

## ACI Staff Additions



Wheeler

**Brian L. Wheeler** joined ACI as Managing Director, Communications and Marketing. Overseeing the new Communications and Marketing Department, he is responsible for planning, developing, and implementing all ACI communications and marketing strategies, plans, programs, and branding initiatives.

Wheeler is a business development, marketing, and communications professional with more than 15 years of experience across a wide range of end-markets and geographies. His professional responsibilities have included global marketing operations, brand management, market intelligence, internal and external communication strategy development and implementation, product management, customer relationship management, and direct profit and loss (P&L) objectives.

Wheeler has led and implemented strategic marketing and communications campaigns in more than 25 countries, driving growth throughout the businesses he has worked for.



Liu

**Zhu Liu** was named East Asia Regional Manager in the ACI International Affairs department. The East Asia Regional Manager role was created to support ACI's growing presence throughout the region.

Liu will work closely with ACI's international chapters, allied organizations, governmental bodies, educational institutions, and members in East Asia to expand engagement, strengthen collaboration on technical and educational initiatives, and support the implementation of ACI codes, standards, and certification programs.

He has over 30 years of experience leading large-scale commercial, industrial, and infrastructure projects globally, from inception to successful delivery. His expertise includes construction project management, structural engineering, and design-build methodologies.

He received his Bachelor of Engineering in engineering mechanics from Southwest Jiaotong University, Chengdu, China, and his Master of Engineering in civil engineering from McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada. He is a licensed professional engineer in Massachusetts and Maine. Liu has been an active member of ACI for more than 20 years and has participated in ACI Committees 314, Simplified Design of Concrete Buildings, and 355, Anchorage to Concrete.



Dahhan

ACI welcomed **Sidra Dahhan** as Editor for *Concrete International*. She is responsible for editing manuscripts and producing content for the magazine.

Dahhan received her BA in history and film and new media from New York University, Abu Dhabi, UAE, and her MS in journalism from Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, USA. She previously worked as a freelancer in the

Chicago area, covering local communities and events. Her work experience includes transcribing, writing, editing, and research. She also has experience with producing multimedia content that incorporates video and motion graphics.

## Steve Szoke Appointed to ICC Committee on Existing Building Safety Inspections



Szoke

ACI announced that Steve Szoke, ACI Distinguished Staff and Code Advocacy Engineer, has been appointed to the International Code Council (ICC) 1500 – Standard for Existing Building Safety Inspections (IS-EBSI) committee. This 15-member committee is developing ICC's first standard for existing building safety inspections, supporting appropriate measures to maintain the integrity of

structural, fire and life safety, envelope, plumbing, mechanical, electric, and fuel gas components and systems of a building throughout its life to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the occupants and public.

Szoke's appointment reflects his decades of experience and dedication to advancing building safety, structural integrity, and resilient design. In addition to his contribution of more than 40 years of expertise in codes and standards development, Szoke plans to assist with coordinating and aligning the new standard's provisions with information generated by ACI technical committees and committees and programs of other standards development organizations, as applicable.

ACI encourages the adoption and/or use of current building codes and standards. For more information about ACI's code advocacy initiatives or to read its position statements, visit [www.concrete.org/getinvolved/advocacy.aspx](http://www.concrete.org/getinvolved/advocacy.aspx).

## ACI Earns Gold Viddy Award for Concrete Code Educational Video

ACI earned a 2025 Gold Viddy Award for its educational and promotional video, "ACI 318 PLUS: A digital interactive subscription to the popular ACI CODE-318-25."

The award-winning video provides an engaging and informative overview of ACI's 318 PLUS subscription, which includes fully digital, interactive access to ACI CODE-318-19, ACI CODE-318-25, the *ACI Detailing Manual*, and the numerous design examples in ACI's *The Reinforced Concrete Design Handbook*. Released January 2025, ACI CODE-318-25 remains the definitive resource for the materials, design, and detailing requirements of structural concrete buildings and nonbuilding structures. ACI 318 PLUS is continuously updated as new resources and references become available, ensuring that users can always access the latest tools and advancements in structural concrete design.

Now in its 30th year, the Viddy Awards recognize excellence in the way video is created, produced, and delivered. The Viddy Awards are administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals.

To learn more about ACI CODE-318-25, visit [www.concrete.org/ACI318](http://www.concrete.org/ACI318).

## 7th JCI-ACI Joint Seminar 2025

ACI will join its allied organization, the Japan Concrete Institute (JCI), to host the 7th JCI-ACI Joint Seminar 2025: Innovations and New Developments in Concrete Structures at the JCI 2025 Annual Convention in Morioka, Japan, on July 16 and 17, 2025.

Sessions will include:

- “ACI 318/369/562—Code Meshing, How Does It Work?” by Andrew W. Taylor, FACI, KPFF Consulting Engineers;
- “AIJ Seismic Performance Evaluation Guidelines for RC Buildings based on the Capacity Spectrum Method” by Masaomi Teshigawara, Chubu University;
- “Performance-Based Seismic Design” by Garrett Hagen, Degenkolb Engineers;
- “Detail of Modeling in the Blind Analysis of NCREE Shaking Test 2018” by Yasunori Mizushima, Kobe University;
- “Safety of Existing Structures, What Does It Really Mean?” by Keith Kesner, FACI, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Inc.;
- “Shear Seismic Wall Resistance Evaluation” by Toshi Kabeyasawa, Tokyo Metropolitan University;
- “Resiliency Versus Sustainability of Aging Structures Exposed to Seismic Risk” by Michael Brown, FACI, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.;
- “Recent Advancements in UHPC as a Structural Material” by Andrew J. Foden, HNTB;
- “UHPC for Bridge Repair” by Tohru Makita, NEXCO Central;
- “Development of New or Alternate Cementitious

Materials” by ACI President Maria Juenger, The University of Texas at Austin;

- “Long-Term Durability Aramid FRP Rods” by Takeshi Oshiro, NEXCO West corporation;
- “Introducing ACI Code 323—Low-Carbon Concrete” by Matthew P. Adams, FACI, New Jersey Institute of Technology;
- “3D Printer for Concrete Structures” by Tetsuya Ishida, The University of Tokyo;
- “CO<sub>2</sub> Capture or Storage Technology for Concrete Field” by Ipeei Maruyama, The University of Tokyo;
- “Gunkanjima Island, 100 Years—Very Long-Term Durability” by Takafumi Noguchi, The University of Tokyo; and
- “JCI/ACI Coordination—Where Do We Go From Here?” by Bernard Pekor, ACI.

More detailed information about the sessions will be published in a subsequent issue of *CI*. For more information about the JCI 2025 Annual Convention, visit <https://confit.atlas.jp/guide/event/jci2025/top>.

## NRMCA 100 – 202X

### Call for Public Input for Revising NRMCA 100-2023

The National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA) Standard 100 Committee announced the opening for public input toward the revision of NRMCA 100-2023 in accordance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) compliance requirements.

NRMCA 100-2023: “Prescriptive Design of Exterior Concrete Walls for One- and Two-Family Dwellings” provides an approach to the design of concrete footings, foundation walls, and above-grade walls—both load and non-load bearing.

Originally developed by the Portland Cement Association (PCA), now the American Cement Association (ACA), NRMCA currently hosts the standard and is mandated to follow periodic review to meet state-of-the-practice industry needs and trends.

The committee is requesting all stakeholders—architects, designers, engineers, developers, the academic community, contractors, building product manufacturers, code officials, and individuals—to submit their input and recommendations to be considered for possible integration during the standard’s current review cycle.

NRMCA 100-2023 is available for free download at: <https://my.nrmca.org/Main/ItemDetail?iProductCode=2P100&Category=STAN&WebsiteKey=ccc47b8b-8f64-4219-ad5b-0c98afb23ccc>.

Interested parties may send their submissions to [standardsdev@nrmca.org](mailto:standardsdev@nrmca.org). The deadline for submissions is

August 8, 2025, at 11:59 pm ET.

For further information and questions, contact Julian Mills-Beale, NRMCA's Director of Civil/Structural Codes and Standards, at [jmills-beale@nrmca.org](mailto:jmills-beale@nrmca.org).

**In Remembrance**



Malisch

ACI Honorary Member **Ward R. Malisch** of Lebanon, TN, USA, passed away May 18, 2025, after a lengthy battle with cancer. Born May 13, 1939, he received his BS, MS, and PhD in civil engineering from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, IL, before teaching at three different universities. Malisch was formerly Director of Engineering and later Senior Managing Director for ACI. In 2008, he joined the staff of the American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC) as its first Director of Engineering, serving in that position until 2013. He then

served as ASCC Concrete Construction Specialist until his retirement in 2020.

Malisch received the ACI Arthur R. Anderson Medal in 2010, ACI Construction Award in 2011, and the ACI Roger H. Corbetta Concrete Constructor Award in 2019. Other honors included the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association Richard Gaynor Award in 2008, the Construction Writers Association Silver Hard Hat Award in 2006, and the ASCC Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

Malisch was a member of ACI Committees 301, Specifications for Concrete Construction, and 302, Construction of Concrete Floors, and Joint ACI-ASCC Committee 117, Tolerances.

He was the author or coauthor of over 200 articles, books, reports, and papers, primarily on specifications, tolerances, floors, and other subjects of concern to concrete contractors. These addressed problems often faced by ACI and ASCC members and suggested ways for avoiding or correcting the problems.

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