

ACI Presents the 2023 People's Choice Award to Vermosa Land Development Project

Following the ACI Concrete Convention in Boston, MA, USA, voting was opened to the public to judge and select their favorite concrete project entered in the 9th Annual ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards to win the People's Choice Award.

The 2023 People's Choice Award was presented to Vermosa Land Development Project, located in Imus, Cavite, Philippines. The project was entered in the flatwork category and nominated by the ACI Philippines Chapter.

Vermosa is Ayala Land's fourth-largest estate offering a diverse array of living options complimented by retail, business, sports, and fitness amenities. The 700 ha (1730 acre) estate is accessible to key urban centers through Daang Hari, South Luzon Expressway, and the Cavite-Laguna Expressway. It is primed to become a growth center south of Metro Manila. As the general contractor, Makati Development Corporation (MDC) spearheaded land development works for the estate, which involved the construction of the 4.3 km (2.7 mile) Vermosa Spine Road, Marathon Roadside Development, and Champions Loop Road, as well as the 40.9 m (134.2 ft) long and 21.5 m (70.5 ft) wide four-lane Vermosa Bridge. MDC is also undertaking the construction of various residential, commercial, sports, and fitness developments inside the estate.

Project credits: ACI Philippines Chapter, Nominator; Ayala Land Incorporated, Owner; ESCA Inc., Architectural Firm; Makati Development Corporation, General Contractor; and MDC ConQrete, Inc., Concrete Supplier.



Vermosa Land Development Project

Portland Cement Association Elects 2024 Board of Directors Chair and Vice Chair

The Portland Cement Association (PCA) announced new leadership for its Board of Directors. **Massimo Toso** has been elected PCA Board Chair. Toso is the current President and CEO at Buzzi Unicem USA and has served the last year as Vice Chair to former Chair **Filiberto Ruiz**.



Toso



Manolas

Monica Manolas is PCA's new Vice Chair and the first woman in the twenty-first century to be elected to the position. Manolas currently serves as President of Ash Grove East.

In addition, **Jorge Wagner**, CEO of Votorantim Cimentos North America, was elected to the PCA Board of Directors.

In October 2021, PCA's Board of Directors set forth the industry's Roadmap to Carbon Neutrality, which is an overall strategy for the cement, concrete, and construction industries to collaborate in initiatives to cut carbon emissions and reach neutrality by the year 2050, if not sooner.

"As I assume the role of Chair in this pivotal moment, let our leadership unite in a shared commitment," said Chair Toso. "Together, as the cement industry, we must confirm our goal to be part of the carbon reduction program defined by the PCA Roadmap to Carbon Neutrality and be sure that cement and concrete will remain the most resilient and sustainable construction materials in the market."

Vice Chair Manolas said, "With the PCA zero-carbon Roadmap as a guide and the exciting opportunities in this golden age of construction, I am both honored and excited to be elected as the first woman Vice Chair of PCA in the twenty-first century. I am committed to helping our communities build a more resilient world with a strong and sustainable cement and concrete industry."

Engineers Week 2024

Engineers Week 2024 will run from February 18 to 24, 2024. This year's theme "Welcome to the Future" is about celebrating today's achievements and paving the way for a brighter and more diverse future in engineering.

Engineering is at the forefront of innovation and is instrumental in designing and creating the solutions that are shaping the world of tomorrow. From the development of the internet and smartphones to space exploration and renewable energy solutions, engineers have been at the forefront of progress, making our lives more efficient, comfortable, and connected. Through their creativity, expertise, and dedication, engineering teams are addressing global challenges, driving technological advancements, and making

a positive impact on society's future.

DiscoverE, the organization behind Engineers Week, offers free resources to inspire future innovators, such as hands-on engineering activities and lesson plans, information about engineering education, and pathways to technical careers.

For more information, visit <https://discovere.org/programs/engineers-week>.

ACPA Announces New Board of Directors and Chair

The American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) announced **Ernie Peterson** of Ash Grove Cement Company as Chair of the Board of Directors in 2024.

Peterson is the Vice President of Sales – Midwest for Ash Grove, responsible for sales and transportation functions in eight states from South Dakota to Louisiana. Peterson has worked for Ash Grove for 25 years in various capacities. He joined Ash Grove in 1992 as a sales representative in western



Peterson

Iowa. In 1998, he went to work for Fibermesh and then became the Executive Director of the Nebraska Concrete & Aggregates Association. In 2002, he rejoined Ash Grove as a District Sales Manager, moving up to Regional Sales Manager and holding that role for 15 years before becoming Vice President in 2012. He was on the Board of Directors for the National Concrete Pavement

Technology Center for two terms and is a Past President of the Nebraska Concrete Paving Association.

He received his BA from Iowa State University, Ames, IA, USA, and his MS from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD, USA.

ACPA also recently elected a new slate of Board members, including **Ruben Guerrero**, Salt River Materials Group; **Joe Weishaar**, Plote Construction, Inc.; **Joel Galassini**,

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CONCRETE VIBRATORS AND DOWEL PIN DRILLS

Cemex; and **Greg Mulder**, Iowa Concrete Paving Association.

OSHA Announces Switch from Traditional Hard Hats to Safety Helmets

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced that the agency is replacing traditional hard hats used by its employees with more modern safety helmets for better protection on inspection sites.

In 2020, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that head injuries accounted for nearly 6% of nonfatal occupational injuries involving days away from work. Almost half of those injuries occurred when workers came in contact with objects or equipment, while about 20% were caused by slips, trips, and falls.

Dating back to the 1960s, traditional hard hats protect the top of a worker's head but have minimal side impact protection and lack chin straps. Without the straps, traditional hard hats can fall off a worker's head if they slip or trip, leaving them unprotected. In addition, traditional hard hats lack vents and trap heat inside.

On November 22, 2023, OSHA published a Safety and Health Information Bulletin detailing key differences between traditional hard hats and more modern safety helmets and the advancements in design, materials, and other features that help protect workers' entire heads better. Today's safety helmets may also offer face shields or goggles to protect against projectiles, dust, and chemical splashes. Others offer built-in hearing protection, communication systems, or both to enable clear communication in noisy environments.

The agency recommends safety helmets to be used by people working in the construction industry and the oil and gas industry; in high-temperature, specialized work, and low-risk environments; performing tasks involving electrical work and working from heights; and when required by regulations or industry standards.

OSHA wants employers to make safety and health a core value in their workplaces and is committed to doing the same by leading by example and embracing the evolution of head protection. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

CRSI Announces New Board Members

The Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI) appointed **Brad Cottrell** as Chair of the Board, along with five new officers, to steward the Institute.

Cottrell has been with CMC for over 27 years. Having spent time originally in CMC's trading division, for the past 18 years he has held various roles in CMC's reinforcing bar fabrication and mills segments. He currently serves as CMC's Vice President – Commercial & Supply Chain at CMC in Irving, TX, USA.

"I am looking forward to serving CRSI in the role of Chairman and especially look forward to celebrating our 100-year anniversary next year. It's quite an accomplishment for any organization to reach that milestone, and I'm proud of the work that CRSI does to promote the use of steel-reinforced concrete."

In addition, new officers on CRSI's Board include **Juan Anaya**, Cascade Steel Rolling Mills, Inc.; **Rob Dailey**, CMC; **Erik Johnson**, Nucor; **Ronnie Johnson**, Nucor; and **Scott McCornack**, Morse Steel, as At-Large Directors; and **Mary Alwin**, Nucor Harris Rebar, as the Chair of the CRSI Foundation in a non-voting Director role.

CRSI thanks **Don Barney**, Nucor; **Kevin Cornell**, Salit Specialty Rebar; **Layne Jones**, CMC; **Dean Peery**, Gerdau; and **Marty Lancial**, CMC, who will be rotating off the Board, for their service to the Institute, Foundation, and the industry.

CRSI Board members who will continue to serve during 2023-2024 include Vice Chair, **Adam Simmet**, Simcote, Inc.; Secretary/Treasurer, **Bethany Hennings**, Gerdau; Past Chair, **Jeff Estep**, Farwest Steel Reinforcing Steel Company; **Andre Belland**, Rebarfab, Inc.; **Micah Bodily**, Rocky Mountain Rebar, LLC/Western States Rebar Fabrication, Inc.; **Bill Couturier**, Barton Malow Company; **Rob Faircloth**, Contractors Materials Company; **Robert McClean**, CMC; **Eugene McManus**, Nucor Rebar Fabrication; **Spence Peters**, Steel Dynamics, Inc.; and **Carrie Sayers**, ABC Coating Michigan, At-Large Directors; Chair, Marketing Committee, **William Brack**, Nucor Rebar Fabrication; Chair, Engineering Practice Committee, **Lou Colarusso**, nVent; Chair, Member

ReadCi

ONLINE COVER-TO-COVER

A full version of the current issue of *Concrete International* is available to ACI members by logging in at www.concreteinternational.com.

Click "download the issue" on the magazine's home page.



Services Committee, **Matthew Schewe**, CMC, Ex-Officio Directors; and CRSI President and CEO, **Danielle Kleinhans**, Non-Voting Director.

The International Code Council Releases 2024 International Codes

The International Code Council's (ICC) 2024 International Codes® (I-Codes®) are now available in print and digital formats. As part of ICC's digital transformation strategy to enhance the user experience, the updated I-Codes have undergone substantial design and formatting changes, resulting in a revolutionary design that improves readability and sustainability.

The recently released I-Codes include the 2024 editions of the International Building Code®, International Existing Building Code®, International Fuel Gas Code®, International Mechanical Code®, International Plumbing Code®, International Private Sewage Disposal Code®, International Property Maintenance Code®, International Swimming Pool and Spa Code®, International Wildland-Urban Interface Code®, International Zoning Code®, and ICC Performance Code for Buildings and Facilities®. The remaining 2024 I-Codes will be released in early 2024.

Other notable changes to the 2024 I-Codes include QR codes replacing marginal markings and a new NFC tag pilot program. More information on style changes made to the I-Codes can be found at https://shop.iccsafe.org/international-codes.html?code_cycle=2024.

ASTM International Announces 2024 ASTM International Board Chair

Bill Griese, Deputy Executive Director for the Tile Council of North America, has started his term as the 2024 Chair of the ASTM International Board of Directors.

ASTM International's Board comprises 25 leaders from a variety of companies, associations, universities, government bodies, and other organizations around the world.

Through his role, Griese has been involved with standards development, product testing, and research, as well as representing North American ceramic tile and allied product manufacturers in regulatory, legislative, trade, and environmental matters.

Griese joined ASTM International in 2007 and served three consecutive terms as Chair of ASTM Committee C21, Ceramic Whitewares and Related Products. He also has been Chair of the ASTM Committee on Technical Committee Operations. He is Chair of ASTM Subcommittee C21.06, Ceramic Tile, and he is also a member of the ASTM Committees E60, Sustainability, and C15, Manufactured Masonry Units. He received the 2013 James A. Thomas

President's Leadership Award for his contributions to ASTM Committee C21. In 2018, Griese received the Award of Merit from C21.

Griese, who regularly conducts seminars and contributes articles to industry publications, is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accredited professional. He is also involved with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and other standards groups, and he is a U.S. delegate to the World Ceramic Tiles Forum.

After receiving his BS in ceramic and materials engineering from Clemson University, Clemson, SC, USA, Griese joined the Tile Council as a laboratory engineer. He began working on industry standards in 2007 and assumed his current role in 2023.

In Remembrance



Thornton

Charles H. Thornton passed away on December 12, 2023, at the age of 83. A Founding Principal of Thornton Tomasetti, he served as Chair and CEO. During his 60-year career, he served a leading role in the design and construction of some of the world's most famous buildings while helping to transform a small New York engineering firm into the international multidisciplinary

organization it is today.

Under Thornton's and Richard Tomasetti's leadership, the firm developed a reputation for innovation and excellence. The firm amassed a portfolio of high-rise buildings, airports, sports and entertainment venues, transportation hubs, and special and long-span structures.

Thornton received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Manhattan College, Riverdale, NY, USA, and his master's and doctoral degrees from New York University, New York, NY. He joined Lev Zetlin Associates in 1960 and worked on multiple pavilions at the 1964 World's Fair in New York. In 1977, Zetlin accepted an offer from Gable Industries to buy the firm. Six years later, Thornton Tomasetti bought the firm back and turned it private. In subsequent years, they developed a successful ownership transition plan that has led to today's dynamic management. After retiring in 2004, Thornton continued to serve in an advisory position.

In 1994, he founded the ACE Mentor Program, a nonprofit organization that introduces high school students to potential careers in the architecture, construction, and engineering industries. The Charles H. Thornton Scholarship has been established in his honor; visit www.acementor.org/cht-scholarship/.