

ACI Codes Provide a Suite of Concrete Knowledge

ACI offers more than 20 codes that help design professionals create quality concrete projects around the world. Covering topics such as structural concrete design, concrete repair, concrete reinforced with glass fiber-reinforced polymer bars, and nuclear safety, ACI codes are developed through a consensus process that has produced dependable standards for over 100 years.

ACI codes are developed by volunteer committees made up of the brightest minds in the concrete industry. Twice a year, hundreds of ACI committees convene at the ACI Concrete Convention to develop documents necessary to keep up with the ever-changing world of concrete technology.

The next code to be updated is ACI CODE-376, Refrigerated Liquefied Gas Containment for Concrete Structures—Code Requirements and Commentary. ACI CODE-376 will be updated and added to the extensive list of codes ACI offers in the coming months.

To get involved in the Institute's document development process, complete an online committee membership application to highlight your personal, professional, and academic accomplishments at www.concrete.org/committees/joinacommittee.

ACI Hosts Third Annual 24 Hours of Concrete Knowledge Conference

ACI recently hosted the third 24 Hours of Concrete Knowledge Conference (24HCK) along with ACI international chapters and partners. The free conference on July 11-12, 2023, brought together more than 700 attendees from 64 countries to learn about the latest concrete-related research, innovations, and interesting projects from various regions.

ACI international chapters and partners co-hosted and moderated over the course of 24 hours, and ACI Vice President Michael Paul and ACI International Advisory Committee Chair Samhar Hoz served as global moderators for the conference.

For information on how to participate in 2024, contact Bernie Pekor, ACI Director, International Business Development, at bernie.pekor@concrete.org.

Join the ACI Resource Center – Chicago/Midwest at Chicago Build 2023

Free registration is now open for the Chicago Build Expo on October 11-12, 2023, at the McCormick Place, Chicago, IL, USA. Rusty Owings, AIA, Manager, ACI Resource Center – Chicago/Midwest, will be at the event to speak about the Chicago/Midwest Resource Center. His session “ACI Resource Center - In Partnership with The American

Concrete Institute (ACI)” will be held on October 12, 2023, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The construction and design show will feature more than 400 speakers and 250 exhibitors. For more information about Chicago Build 2023, visit www.chicagobuildexpo.com.

International Outreach of ACI for Bridge Engineers around the Globe

Bridge engineers from more than 15 countries gathered for the Bridge Engineering Institute Conference 2023 (BEI-2023) held in Rome, Italy, on July 17-20, 2023. ACI President Antonio Nanni delivered an invited talk titled, “ACI International: Organization and New Initiatives.” Nanni highlighted ACI's vision and mission along with its strategic goals and objectives. He also elaborated on the ACI Centers of Excellence: Carbon Neutral Concrete (NEU) and Nonmetallic Building Materials (NEX). Isamu Yoshitake, Chair of the Organizing Committee and a Professor at Yamaguchi University in Japan, stated that the presentation was an exceptional opportunity to learn about the professional activities of ACI and the value of its international outreach endeavors. The Bridge Engineering Institute (BEI), an international technical society, is a nonprofit organization that promotes the knowledge of bridge engineering, fosters next-generation engineers, and provides a forum for international cooperation.

For more information, visit www.beibrIDGE.org.



Jimmy Kim, FACI, with Antonio Nanni, ACI President, at BEI 2023

ASCE Infographic on Bridge Asset Management Recognized with SIIA EXCEL Award

Presented by the Software and Information Industry Association (SIIA), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) received a SIIA EXCEL Award for its infographic,

Bridge Asset Management. This recognition highlights ASCE’s commitment to sustainably advance the civil engineering profession and protect the health, safety, and welfare of all. The EXCEL Awards are recognized as a benchmark for excellence and leadership in the field of media, publishing, marketing, and communication. Each year, the EXCEL Awards celebrate organizations that have demonstrated outstanding editorial and design achievements.

ASCE Publications won the silver award in the infographics category. The ASCE Publications infographic program was established to provide practicing civil engineers with guidance on advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Impact Science was instrumental in developing the infographics collection creating an engaging and informative tool for ASCE’s civil engineering members.

The bridge infographic highlights ASCE’s 2021 Report Card for America’s Infrastructure and the aging condition of

bridges across the United States. The collection of papers along with the infographic focus on bridge maintenance needs and management techniques to assist stakeholders with asset management practices, which have been known to reduce maintenance costs and prevent safety hazards.

OSHA Safe + Sound Week

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) joined businesses nationwide to recognize the successes of workplace safety and health programs during Safe + Sound Week, held August 7-13, 2023.

The annual event involves thousands of work sites that promote the benefits of safety and health programs that include management leadership, worker participation, and a systematic approach to finding and fixing hazards. Businesses that incorporate safety and health programs can help prevent injuries and illnesses, reduce workers’ compensation costs, and improve productivity.



Minnich Flex Shaft Vibrators

Built to exceed your expectations and outperform the competition. With results in mind, our vibrators are engineered for control and durability, ensuring a smooth and flawless pour every time. With more control over your results and a longer lifespan than other options on the market, our flex shaft concrete vibrators are the perfect choice for the professional looking to take their work to the next level.



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CONCRETE VIBRATORS AND DOWEL PIN DRILLS

This year's program focused on mental health and well-being and resources to help alleviate workplace stress and support mental health. Mental health, workplace stress, and suicide have very real work-related implications, especially in the construction industry where the suicide rate is 3-1/2 times higher than that of the general population.

For more information, visit www.osha.gov/safeandsoundweek.

ACPA Announces Concrete Pipe Week 2023

The American Concrete Pipe Association (ACPA) announced Concrete Pipe Week 2023 will be held September 24-30, 2023. Concrete Pipe Week recognizes the significance of concrete pipe and box culverts and affirms their contributions to building long-lasting and sustainable communities and infrastructure.

The 2023 theme is "Engineered Strength. Proven Resilience. Undeniable Sustainability." and reflects the overall value, position, and benefit of both reinforced concrete pipe and box culverts.

"Concrete Pipe Week celebrates the nation's resilient infrastructure," said ACPA President, Steven Hawkins, AIA. "Like oxygen, the infrastructure hidden beneath the places we travel, work, and play, is largely taken for granted until the moment we don't have enough. Concrete pipe is central to the nation's infrastructure and has proven itself remarkably reliable for more than a century. We believe this is reason to celebrate the products our industry contributes to the nation's resilient infrastructure."

The week-long Concrete Pipe Week celebration includes activities and events at the national, state, and local levels that parallel this year's theme:

- Concrete Pipe Plant Virtual Tour: Take a trip to Savannah,

GA, USA, to tour ACPA member Diamond Concrete Product's recently renovated facilities. Virtual tour attendees will gain insights into the production process and have a chance to see the engineered strength of a pipe firsthand;

- Complimentary webinars: Three free webinars are being offered for attendees to learn more about concrete pipe and the resources available from the ACPA and its affiliated state associations. Presentations include Concrete Pipe – Proven Resilience, Concrete Pipe – Undeniable Sustainability, and Finding Resources that Work for You; and
- State proclamations: Governors and other elected officials from around the country share their support and pride in concrete pipe by signing state declarations for Concrete Pipe Week. Declarations, pictures, and public sentiments are shared leading up to and during this week.

In addition to the online activities, ACPA members from across the country are hosting in-person plant tours, customer appreciation events, and offering educational opportunities.

To register for the virtual tour and webinars and for more information, visit www.concretepipeweek.org.

Masonry Standards Online Platform Launches with TMS 402/602-16

The Masonry Society (TMS) launched the new Masonry Standards Online subscription platform, which provides easy access to TMS standards from anywhere with enhanced commentary, additional features, and multi-user access.

Masonry Standards Online standards are available through individual annual subscriptions. The 2016 edition of TMS 402/TMS 602, Building Code Requirements and Specification for Masonry Structures, is now available and the 2022 edition of these standards is currently in development. Additional TMS standards, including Standards for Architectural Cast Stone, 2016 Edition and Sound Standard, 2018, are planned for release in 2024.

Masonry Standards Online provides features not available through standard digital options, such as the ability to highlight and annotate, links to references (including free access to references from the *TMS Journal* and North American Masonry Conference papers), and advanced search options.

For more information and how to subscribe, visit <https://masonrysociety.org/masonry-standards-online/>.

Nonresidential Construction Employment Increases in July

The construction industry added 19,000 jobs on net in July 2023, according to an Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) analysis of data released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. On a year-over-year basis, industry employment has

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expanded by 198,000 jobs, an increase of 2.5%.

Nonresidential construction employment increased by 10,600 positions on net, with growth in two of the three subcategories. Nonresidential building added 10,500 positions, while heavy and civil engineering added an additional 2200 jobs. Nonresidential specialty trade lost 2100 jobs on net.

The construction unemployment rate rose to 3.9% in July. Unemployment across all industries declined from 3.6% in June to 3.5% last month.

“The economy is slowing, and inflation remains problematic,” said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. “While many economists have reversed their predictions of a near-term recession and conclude that the Federal Reserve will be able to engineer a soft landing, the August 2023 report is a reminder that risks remain. Not only is the economy slowing, but wage pressures remain. Accordingly, the war on excess inflation has not yet been won, which means that the Federal Reserve may not be done raising rates.

“That said, nonresidential construction contractors continue to expand their payrolls,” said Basu. “General and public works contractors collectively hired thousands of people in July. However, weakness in several commercial real estate segments may help explain job losses among nonresidential contractors last month. Nonetheless, construction worker wages continue to grow rapidly in the context of structural skills shortages. According to data from the ADP Pay Insights report, construction workers who stayed at their job saw a 6.4% wage increase over the past year, or more than twice the rate of inflation.

“ABC’s Construction Confidence Index indicates that contractors will collectively continue to expand staffing for the rest of 2023,” said Basu. “That will presumably keep upward pressure

on industry wages even if the broader economy continues to soften.”

For the Construction Backlog Indicator and Construction Confidence

Index, as well as analysis of spending, employment, job openings, and the Producer Price Index, visit www.abc.org/economics.

NEW and UPDATED ACI Specifications



Specifications for Concrete Construction

ACI's 301-20 is a specification that architects and engineers can apply to any construction project involving structural concrete.

Field Reference Manual

ACI's *Field Reference Manual* is a compilation of ACI 301-20, "Specifications for Structural Concrete," and additional ACI documents.



American Concrete Institute
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