

PCA Honors Companies' Achievements with Energy Efficiency and Safety Awards

The Portland Cement Association (PCA) announced the winners of its Energy and Environment, Safety Innovation, and Chairman's Safety Performance Awards. The PCA Energy and Environment Awards recognize outstanding environmental and community relations efforts that surpass what is required. Submissions from PCA member company plants across the United States were evaluated and recognized for environmental efforts completed in 2023. The categories and winners are:

Energy Efficiency:

- Ash Grove Cement Company - A CRH Company, Leamington, UT.

Environmental Performance:

- Buzzi Unicem USA, Festus, MO; and
- GCHI - Giant Cement Company, Harleyville, SC.

Innovative Technologies or Process:

- CalPortland Cement, Mojave, CA; and
- Titan Florida LLC, Pennsboro, FL.

Land Stewardship:

- Ash Grove Cement Company - A CRH Company, Louisville, NE.

Outreach:

- Roanoke Cement Company LLC (Titan America LLC), Troutville, VA.

Overall Excellence:

- Ash Grove Cement Company - A CRH Company, Seattle, WA.

The PCA Safety Innovation Awards reward creative solutions to safety challenges in cement facilities. Entries are judged in five areas: innovation, ease of use, ease of construction, effectiveness, and risk prevention. The winners are:

- Ash Grove Cement Company - A CRH Company, Seattle, WA;
- GCC, Rio Grande Plant, Tijeras, NM;
- Heidelberg Materials, Union Bridge, MD; and
- Salt River Materials Group, Clarkdale, AZ.

The PCA Chairman's Safety Performance Award recipients are chosen by the Occupational Health and Safety Committee based on the quantitative data recorded by the Mine Safety and Health Administration. The winning plants represent the top 10% of cement manufacturers based on accident rates. The winners are:

- Argos Puerto Rico Corporation, Dorado, Puerto Rico;
- Ash Grove Cement Company - A CRH Company, Durkee, OR;
- Ash Grove Cement Company - A CRH Company, New Braunfels, TX;
- CalPortland Company, Rillito, AZ;
- Cemex USA, Clinchfield, GA;
- Cemex USA, Lyons Cement Plant, Longmont, CO;

- Continental Cement - A Summit Materials Company, Davenport Plant, Buffalo, IA;
- GCC, Odessa, TX;
- Heidelberg Materials, Bellingham, WA;
- Heidelberg Materials, Logansport, IN;
- Heidelberg Materials, Speed Cement Plant, Sellersburg, IN; and
- Martin Marietta Materials, Midlothian, TX.



The PCA Energy and Environment, Safety Innovation, and Chairman's Safety Performance Awards

SCA Welcomes Texas Lehigh Cement Company as Its Newest Member

The Slag Cement Association (SCA), an organization of companies that produce and ship slag cement in the United States, announced the addition of Texas Lehigh Cement Company LP as its newest member company. Texas Lehigh, a fifty-fifty joint venture between Heidelberg Materials North America and Eagle Materials Inc., will be starting production at a new slag cement facility in Houston, TX, USA. With this new facility, Texas Lehigh Cement Company strengthens its cementitious materials footprint in the fast-growing Texas market while significantly reducing the carbon intensity of its product portfolio.

DCL and AMPP Partner to Unify and Digitize AMPP's Content Collection

Data Conversion Laboratory (DCL) is transforming and unifying the Association for Materials Protection and Performance's (AMPP) extensive content collection. Supported by DCL's efforts, AMPP is priming its content collections for future artificial intelligence (AI) initiatives. DCL is transforming much of AMPP's content into full-text XML, ensuring all content seamlessly flows across multiple channels and platforms. More than a half million pages of image-based PDF content are being converted to full-text JATS XML (for journal articles and conference proceedings) and full-text BITS XML (for books). Additionally, DCL

scanned and digitized more than 200,000 print pages from legacy books, magazine articles, conference proceedings, and journal articles. Standards content will also be converted.

ACR Signs Agreement with Nucor to Integrate Robotic Solutions

Advanced Construction Robotics (ACR) is partnering with Nucor Rebar Fabrication, Inc. This agreement showcases Nucor Rebar Fabrication's dedication to safety by integrating modern technologies into its operations. Nucor Rebar Fabrication will be integrating TyBOT, ACR's robotic reinforcing bar tying solution, with its crew for reinforcing bar installation projects. This collaboration is a testament to TyBOT's path to commercialization, demonstrating its ability to augment crews by increasing productivity, reducing physical strain on workers, and improving jobsite safety by integrating innovation and efficiency. This partnership between ACR and Nucor Rebar Fabrication highlights a shared commitment to safety and advancing construction technology and the distribution of robotic solutions.

IBTS Launches New, Improved and Accessible Website

The Institute for Building Technology and Safety (IBTS) launched its new website at www.ibts.org. Visitors will see refreshed content, an updated design, and a streamlined and enhanced user experience. The new IBTS website prioritizes organization and an elegant structure to ensure users can readily connect with the organization's work and find the information they need. The site's design meets Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Section 508 accessibility standards. It also uses accessiBe, an accessible website solution that allows users to adjust their experience through profiles customized to be seizure-safe and support those with visual, cognitive, and motor needs.

Arkema Teams Up with Dextra to Create Bendable Reinforcement Solutions

Arkema partnered with Dextra Group to leverage Arkema's Elium® thermoplastic resin and Dextra's fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) reinforcing bar to deliver composite fiber solutions focused on sustainability and efficiency in construction. Through this initiative, the companies aim to drive the adoption of composite material in construction, emphasizing innovative solutions, sustainability, and the qualities of glass fiber-reinforced polymer (GFRP). This partnership leverages the unique properties of Elium resin, which allows for the hot bending of FRP reinforcing bars directly on construction sites, offering flexibility and cost-

efficiency. This generation of resin can be made with up to 92% recycled material, and at the end of the product's lifetime, it can be broken down to separate the resin and fiber elements. This allows the resin to be recycled and reused, while the fiber can be upcycled to be used as reinforcement in concrete.



Arkema is collaborating with Dextra to develop bendable reinforcement using Elium resin

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