGC, 3825 Dacoma, Houston, TX 77092
PRICE: FREE!
THE PANEL:
Panel Chair: Mr. Jeffrey Roberts, P.E., Principal, HBC/Terracon, Houston, Texas
PANELISTS:
Mr. Herb Brown, Director of Technical Services, Campbell Concrete & Materials, L.P.
Mr. Donald Taubert, Director, Promotion & Technical Services, Capitol Cement
Dr. Richard Szechy, P.E., Vice President, Lattimore Materials
Dr. Dallas N. Little, P.E., Professor of Civil Engineering, Texas A&M University

AUDIENCE: Contractors, Structural and Materials Engineers, Consultants, Specifiers, Cement and Concrete Produc-

CONTENT:
Come and listen to what the experts have to say about the roles of cement, fly ash, slag, silica fume, wa-
ter, and aggregates in concrete. The panelists will answer questions such as - can we really use recycled water in concrete, how much water is needed for a practical concrete mix design, what are the true ad-
vantages of reducing water-cementious ratio and how to do it, what are the actual benefits of using sup-
plementary cementing materials and their availability in Texas, how much and what type of cement to use, what are the different types of available aggregates and their impact on the properties of concrete,
how important are shape and texture of aggregate? etc.
Ask as many questions as you want, express your views freely, exchange ideas and information about cement, fly ash, slag, silica fume, aggregates ,and water.

RESERVATIONS:
FAX: 713-843-3777 or 713-934-8905; EMAIL: susan.n@agchouston.org or rhutchinson@alliancelabs.net
MAIL: Houston Chapter AGC, P. O. Box 662, Houston, TX 77001 or Houston Chapter ACI, Alliance Laboratories, Inc., 5650 Guhn Road, Houston, Texas 77040.
QUESTIONS: 713-843-3710 or 713-843-3745

This program is sponsored and supported through a joint effort of the ACI Houston Chapter and the Houston Chapter of AGC

progress through knowledge
ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to inform you that ACI Houston Chapter has decided to start a Newsletter with effect from March/April 2004. The Newsletter will be printed and distributed electronically every quarter. Besides important news items and brief articles, it will carry a number of important announcements and dates that may be useful for you.

Please fill up the form below if you want to be in the circulation list of the Newsletter.

The Newsletter will also have an advertisement section. The cost of business card size advertisement will be $100.00 per year, that is, 4 issues of the Newsletter.

If your company wishes to advertise, then please complete the form below and send it in with a check for $100.00 payable to ACI Houston Chapter. You may send your business card advertisement electronically to pshrestha@rkci.com or mail it to the address above. For further details about the Newsletter, please contact Mr. Pradhumna Shrestha, P.E., e-mail: pshrestha@rkci.com

ACI Houston Chapter Newsletter

Name ____________________________________________________________

Company _________________________________________________________

Address _________________________________________________________

E-mail: _________________________________________________________

____ Please keep me on your mailing list.

____ My company would like to advertise in the Newsletter. A check for $100.00 is enclosed.

____ The advertisement is enclosed.  ____ It has been sent electronically