

Simpson Strong-Tie Donates \$15,000 to Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund

Nine U.S. states experienced major devastation from at least 40 tornados that ripped through the South and Midwest in late 2021. To help with relief efforts, Simpson Strong-Tie, a structural solutions provider, donated \$15,000 to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

Kentucky was hit the hardest, reporting at least 74 confirmed fatalities. These storms were considered the deadliest tornado system ever in the state. Thousands of homes were damaged or destroyed, while leaving many people without power. The American Red Cross was on the ground assessing damage and helping those impacted across the affected states. The organization opened emergency shelters in Kentucky and Tennessee and provided relief supplies and meals.

Nexii Opens First Plant in United States

Nexii Building Solutions (Nexii), a Canada-based green construction technology company, announced the opening of its first U.S. plant in Hazleton, PA, USA. The facility manufactures sustainable building products made with Nexiite, a proprietary material that can be used as an alternative to concrete but with lower embodied carbon.

Due to the high demand for green building products, Nexii also works with licensees, called Nexii Certified Manufacturers (NCM), to develop and operate additional plants across the United States and Canada. This supports the rapid expansion and supply of sustainable building products while creating new jobs in NCM communities.

Hazleton is the first NCM plant to open in the United States and is operated by Pennsylvanian partners John Wolfington and Dan Metzler of the NEXUS-1, LLC. This plant brings hundreds of new jobs to the region, with additional jobs expected in the future. The 180,000 ft² (16,700 m²) facility is located at the site of a former steel pole manufacturing plant, has a team of over 100 members at opening, and is immediately serving clients across the eastern United States.



Betolar Signs First Commercial Agreement with JA-KO Betoni

Betolar Plc and JA-KO Betoni Oy have signed a license agreement for the low-carbon Geoprime[®] concept developed by Betolar[®]. JA-KO Betoni acquires the right to use the Geoprime materials technology solution and related continuous research and development and expert services in the manufacture of its concrete products. The agreement also includes the right to use the registered Betolar and Geoprime trademarks in its products manufactured in accordance with the concept. In addition, the parties have entered into a supply agreement for the chemicals used in the Geoprime solution.

The term of the agreement is 10 years, and it covers the right to use the Geoprime concept in all concrete products produced by JA-KO Betoni. The first applications for the Geoprime solution will be in dry cast concrete products such as various infrastructure products, pole foundations, and electric car charging station stands.

Charah Solutions Awarded Multi-Year Fly Ash Sales and Marketing Contract

Charah[®] Solutions, Inc., a provider of mission-critical environmental services and by-product sales to the power generation industry, announced that it has been awarded a fly ash sales and marketing contract from a western utility for the sustainable recycling of fly ash from its plant. Charah Solutions will be responsible for the beneficiation and use of the specification-grade fly ash. The fly ash will be distributed through Charah Solutions' MultiSource[®] materials network, a distribution system of nearly 40 nationwide locations—with international sourcing and distribution—which provides a continuous and reliable supply of supplementary cementitious materials to cement and concrete producers to make “green concrete.” It is anticipated that 100% of the fly ash will be shipped by rail to markets on the West Coast.

IsoTruss Receives EPA Funding Award for R&D in Environmental Technology

IsoTruss, Inc., an engineering, design, and manufacturing services provider, announced a \$100,000 funding award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Small Business Innovation Research Program. The Phase 1 award will be applied toward the research and development of a reinforced concrete foundation for telecommunication towers to increase resiliency to natural disasters.

The proposed IsoTruss[®]-reinforced concrete foundation aims to improve the resiliency over steel-reinforced concrete by better combining the axial and shear strength of the reinforcement, providing more energy absorption and allowing IsoTruss-reinforced concrete to be rated to withstand

higher loading conditions. The IsoTruss-reinforced concrete foundations can also decrease installation costs and time.

The IsoTruss-reinforced foundation concept was successfully tested with a foam foundation pilot deployment for a commercial customer. The installation costs for this test were reduced by 60% compared to a typical tower foundation. The success of IsoTruss-reinforced concrete solutions in the telecom industry will allow future entry into other applications such as roads, bridges, and buildings.

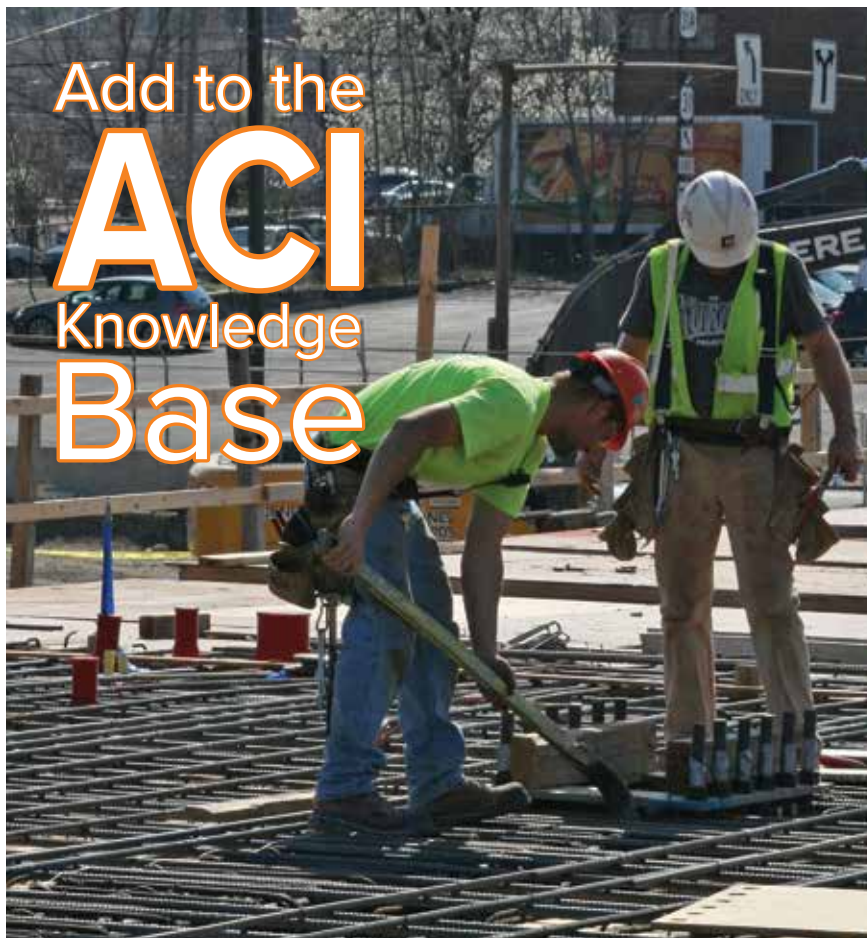
Hilti to Be Official Tool Partner of Dallas Cowboys

Hilti North America, with headquarters in Plano, TX, USA, and the Dallas Cowboys organization have announced that Hilti is to be the “Official Tool Partner of the Dallas Cowboys.” The agreement includes stadium signage and corporate events at both the AT&T Stadium in Arlington, TX, and The Star in Frisco, TX. Over the coming months, the Hilti

team will be working with Cowboy’s operations to provide solutions for facilities, quick and safe stadium turns for large-scale events, and for future construction.

The Euclid Chemical Company Awarded for Historic Bridge Restoration

The International Concrete Repair Institute (ICRI) honored The Euclid Chemical Company with the 2021 ICRI Concrete Repair Project Awards Award of Merit in the Historic Category. The award recognized Euclid Chemical for its historical restoration of the Newtown Turnpike Bridge in Fairfield County, CT, USA, originally built in 1939. The bridge is one of the rare arch bridges on the Merritt Parkway and has spent decades suffering exposure to freezing-and-thawing conditions, which caused safety issues for vehicles passing through. The restoration project consisted of the rehabilitation of the pavement, guide rail, drainage, and historic concrete façade.



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Submission guidelines are at: <https://www.concrete.org/publications/concreteinternational/submitanarticle.aspx>.

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