

New ACI Constructability Certificate Program Through ACI University

ACI published a new certificate program on Concrete Constructability. The Concrete Constructability Certificate Program covers planning, layout, project delivery, project site drivers, and structural system concept design. Additionally, a review of what type of design is appropriate, how to specify concrete, the selection of reinforcement, and testing and inspection will be included. This certificate program will be valuable to structural engineers to improve constructability and productivity in the industry.

ACI Certificate Programs, delivered through ACI University, encourage concrete professionals to gain in-depth knowledge about particular topics in concrete materials, design, or construction by following a defined online course of study. Once a certificate program has been completed, participants will receive a certificate and digital badge that can be used on resumes, job board profiles, social media, and email signatures.

ACI members have full access to certificate programs for free. For more information, visit www.aciuniversity.com.

Registration Now Open for ACI Concrete Convention

The ACI Concrete Convention will be held in San Francisco, CA, USA, on April 2-6, 2023. The in-person event will showcase companies, projects, research, and numerous networking events to meet with many of the concrete industry's leading professionals. Attendees can also visit the exhibit hall to learn more about the many products and services offered by exhibitors.

The convention schedule features more than 300 committee meetings, 45+ technical sessions, an industry trade exhibition, and networking events.

ACI Concrete Convention highlights include:

- Opening Session, the official start to the ACI Concrete Convention, will begin with a welcome address by ACI President Charles Nmai;
- International Lunch, featuring Yuji Isshiki's presentation, "Design and Construction of Building Using Wall-Column and Seismic Response Control System";
- Student Fiber-Reinforced Concrete Bowling Ball Competition, in which students construct fiber-reinforced bowling balls. Testing will be performed in groups throughout the day;
- NEU Carbon Neutral Concrete Specialty Day will educate attendees about the innovative materials and technologies that ACI is advancing through its committee and center work that can be used to create more carbon neutral concrete;
- Concrete Mixer, a networking event for attendees and guests,

- will be held at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square;
- NEx Workshop on FRP Reinforced Concrete will educate owners, designers, and contractors on user experiences working with FRP reinforcement;
- President's Reception—ACI President Charles Nmai invites all convention attendees to the President's Reception; and
- Technical and educational sessions will be presented live, with on-demand viewing available afterward. The sessions will be available to both those that registered for the in-person event or virtual technical sessions. All technical sessions will be available virtually through the convention platform and will be available for on-demand viewing after premiering live at the convention.

The convention is generously supported by Baker Concrete Construction, Inc.; ConSeal Concrete Sealants; Forney Vault; FYFE; PS=Ø; and its many additional sponsors.

Registration is open online, and discounted rates are offered until March 31, 2023. To learn more about the ACI Concrete Convention and to register, visit www.aciconvention.org.

South Carolina Adopts ACI Concrete Repair Code

In 2022, the South Carolina Building Code Council (BCC) supported the recommendations of the structural specialty committee and voted to accept ACI's proposal to amend the 2021 South Carolina Building Code by referencing ACI CODE-562-21: Assessment, Repair, and Rehabilitation of Existing Concrete Structures—Code and Commentary. It was subsequently approved by the South Carolina Rules Review Commission. Effective January 1, 2023, South Carolina became the fifth state to reference ACI CODE-562, joining North Carolina, Florida, Ohio, and Hawaii.

The code change establishes minimum requirements for the design, construction, repair, and rehabilitation of concrete structural elements in buildings for various levels of desired performance as deemed appropriate for the project. In addition to improved life safety, the requirements clearly define objectives and anticipated performance for the code official, owners, designers, contractors, and installers.

For more information on this and other ACI Advocacy efforts, visit www.concrete.org/advocacy.

ACI Establishes Center of Excellence for Concrete Industry Productivity

ACI launched PRO: An ACI Center of Excellence for Advancing Concrete Industry Productivity. As a catalyst for solving the barriers of constructability to advance concrete construction productivity, PRO will collaborate with designers, materials suppliers, and contractors to identify and resolve issues that negatively impact productivity in concrete construction.

Located at ACI World Headquarters in Farmington Hills, MI, USA, the Center aims to optimize labor and time against materials by improving structural design and construction processes through a collaborative approach with designers, material suppliers, builders, and industry stakeholders. Initial areas of focus for PRO include industry collaboration efforts, identification of productivity obstacles and solutions, constructable design resources, automation, technology validation, and interaction with ACI committees. Managed by ACI, the Center will draw from the Institute’s technical and administrative support services, with funding provided by sponsors. Initial staffing for the Center comprises an Executive Director supported by ACI technical experts.



Phil Diekemper,
Executive Director,
PRO

“The concrete contractor’s input on design details, specifications, and material criteria that embraces the

construction process is long overdue,” said Phil Diekemper, Executive Director, PRO. “Improving construction productivity through concrete design is the key to unlocking project value. I’m very excited to participate as the industry collaborates with a single focus to improve concrete construction productivity.”

To learn more about PRO and to get involved, visit www.concreteproductivity.org.

NEx Announces New Partnerships
NEx and NRMCA sign Allied Organization MOU

NEx: An ACI Center of Excellence for Nonmetallic Building Materials announced that the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA) has joined as an Allied Organization. NEx signed an MOU with the NRMCA to forge a partnership in advancing the use of nonmetallic building materials. The signing took place in Alexandria, VA, USA, on January 9, 2023.

NRMCA was founded in 1930 with a mission to provide



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The electric flex shaft Control Speed Vibrator enables contractors to choose between set speeds of 6,000, 8,000, 10,000, and 12,500 VPM via a bluetooth app on IOS or Android. Once the speed is chosen, the CSV will maintain speed as concrete load changes.

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exceptional value for members by responsibly representing and serving the entire ready mixed concrete industry through leadership, promotion, education, and partnering to ensure ready mixed concrete is the building material of choice.

NEx new Bronze Supporting Member, Dextra Group

NEx welcomed Dextra Group, including partner Industrial Control Solutions Company (ICSC), as the latest Bronze Supporting Member. Dextra Group will work alongside a growing list of other members to support NEx's mission to collaborate globally on the use of nonmetallic building materials driving research, education, awareness, and adoption.

Dextra Group provides expertise in the design and reinforcement of concrete structures using glass fiber-reinforced polymer (GFRP) reinforcing bars, and closely collaborates with ICSC, an FRP manufacturer with a new facility in Damman, Saudi Arabia.

CIM Program Shatters Previous Records at 2023 Auction

The National Steering Committee (NSC) for the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program, a business-intensive program that awards students with a 4-year BS in concrete industry management, announced it raised more than \$2.1 million in gross revenue at its annual auction, held in conjunction with the World of Concrete, on January 18, 2023.

In addition to the live auction, a silent auction was held. This year, CIM had record proceeds from the silent auction. Live and silent auction items included cement, fly ash, aggregate, concrete saws, drills, safety equipment, training sessions, reference books and software subscriptions, laptop computers, sports travel packages, and golf and vacation travel packages.

2023 Slag Cement School

The Slag Cement Association (SCA) opened registration for the second annual Slag Cement School in Cape Canaveral, FL, USA, on May 22-23, 2023. The first day will feature educational presentations on slag cement use in concrete construction, sustainable resources available, and other presentations on the benefits of use. On day two, attendees will get a behind-the-scenes look at a local Heidelberg Materials cement plant.

The event will include educational sessions and panel discussions:

- Slag Cement Basics, Production, and Cementitious Properties, by Wayne Wilson, Heidelberg Materials;
- Slag Cement in Practice, Concrete Mix Designs, and

Examples of Use, by Steve Wilcox and Jeremy Reich, Argos;

- Slag Cement's Role in Sustainable Concrete, SCA's LCA Calculator, Mix Submittals, and Examples of Use, by Larry Rowland, Heidelberg Materials; and
- Slag Cement in Special Applications, Mass Concrete, Paving, Geotechnical, and Waste Stabilization, by Mark Van Kleunen, Skyway Slag Cement.

For more information and to register, visit www.slagcement.org/school.

Results of the ICPI-NCMA Member Vote

The National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA) and the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI) unified on July 1, 2022, under the transition name "ICPI-NCMA." The membership recently voted to change the name of the association to the Concrete Masonry and Hardscapes Association (CMHA). The association has been working with an agency to rebrand. The new look for CMHA was officially launched during the Annual Meeting, February 20-24, in Columbus, OH, USA.

For more information, visit <https://icpi-ncma-unification.com/news>.

ICC Releases New Energy Codes and Building Performance Standards Resource

The International Code Council (ICC) has announced the publication of a new resource on building performance standards (BPS) and energy codes titled, "Energy Codes and Building Performance Standards: Supporting Energy Use and Emissions Reductions in Buildings." It is the latest in a series of energy efficiency and greenhouse gas resources that ICC has published to help communities around the world achieve their sustainability and resilience goals.

This resource provides code officials and building departments with background on BPS and broad recommendations on greater coordination between policies for new and existing buildings. Also highlighted are the benefits of BPS and the nuances of policies that are being enacted across the United States by state and local governments, as well as the Federal Government. Energy stakeholders will also find clarification on the intricacies of enacted policies and are encouraged to participate in their local public engagement on BPS and energy codes alike.

Energy experts, including designers, engineers, trade associations, research organizations, and government officials, participated in the development with ICC to produce the content.

For more information, visit www.iccsafe.org/products-and-services/energy-efficiency-ghg-resources.

ACMA Virtual Construction/Infrastructure Composites Technology Days

The American Composites Manufacturers Association (ACMA) announced that its Construction/Infrastructure Composites Technology Days will take place virtually on March 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2023.

The second Construction/Infrastructure Composites Technology Day event aims to inform and educate end-users on FRP composites technology, explain the standards and specifications available, and highlight projects that showcase the industry's products and services to repair and upgrade infrastructure. ACMA members will lead a technical education program on topics such as concrete reinforcement, concrete strengthening, vehicular and pedestrian bridges, waterfront piling, industrial structures, heavy civil applications, life cycle cost analysis, blast mitigation, and architectural applications. The virtual sessions will be held live for a duration of 3 hours every Tuesday in March.

In addition to the technical education program, end-users are invited to connect with ACMA members through a virtual exhibition hall to explore opportunities for partnership and to increase the use of composite materials in their construction/infrastructure projects.

For more information, visit <https://acmanet.org>.

2023 Fazlur R. Khan Distinguished Lecture Series

Lehigh University's Fazlur R. Khan Distinguished Lecture Series honors Khan's legacy of excellence in structural engineering and architecture. Lectures will be held at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, for in-person attendees, as well as online via Zoom.

The speakers will include:

- Guy Nordenson, Guy Nordenson and Associates, Partner, Structural Engineers LLP, New York, NY, USA, and Professor of Architecture and Structural Engineering, School of Architecture, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA; "Working Structures"; March 31, 2023; and
- Kumares Sinha, Edgar B. and Hedwig M. Olson Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering, Lyles School of Civil Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA; "Next Generation Urban Transportation, Urban Living, and the Role of Tall Buildings"; April 28, 2023.

The Structural Engineering Institute-Lehigh Valley Chapter will be awarding 1 PDH credit for each lecture to eligible attendees. For more information about the 2023 Fazlur R. Khan Distinguished Lecture Series, visit www.lehigh.edu/frkseries.

ICCM2024

The 12th International Conference on Cementitious Materials and Alternative Binders for Sustainable Concrete (ICCM2024) will be held in Toulouse, France, June 23-26, 2024. This international conference will provide learning and networking opportunities on the latest available scientific and technical information in the field of supplementary cementitious materials (SCMs) and novel binders for use in concrete.

The purpose of this edition is to highlight advances in the field of alternative and sustainable binders and SCMs, for which the research is growing in importance. Original papers on all aspects of pozzolans, mineral admixtures, and standard and alternative SCMs are invited to be presented at the conference and be published in the proceedings. Abstract submissions are due by April 1, 2023.

For more information, visit www.iccm2024.com.

Holcim Awards 2023

The Holcim Awards 2023 is open for entries until March 30, 2023. The Holcim Foundation for Sustainable Construction conducts the global competition to recognize real-world examples in practice that can accelerate the global movement for sustainable design. The Holcim Foundation is calling on architects, urban planners, and engineers to submit sustainable design and construction projects that lead the way in transforming the building sector. Submissions must be client-supported and have reached the detailed design phase.

The competition offers total prize money of USD 1 million across five regions: Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, Middle East Africa, and North America. USD 200,000 per region will be shared between winners of a Holcim Awards Gold, Silver, Bronze, and acknowledgement prizes in every region.

Independent expert juries will evaluate entries using the Holcim Foundation's goals for sustainable construction that serve as a framework to drive system change: uplifting places, a healthy planet, viable economics, and thriving communities. The juries will be chaired by Tatiana Bilbao, Founder, Tatiana Bilbao ESTUDIO (for region Latin America); Craig Dykers, Founding Partner, Snøhetta (North America); Lesley Lokko, Founder, African Futures Institute (Middle East Africa); Manit Rastogi, Founding Partner, Morphogenesis (Asia Pacific); and Belinda Tato, Founding member, Ecosistema Urbano (Europe).

Submitting entries in the competition is free using a web-based form to provide information in English on the project design team, project summary, sustainability profile including data points, and project images. For more information, visit www.holcimfoundation.org/awards-2023.