# Industry **Focus**

# Western Specialty Contractors Wins Trimble 2022 Viewpoint Construction Award

Western Specialty Contractors has received a Trimble Viewpoint Construction Award for the Best Use of Trimble's Construction One Technology. The award recognizes contractors that have leveraged technology solutions to create more data-driven, connected construction businesses.

Held annually, the Trimble Viewpoint Construction Awards honor the technological achievements of North American contractors as exhibited through the growth and improvements of their projects, people, and processes over the past year. Honors are given in three categories: Most Outstanding Project, Most Impressive Human Resource Achievement, and Best Use of Trimble Construction One Technology.



Western Technology staff accepting the award

# NCCER Joins with Procore Technologies for Workforce Development

The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) is partnering with Procore Technologies, Inc., a provider of construction management software. With a mission of connecting everyone in construction on a global platform, Procore helps firms increase efficiency and accountability by streamlining and mobilizing project communications and documentation. As the construction industry continues to face a labor shortage, Procore and NCCER see an opportunity to educate, train, and attract students and individuals to the industry.

Through this partnership, Procore will work with NCCER to develop a new technology-focused curriculum and educational resources, with the goal of strengthening the connection between technology and the trades.

# Solidia Technologies Pivots to Commercialization with Headquarters Move

Solidia Technologies®, a provider of decarbonization technologies and sustainable solutions to the construction and building materials industries, announced the relocation of its headquarters to San Antonio, TX, USA. The relocation and expansion are consistent with the company's progress from research and development to commercial venture.

Solidia impacts the carbon footprint of the concrete industry by reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the production of cement and strengthening concrete with captured CO<sub>2</sub>. The new 54,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (5015 m<sup>2</sup>) headquarters is designed to support the continued development and deployment of technologies that improve the performance of building materials and advance solutions in carbon capture, use, and storage (CCUS). The company will retain a satellite office in New Jersey, USA. Future expansion plans include a commercial-scale production facility and satellite offices in key markets around the United States and overseas.

### **Cemen Tech Expands Manufacturing Facility to Meet Increasing Demand**

Cemen Tech, a manufacturer of volumetric mixer technology, completed the expansion of its facility in Indianola, IA, USA, by adding 12,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (1115 m<sup>2</sup>), bringing the total square footage of the company's manufacturing facility to 120,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (11,150 m<sup>2</sup>). The expansion is part of the company's commitment to investing nearly \$3 million to upgrade facilities, equipment, and technology.

As part of a planned facility expansion, the company is setting aside space for the new "Cemen Tech University" to develop employees with highly desired, specialized skills. The company is also working with local high schools and technical schools to forge partnerships in which students work for Cemen Tech part-time, while still pursuing their diploma or degree.

#### **Chaney Enterprises Opens New Concrete Plant**

Chaney Enterprises announced the opening of its new concrete plant in Norfolk, VA, USA. The concrete plant has a waterfront yard for supply chain access off the Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River. Chaney Enterprises' new ready mixed concrete plant in southeastern Virginia is tactically placed in proximity to downtown Norfolk, the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, the Naval Operations Base (NOB), Norfolk International Airport, Little Creek Amphibious Base, and the southside shipyards. The concrete plant is located at the home of the Norfolk assembly, a Ford manufacturing plant that opened in 1925 producing the Ford Model T and Model A. The assembly

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plant has since been sold and the facility renamed as the Virginia Renaissance Center.

## Pennsylvania Aggregates and Concrete Association Hosts Politics Initiative

Pennsylvania Aggregates and Concrete Association (PACA) members and participants in the association's Emerging Leaders Academy (PELA) Class of 2022 attended the PA Politics Initiative, a day of grassroots and advocacy at the state Capitol. The goal of the initiative is to help members and PELA program participants understand the role politics plays in their everyday life and make them more comfortable with the people and processes that surround it.

Meeting with state legislators as part of a coordinated legislative event is an important part of PACA's legislative strategy. Events such as the PA Politics Initiative show the dedication of PACA's members and help them foster relationships with lawmakers.

# **Wells Expands Sealants and Restoration Team** in Response to Client Demand

Wells, a provider of prefabricated building solutions in the United States, has expanded its Sealants and Restoration team with more than 45 team members to provide sealant and restoration services for the entire Wells geographic footprint. Wells' Sealants and Restoration services include caulking and expansion joints, concrete and masonry restoration, coatings for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, structural reinforcement, firestopping, and waterproofing. These services can increase the long-term value and longevity of both new and existing structures, minimize disruptions through planned maintenance, and improve energy efficiency for years to come.

# Simpson Strong-Tie Announces 2022-2023 Scholarship Winners

Simpson Strong-Tie, a supplier of engineered structural connectors and building solutions, announced the recipients of its Student Scholarship, part of the company's Strong-Tie Undergraduate Fellowship program, for the 2022-2023 academic year. The 100 scholarship recipients are undergraduates in their junior and senior years, majoring in architecture, civil/structural engineering, or construction management across the United States.

As part of the Strong-Tie Undergraduate Fellowship, these future industry leaders are provided the opportunity to discover more about Simpson Strong-Tie and its products in a week-long, all-expenses-paid visit to the company's headquarters and facilities in the San Francisco Bay Area, including a visit to the state-of-the-art Tyrell Gilb Research

Laboratory in Stockton, CA, USA, and to a working jobsite. The week also affords plenty of opportunity for the awardees to learn from and network with industry professionals and the Simpson Strong-Tie executive and senior leadership teams.

#### **Matterport Partners with Burns & McDonnell**

Matterport, Inc., a spatial data company, announced a partnership with Burns & McDonnell, an engineering, construction, and architecture firm providing services for critical infrastructure companies. Through the partnership, Burns & McDonnell customers can use the Matterport Digital Twin Platform, including software services and hardware, to optimize construction expansion and maintenance projects. The collaboration equips businesses in the energy, utilities, and manufacturing industries with a continuous digital, visual documentation solution that improves operations, enhances collaboration, and increases safety in each project stage.

# Clarkson University Launches New MS in Construction Engineering Management

In launching its new Master of Science in Construction Engineering Management (MSCEM), the leadership at Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY, USA, considered many factors; however, two striking statistics made it clear the time was now for this program. First, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated the total annual value of construction is approximately \$900 billion, making it one of the most critical sectors of the nation's economy, which will be supercharged by the multi-trillion-dollar investment in infrastructure over the next several years. Second, national data show that by 2026 there will be an 11.1% increase in the demand for construction engineering managers. To meet this growing need for qualified professionals, Clarkson has designed its MSCEM program for working professionals, as well as other learners, who want to join the opportunity to rebuild and reinvent the nation's infrastructure and buildings well into the future.



Clarkson University MSCEM on-site training