Seawater Concrete Committee

The ACI Technical Activities Committee approved a new technical committee, ACI Committee 243, Seawater Concrete. The committee’s mission is to “Develop and report information on concrete made with brackish, saline, and brine water and sea aggregates.”

The committee will meet at the ACI Concrete Convention – Fall 2024 in Philadelphia, PA, USA, and ACI Past President Antonio Nanni, FACI, will serve as Chair. Those interested in the work of this committee are encouraged to attend.

For more information about joining ACI committees and to submit an application, visit www.concrete.org/committees/joinacommittee.aspx.

ACI Sponsors 2024 ICC Building Safety Month

ACI sponsored the International Code Council’s (ICC) 44th annual Building Safety Month. Building Safety Month is an international campaign celebrated in May to raise awareness about building safety. This year, ACI sponsored the week of May 26-31, 2024, with a theme of “Celebrating Success in Building Safety.”

As a global society of 35,000 members dedicated to the development, dissemination, and adoption of consensus-based standards, technical resources, and educational programs, ACI supports Building Safety Month to highlight the important role of building codes in creating safe and sustainable communities.

“ACI is committed to ensuring that everyone has the knowledge needed to use concrete safely and effectively. ACI has been developing consensus standards for reference in building codes since 1941,” said Steve Szoke, ACI Code Advocacy Engineer. “Increased knowledge, understanding in-situ performance during severe events, and advancing technologies continue to demand the development and maintenance of reference standards intended for adoption and enforcement in current building codes to better safeguard the public.”

ACI offers a variety of resources for building officials, including select free publications, a new personnel qualifications document, and access to the four-part Concrete International building safety article series. To access these free resources, visit www.concrete.org/tools/codeofficials.aspx.

2024 ACI Professors’ Workshop

Registration for ACI’s 2024 Professors’ Workshop is now open. The Professors’ Workshop is designed to provide instructors in civil engineering, architecture, architectural engineering, materials science, and construction management programs the latest tools and teaching techniques to effectively engage students in courses that cover structural concrete design, construction, materials, and pavements. This year’s event will be held in three stages on July 15, 23, and 24, 2024.

The first stage is composed of a series of asynchronous presentations that can be completed at the attendee’s convenience through ACI University. The second part will be an online-only event on July 15, and the third part will be a face-to-face event held at ACI World Headquarters in Farmington Hills, MI, USA, on July 23 and 24. Prominent faculty and industry representatives will present information and resources to assist professors in preparing or fine-tuning their concrete-related courses. Those who register will have access to both online and in-person portions of the event.

The asynchronous online portion of the workshop will focus on providing teaching resources that are suited for both online and face-to-face formats. Although the online portion will focus on providing resources, interactive online sessions are also planned to facilitate discussion and exchange ideas. Face-to-face sessions in Farmington Hills, MI, will be highly interactive. Attendees will participate in numerous breakout sessions to develop course goals, student learning objectives in the context of topical modules, instructional materials, laboratory activities, and assessments. Breakout sessions will be guided by the Professors’ Workshop faculty with the opportunity to exchange teaching ideas with faculty and fellow attendees. Attendees will receive a certificate of participation for attending the workshop.

For more information and to register, visit www.concrete.org/events/professorsworkshop.

ACI Releases 2024 ACI Collection of Concrete Codes, Specifications, and Practices

ACI released the 2024 ACI Collection of Concrete Codes, Specifications, and Practices. The ACI Collection is the most comprehensive and largest single source of information on concrete design, construction, materials, and repair, with over 50 codes and specifications and more than 200 practices, including all guides and reports.

The 2024 version includes dozens of newly published documents ranging from codes on fiber-reinforced polymer to guides for concrete rehabilitation, shotcrete, and much more. Additional categories in the ACI Collection include concrete materials, properties, design, construction, reinforcement, specialized application, repair, structural analysis, and innovation, as well as popular topics such as slabs, formwork, and masonry.

Through an online digital subscription, users can access the most up-to-date version of all ACI documents and every new document as soon as it is published. In addition, the ACI Collection Online includes access to current and historical
versions of ACI’s codes and specifications, along with versions in both inch-pound and SI units. The online subscription is designed for individual users, with features such as single-word title and full text search capabilities, plus access from any location with an internet connection. The collection is also available as a USB drive or a nine-volume set of books.

Special online access for multiple users, entire offices, and large multi-national companies, is also available.

**ACPA Announces Formation of Consortium to Support FHWA Low Carbon Funding**

In recognition of the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA’s) funding announcement—the Low-Carbon Transportation Materials (LCTM) grant program—the American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) announced a supporting industry consortium, the Reduced Carbon Concrete Consortium (RC3). The ACPA, National Concrete Pavement Technology Center (CP Tech Center), and other qualified engineering professionals created RC3 in anticipation of the LCTM program, with the purpose of helping disseminate information on reducing carbon in the construction process and assisting departments of transportation (DOTs) and other qualifying entities with the LCTM application. RC3 is also available to provide technical assistance to DOTs and facilitate contractor preparedness with critical next steps, such as environmental product declarations (EPDs).

The ACPA will develop and release various materials and offer specifications consultation, materials selection consultation, workshops, technical engineering support, and other program advisement. The recently released CP Tech Center publication “Guide for Reducing the Cradle-to-Gate Embodied Carbon Emissions of Paving Concrete” is currently available to help agencies reduce the environmental impacts incurred during the production of paving concrete before it leaves the concrete plant.

Leadership of RC3 includes Thomas J. Van Dam, FACI, Principal at Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.; Lawrence L.
Sutter, FACI, Principal at Sutter Engineering LLC; ACPA; and CP Tech Center.

For more details on the FHWA and U.S. DOT announcement, visit www.fhwa.dot.gov/lowcarbon.

Sixteenth Annual International DCC Awards
The Decorative Concrete Council (DCC) of the American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC), St. Louis, MO, USA, launched its Sixteenth Annual International DCC Awards program for 2024. This award program recognizes and celebrates exceptional decorative concrete projects from around the globe.

Entries for the 2024 awards will be reviewed and evaluated by a panel of industry professionals. Winners will be chosen in each of the following 12 categories: Polished Concrete & Overlays, Architectural Concrete (cast-in-place structures), Cast-in-Place Stamped Concrete, Cast-in-Place Special Finishes, Countertops/Furniture/Firepits, Multiple Applications (projects with installations spanning two or more categories), Concrete Artistry, Stained & Dyes, Vertical/Façades, Project Video, Decorative Resinous Coatings, and Cementitious Overlays. In addition, one project will be selected to receive the WOW! Award, recognizing it as the best in show.

The awards will be presented at the 2024 ASCC Annual Conference scheduled for September 18-21, 2024, in Kansas City, MO.

The deadline for submissions is June 17, 2024. For more information about the award categories, eligibility criteria, and submission guidelines, visit https://ascc.secure-platform.com/site.

IMI JBC Masonry Innovation Competition
Registration is open for the International Masonry Institute (IMI) JBC Masonry Innovation Competition. The aim is to challenge practicing and aspiring architects and engineers to advance the future of masonry design and construction. Designers have the power to help create resilient and equitable communities, but solving global challenges to improve the world demands innovation. IMI wants to see bold new concepts that show how masonry can better the built environment.

Monetary awards will be provided to first-place winners in each of the three entry categories: Students; Young Architects/Engineers; and A/E Firms, Individual Architects/Engineers, and Cross-Category. Winners will also receive special publicity and promotion, including being highlighted in IMI's digital publications, presented on IMI's webinar series, and honored during an awards ceremony with industry professionals.

Entries will be evaluated by a panel of architects and leaders in the masonry design and construction industry. The following criteria will be used to judge submissions:

- Innovation (45%): The idea provides a groundbreaking proposal for positioning masonry. The idea generates added value or usefulness, improvement, or increases masonry’s relevance;
- Execution of idea (30%): The idea is clearly communicated and understood; and
- Creativity (25%): The solution shows original thinking.

The deadline for submissions is July 15, 2024. For more information, visit https://imiweb.org/jbcaward/.

DFI Hosting Online Course on Working Platform Design and Verification
The Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) is hosting a live, online instructional course “Working Platform Design & Verification.” The two-part course is being offered twice: June 27 and July 11, 2024, or October 3 and 17, 2024, from 3 to 5 p.m. ET.

The workshop is led by Martin Larisch, an industry expert on the design of temporary working platforms for piling rigs and cranes. Workshop topics include:

- The Federation of Piling Specialists (FPS) method to assess the critical track pressures applied by piling rigs;
- Two common guidelines for the design of temporary working platforms (BRE470 and TWF2019);
- Applicability of the different design methods for various ground conditions;
- Underlying design assumptions about load transfer from piling rigs and cranes;
- Brief introduction of static/dynamic load factors in the different design approaches;
- Effects of groundwater on the different design methods;
- Soil suitable site investigation techniques to assess the subgrade conditions and their advantages and limitations.

The course will include real world examples to expose some of the limitations and related risks.

Attendees will receive 4 PDH credits at the completion of both sessions. For more information and to register, visit https://dfi-events.org/workingplatforms-course/.

United Nations Secretary-General Appoints New Members to the High-Level Group to Champion Science, Technology, and Innovation for Sustainable Development Goals
To bolster global efforts toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the United Nations Secretary-General announced the appointment of the United Nations Group of 10 high-level representatives of civil society, the private sector, and the scientific community to promote
science, technology, and innovation for the SDGs (10-Member-Group) for 2024-2025. This group is a central component of the UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism.

The new members of the Group are: Carlos Henrique Brito Cruz (Brazil), Senior Vice President, Research Networks, Elsevier (Co-Chair); Joyeeta Gupta (Netherlands and India), Professor of Environment and Development, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, University of Amsterdam, and Professor on Sustainability, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education (Co-Chair); Magnus Andersson (Sweden), Associate Professor of Economic Geography, Department for Urban Studies, Malmö University; Vladimir Crnojević (Serbia), Founder and Director of BioSense Institute, Professor in Computer Science, University of Novi Sad; Xavier Estico (Seychelles), Founder of the Seychelles Centre for Innovation, and Sustainable Development; Motoko Kotani (Japan), Executive Vice President for Research, Professor and Principal Investigator, Advanced Institute for Materials Research & Mathematical Institute, Tohoku University, and Vice President, International Science Council; Aree Moon (Republic of Korea), President, Korea Foundation for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology, and Vice President, Korean Academy of Science and Technology; Catherine Ngila (Kenya), Executive Director, African Foundation for Women & Youth in Education, Sciences, Technology and Innovation, and former Executive Director, African Academy of Sciences; Keywan Riahi (Austria), Program Director, Energy, Climate, and Environment Program, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis; and ACI member Karen Scrivener (UK), Professor, Laboratory of Construction Materials, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland, and Founder, Nanocem.

The 10-Member-Group’s mandate is to work closely with the UN Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology, and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (IATT), providing guidance, ideas, and recommendations.

For more information, visit https://sdgs.un.org/tfm/ten-member-group.