

News

Registration opens for the ACI Concrete Convention – Fall 2025

Registration is open for the ACI Concrete Convention – Fall 2025 in Baltimore, MD, USA. The Convention will take place October 26-29, 2025, at the Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor and the Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor. Attendees will benefit from technical and educational sessions that feature the latest research, case studies, and best practices, along with opportunities to earn Professional Development Hours (PDHs). Additionally, select sessions will be available on-demand for those attending virtually. The Convention offers more than 300 committee meetings, 60 technical sessions, and an industry trade exhibition.

Convention highlights include:

- **Opening Session:** The Opening Session is the official start of the ACI Concrete Convention. It will begin with a welcome address by ACI President Maria Juenger and will conclude with a keynote presentation. Immediately following the Opening Session, attendees are invited to the exhibit hall for the Opening Reception;
- **ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards Gala:** The ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards will showcase and honor creative concrete projects worldwide. Project nominations were judged by industry professionals with technical expertise in each of the eight award categories;
- **Egg Protection Device Student Competition:** The goal of this competition is to design and build the highest-impact-load-resistant plain or reinforced concrete egg protection device (EPD). Results will be announced at the Student Awards Program on October 27, 2025. For more information on the competition, visit www.concrete.org/students/studentcompetitions;

- **Concrete Repair Day:** Sponsored by the International Concrete Repair Institute (ICRI), Concrete Repair Day will take place on October 28, 2025, for a day of technical sessions on concrete repair and the Concrete Repair Day Lunch with a special presentation;
- **Concrete Mixer:** The Concrete Mixer provides an evening of networking, entertainment, and great food. An assortment of food and beverages will be available;
- **Student and Young Professional Networking Event:** The Student and Young Professional Activities Committee (SY PAC) invites all students, young professionals, and Convention mentors to a casual networking event following the Opening Reception. Attendees will establish connections with fellow young members. Prizes will be awarded during icebreaker activities; and
- **President's Reception:** ACI President Maria Juenger invites all Convention attendees to the President's Reception, where attendees will have the opportunity to network with committee chairs, chapter presidents, and international attendees. An assortment of food and a hosted bar will be available.

Registration is now open online, with discounted rates available until October 24, 2025. For more information and to register, visit ACIconvention.org.





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ACI Launches Updated ACI University

ACI launched its updated learning management system (LMS) for ACI University. The update is part of ACI's ongoing commitment to providing quality education and certification program preparation to the global concrete community. The new ACI University is a user-friendly platform that enhances the ability to access, track, and complete ACI's online courses and certificate programs. ACI University is a global, online learning resource that provides on-demand access to a wide range of concrete materials, design, construction, and repair topics. ACI membership now includes free access to all ACI University webinars and on-demand courses. Accessed independently and/or through an all-access annual subscription, ACI University content includes more than 350 on-demand courses, monthly webinars, certificate programs, and ACI Certification preparation.

Updates include:

- Improved capacity and navigation: A more intuitive interface makes finding and managing courses easier;
- Stronger performance and reliability: Users enjoy a smoother, faster, and more stable learning experience;
- Mobile-friendly access: Learn on the go with mobile optimization;
- Enhanced progress tracking: Stay organized with dashboards showing course completions, Continuing Education Units (CEUs) earned, and certificates received; and
- Certificate management: Download and share certificates from a centralized location.

To learn more about ACI University and ACI's education offerings, visit www.concrete.org/education.

ACI Resources Ensure Quality and Durability in Hot Weather Concreting

ACI announced resources to well-equip contractors and professionals to overcome the challenges of hot weather concreting. High temperatures, rapid evaporation, and increased risk of cracking can compromise structural integrity, requiring contractors to prepare in advance to mitigate these effects.

"It's vital that contractors are prepared to handle the complexities of hot weather concreting," said Michael Tholen, ACI Senior Managing Director, Technical Operations. "ACI's comprehensive resources empower the industry to uphold the highest standards of safety, quality, and efficiency, regardless of environmental challenges."

These resources include:

- Technical guidelines: Publications like ACI PRC-305-20: Guide to Hot Weather Concreting provide critical recommendations on planning, placement, and curing techniques for maintaining concrete quality;

- Online learning: ACI delivers on-demand courses and webinars, ensuring access to high-quality training tailored to environmental challenges; and
- Free online education presentations: Available to everyone, these presentations focus on specific topics in hot weather concreting.

NEx Announces OSP as New Sustaining Member

NEx: An ACI Center of Excellence for Nonmetallic Building Materials welcomed the Oil Sustainability Program (OSP) to its expanding list of partners. According to Jerzy Zemajtis, NEx Executive Director, OSP's mission closely aligns with NEx's mission. "At NEx, we believe great things happen when passionate minds come together. Welcoming OSP is a perfect example of that. Their forward-thinking spirit aligns with our mission and the collective vision of the exceptional industry leaders within our member base. We're excited for the journey ahead and the impact we will make together."

"Joining NEx marks an important step in highlighting OSP's commitment toward advancing sustainability through collaboration and innovation," said Mohammad Al Tayyar, OSP Program Director. "By working alongside global leaders of nonmetallic materials, we aim to accelerate the development and adoption of solutions that not only drive environmental stewardship in the building and construction sector but also support a more sustainable future across many sectors."

Frederick H. Grubbe, ACI Executive Vice President, said OSP is a great addition to NEx. "ACI fully supports NEx's mission, and OSP's involvement will certainly help the Center continue its influential global growth and impact."

Concrete Industry Management Program's National Steering Committee Announces New Board

The National Steering Committee (NSC) for the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program announced the election of six new or returning members to its Board of Directors, as well as six newly recognized Honorary Board members.

The NSC Officers include:

- Executive Director – Nicole Maher, National Steering Committee for CIM;
- Chairman – Karl Watson Jr., Chief Executive Officer, Baker Construction Enterprises;
- Vice Chairman – Bruce Christensen, President, Master Builders Solutions USA & Canada;
- Secretary/Treasurer – Heather Brown, Vice President of QC/QA, Irving Materials, Inc.; and
- Immediate Past Chairman – Michael Schneider,

Consultant, Baker Construction.

All Officers also serve on the Board of Directors.

Additionally, the organization recognizes its Honorary Directors for their enduring contributions and unwavering support. These include:

- Rex Cottle, former CIM National Steering Executive Director;
- Steve Cox, Command Alkon;
- Douglas Guerrero, Chairman, CIM Patrons, California State University, Chico;
- Wally Johnson, former CIM National Steering Committee Chairman;
- Earl Keese, former CIM National Steering Committee Executive Director;
- Eugene Martineau, former CIM National Steering Committee Executive Director;
- Michael Philipps, formerly National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA);
- L. Michael Shydrowski, retired; and

- David Vickers, former CIM National Steering Committee Chairman.

In Remembrance



Bartley

Robert Taylor "Buck" Bartley Jr.

passed away on July 17, 2025. Bartley was a graduate of Bethesda-Chevy Chase (BCC) High School in Bethesda, MD, USA, and went on to receive his degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, MD. He helped create The Bartley Corporation, a concrete foundation construction group, through which he pioneered the use of placed concrete

foundations in the local area. He was a member of ACI Committee 332, Residential Concrete Work, and ACI Subcommittee 332-D, Residential Concrete-Footings & Foundation Walls. Bartley was also a founding member of the Concrete Foundations Association (CFA).



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