

ACPA Announces Lifetime Achievement and Distinguished Service Award Winners

The American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) announced the winners of several of its prestigious industry awards. Following are details for the awards:

The Hartmann-Hirschman-Egan Award recognizes individuals or organizations for unparalleled commitment, dedication, participation, and leadership in the concrete pavement community. This year's winner is ACI member Kevin McMullen, CEO of the Wisconsin Concrete Pavement Association (WCPA). McMullen has served as Chairman of the American Concrete Pavement Association Chapter/State Committee two times. He has also represented the concrete pavement industry on National Cooperative Highway Research Program research panels and served on several Transportation Research Board committees.

The Harold Halm Presidential Award is awarded to an individual who has made significant contributions to the concrete pavement industry. Frank Lucas, who represents Oklahoma's Third Congressional District, is the recipient of this year's award. Lucas is Chair of the House Science and Technology Committee, and this award recognizes his unwavering support of pavement research funding.

The Marlin J. Knutson Award for Technical Achievement recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to advancing the development and implementation of technical innovations—as well as best practices—for the design and construction of concrete pavements. This year's recipient is Peter Taylor, FACI, of the CP Tech Center. Taylor's pioneering work in concrete mixture designs has led to the development of high-performance pavements.

The Outstanding Promoter Award is given to a person who has made significant contributions through promotion efforts or programs to advance the awareness, specification, and/or placement of concrete pavements. This year's recipient is ACI member Matt Zeller, Executive Director of the Concrete Paving Association of Minnesota. Zeller has advocated for testing and research, leading to advancements in how to approach early traffic loading on concrete pavement.

The Resilient Practices Recognition Award is presented to an organization that demonstrates leadership by implementing resilient design and construction practices that consider societal, environmental, and economic factors. This year's recipient is the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Southern Region. Collaborating with ACPA's Southeast Chapter and ACPA, the FAA Southern Region has worked with airfield pavement designers and airport sponsors to develop alternative pavement rehabilitation choices for several general aviation airports.



ACI member Kevin McMullen accepts the Hartmann-Hirschman-Egan Award



Representatives from the FHWA accept the Sustainable Practices Recognition Award

The Sustainable Practices Recognition Award is presented to an organization that demonstrates leadership by implementing sustainable design and construction practices that consider societal, environmental, and economic factors. This year's recipient is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Over the last few years, FHWA has introduced meaningful programs that will change the course of paving to become more sustainable industry wide.

The National Lifetime Pavement Recognition Award is presented to an agency/owner of an in-service concrete pavement that has demonstrated exceptional performance for its state and community. This year the award recognized Old State Highway 20 in Woodbury County, IA, USA. After more than 100 years of service, the highway has shown remarkable longevity, durability, and resilience.

The Best in Show Sustainability Award is awarded to the organization and project that best showcases sustainable operations and construction practices. This year's award goes to the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation in recognition of West Layton Avenue, County Highway Y, in Greenfield, WI, USA. The department teamed up with Vinton Construction Company on the project.

The Best in Show Innovation Award is awarded to the organization and project that best showcases innovation in either the contracting process or during the construction phase to improve safety, cost to construct, value, quality, and performance. This year's recipient is the Iowa Department of Transportation, in recognition of IA Highway 3 accelerated portland cement concrete overlay in Plymouth County, IA, with the help of Croell, Inc.

PACA Announces New Board of Directors

The Pennsylvania Aggregates and Concrete Association (PACA) announced the Board of Directors elected at the annual meeting. Jeff Detwiler, President of Materials of New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc., continues serving as Board Chair. Jamie Stille, President of Amerikohl Aggregates Inc., and Travis Rohrer, President and CEO of Rohrer's Inc., also continue their terms as Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively.

The following directors were elected to the Board:

- Jason Blase, Conewago Manufacturing, LLC;
- ACI member Andy Lawrence, M and B Ready Mix Inc., dba DuBrook;
- Tom Bryan III, Bryan Materials Group;
- Ron Kurpiel, Heidelberg Materials;
- Paul McCarthy, Pennsy Supply Inc., a CRH Company;
- Rory McCoy, Centre Concrete Co.;
- Greg Reshenberg, Wendell H. Stone Company Inc.;
- Dan Schaffer, Heidelberg Materials;
- Rob Stewart, York Building Products; and
- Josh Williams, Buzzi Unicem USA.

Mercator AI Launches Operations in Texas

Mercator AI, an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered business development tool for commercial general contractors, announced its expansion into the Austin, TX, USA market. This marks the Canadian company's entry into the United States, with plans for further expansion in Texas this year and nationally in the coming years. Austin's dynamic and quickly evolving construction landscape creates a unique environment for Mercator AI's solution. The product analyzes real-time data throughout the development process, from conception to post-construction, making it easy to identify early signs of project movement. Following Austin's launch,

the company plans to establish a presence in markets such as Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth, and San Antonio, TX, and to cover all major construction hubs in the United States over the next few years.

Sika Acquires Stake in Concria Oy

Sika acquired a 30% stake in Concria Oy, a Finnish startup company specializing in highly innovative concrete floors. Concria has developed a new technology for concrete flooring, offering a wide range of advantages to contractors, architects, and property owners. Sika's global network and complementary product portfolio will provide a growth platform for the startup. Concria's technology for concrete floor installation and polishing includes special dry shake hardeners and a unique procedure and tools for grinding and polishing concrete floors. This approach enables fast and efficient installation of decorative polished concrete floors featuring quality and durability properties.

Gordian Named Top Workplace by Energage

A provider of data-driven solutions for all phases of the building life cycle, Gordian received the 2024 Top Workplaces USA award, issued by Energage. The Top Workplaces program has a 15-year history of surveying more than 20 million employees and recognizing the top organizations across 60 markets for regional Top Workplaces awards. Gordian has reached a significant growth milestone, expanding its team by nearly 25% this past year, in alignment with its vision to build better communities by transforming data insights into smarter decisions. Top Workplaces USA celebrates organizations with 150 or more employees that have built great cultures. Over 42,000 organizations were invited to participate in the Top Workplaces USA survey. Winners of the Top Workplaces USA list are chosen based solely on employee feedback gathered through an employee engagement survey, issued by Energage.



Energage named Gordian one of the Top Workplaces of 2024