

ACI Expands ACI PLUS Platform with New Codes

ACI announced a significant expansion of the ACI PLUS platform, further solidifying its commitment to providing industry professionals with digital, interactive access to critical concrete codes and resources. This update includes the addition of ACI 319 PLUS and ACI 320 PLUS, along with major updates to ACI 318 PLUS and the recently rebranded ACI 562 PLUS Repair Subscription.

The latest updates include:

- ACI 318 PLUS features the 2019 edition, as well as the new 2025 edition of ACI CODE-318: Building Code for Structural Concrete—Code Requirements and Commentary, the industry’s leading standard for concrete design and construction. Subscribers to ACI 318 PLUS also gain fully digital interactive access to supplemental resources such as the *ACI Detailing Manual* and the *ACI Reinforced Concrete Design Handbook*, enhancing their understanding and application of Code provisions;
- ACI 319 PLUS is a new digital subscription that includes ACI/PCI CODE-319-25: Structural Precast Concrete—Code Requirements and Commentary, offering the latest guidance on precast concrete structures;
- ACI 320 PLUS is another new digital subscription for ACI/PTI CODE-320-25: Post-Tensioned Structural Concrete—Code Requirements and Commentary, a key resource for professionals in post-tensioned concrete design and construction; and
- ACI 562 PLUS Repair Subscription, formerly known as the ACI Concrete Repair Subscription, has been rebranded and now includes the 2021 edition, as well as the new 2025 edition of ACI CODE-562: Assessment, Repair, and Rehabilitation of Existing Concrete Structures—Code and Commentary, supporting engineers and contractors in the repair and rehabilitation of concrete structures. ACI 562 PLUS also features full digital access to the MNL-3(16): Guide to the Code for Assessment, Repair, and Rehabilitation of Existing Concrete Buildings, all versions of ACI CODE-562, and over 200 other resources for concrete repair, assessment, and rehabilitation.

The ACI PLUS platform is designed to provide more than just digital access to codes. Subscribers benefit from advanced features such as enhanced search functionality, interactive notetaking, and links to related documents. Navigation tools allow users to locate provisions by chapter, section, or keyword, making it easier to find relevant information quickly. Subscribers also gain digital interactive access to applicable supplemental resources such as related ACI handbooks or manuals, enhancing their understanding and application of code provisions.

The ACI PLUS platform helps professionals stay up to date with industry advancements and changes by offering codes in an interactive, digital format. The platforms are regularly updated to reflect the latest editions of ACI codes to allow access to related resources as these resources are identified and developed.

ACI CODE-318-25, ACI/PCI CODE-319-25, ACI/PTI CODE-320-25, and ACI CODE-562-25 are now available through their respective ACI PLUS subscriptions. Digital and print copies will be released in Spring 2025. To learn more or subscribe, visit www.concrete.org.

ACI Now Accepting Entries for the 2025 ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards

ACI is now accepting entries for the 2025 ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards, honoring the most outstanding and innovative concrete projects from around the world. The deadline for submissions is April 29, 2025.

Each year, the ACI Excellence Awards recognize visionary design, engineering, and construction that pushes the boundaries of what is possible with concrete. The competition features multiple categories, including Low-Rise Buildings, Mid-Rise Buildings, High-Rise Buildings, Bridges, Infrastructure, Decorative Concrete, Repair & Restoration, and Flatwork.

Winning projects will be celebrated at the 2025 ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards Gala, held on October 27, 2025, during the ACI Concrete Convention in Baltimore, MD, USA. This prestigious event brings together top professionals in the industry, offering global recognition for groundbreaking projects that exemplify concrete innovation, sustainability, and craftsmanship.

Projects can be nominated for a non-refundable 995 USD fee. This fee is waived for ACI chapters and ACI international partners, one per category. Eligible projects must demonstrate excellence in concrete design, construction, and sustainability.

To learn more or submit a project, visit ACIExcellence.org or contact Esther Beery at Esther.Beery@concrete.org or +1.248.848.3162.

ACI Launches Mentorship Program for Emerging Professionals

ACI announced the launch of ACI Career Connections, a 6-month mentorship program designed to support emerging professionals in the concrete and construction industry. This initiative will connect professionals aged 35 and under with experienced industry leaders to help them navigate ACI, build meaningful relationships, and develop their careers.

ACI is currently seeking both mentors and mentees for the program, which officially kicked off during the ACI Concrete

Convention – Spring 2025 in Toronto, ON, Canada.

Program Details:

- **Mentees:** Emerging professionals (age 35 and under) working in concrete or construction-related fields in the United States or Canada;
- **Mentors:** Industry professionals with 8+ years of experience who are actively involved in ACI committees or ACI chapters and based in the United States or Canada; and
- **Duration:** Six months, with structured guidance, collaboration, and networking opportunities.

By fostering professional development and leadership, ACI Career Connections aims to strengthen the next generation of industry leaders while reinforcing ACI’s commitment to education and career growth.

Interested individuals can sign up online until April 11, 2025. For more information or to sign up as a mentor or mentee, contact Kanette Worlds, ACI Staff Liaison, Student

and Young Professional Activities Committee (SYPAC), at kanette.worlds@concrete.org.

Registration Opens for 2025 Slag Cement School

The Slag Cement Association (SCA) announced that registration is open for the fourth annual Slag Cement School in Houston, TX, USA, on April 21-22, 2025. The school will include educational presentations on slag cement use in concrete construction, sustainable resources available, and other presentations on benefits of slag cement use. On day two, attendees will also get a behind-the-scenes look at Texas Lehigh Cement Company’s slag cement plant.

Slag Cement School sessions will include:

- Slag Cement Basics, Production, and Cementitious Properties, by Adam Wallace, Ozinga;
- Enhancing Concrete Durability Using Slag Cement, by Wayne Wilson, Heidelberg Materials;



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- Slag Cement's Role in Sustainable Concrete, by Shawn Kalyn, St Marys Cement;
- Texas Specifications Related to the Use of Slag Cement, by Bill Goodloe, Cemex; and
- Expanding the Role of Slag in Concrete Construction: Trends and Challenges in the U.S. and Texas, by Darren Wilbanks, Texas Lehigh Cement Company.

Registration also includes refreshments, lunch, networking reception, and shuttle transportation for the cement plant tour. For more information and to register, visit slacement.org/school.

PTI Launches "Strength in Concrete" Podcast

The Post-Tensioning Institute (PTI) has launched a new podcast, which will deliver expert insights and in-depth discussions to concrete industry professionals. The podcast, "Strength in Concrete," will highlight emerging trends and the latest innovations driving advancements in the field.

Targeting professionals in the concrete and post-tensioning sectors, "Strength in Concrete" fosters knowledge sharing and promotes professional development. The podcast will offer engaging content on a variety of topics, including updated post-tensioning specifications, certification opportunities, and methods for constructing durable and sustainable structures. The first episode is now available, with more to follow in this ongoing series.

"Strength in Concrete" dives into a range of essential topics designed to deepen understanding and advance the field of concrete technology and post-tensioning. Future episodes will cover the use of flexible fillers and the role of grouted post-tensioning in ensuring structural integrity. Discussions will also explore the application of epoxy strand technology and electrically isolated tendons to enhance both durability and corrosion resistance in bridge systems.

Listeners can tune in to the podcast on platforms such as YouTube, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and directly from www.post-tensioning.org.

DBIA Opens 2025 Project/Team Award Submissions with Streamlined Process

The Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) has opened submissions for the 2025 Design-Build Project/Team Awards. With a streamlined application designed to reduce redundancy, applicants can now focus on showcasing their project's innovation, collaboration, and impact.

For the first time, optional questions have been introduced for those seeking consideration for specialty awards, including:

- Best in Virtual Design & Construction (VDC);
- Trailblazer in Inclusive Growth;
- Enlightened Owner; and

- I.N.S.P.I.R.E.D. Owner.

These updates ensure applicants have greater flexibility while still providing opportunities to highlight the unique strengths of their design-build projects. Before getting started, applicants are encouraged to review the FAQs and submission guidelines at <https://dbia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Awards-2025-Submissions-Guidelines.pdf>, which provide answers to common questions, guidance on required resources and documentation, and suggestions on key team members to involve in the application process.

Submissions are due by May 30, 2025. For more information and to start an application, visit projects.dbia.org.

In Remembrance



Sauter

Ed Sauter, FACI, of Mount Vernon, IA, USA, passed away on February 21, 2025, at the age of 76. Sauter served as Executive Director of both the Tilt-Up Concrete Association (TCA) and the Concrete Foundations Association (CFA) before his retirement in 2017. He assumed both positions in the early 1990s and is credited with revitalizing both organizations. Sauter not only stabilized their operations but also led them to unprecedented growth, turning them into thriving professional networks that support the industry across North America and beyond.

After he received his Bachelor of Architecture from Iowa State University, Ames, IA, Sauter embarked on a career defined by innovation, founding Design Collective and working on transformative projects like energy-efficient residential homes for Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, IA, and bringing affordable senior housing to Eastern Iowa. His practical yet creative mindset left a tangible mark on communities, and his commitment to inclusion and sustainability redefined industry standards.

Under Sauter's leadership, the TCA and CFA became pillars of innovation, education, and professional development. He was instrumental in creating certifications, setting performance benchmarks, and championing sustainable construction practices. His work helped shape a more efficient, responsible, and forward-thinking concrete industry for generations to come.

He was named one of *Concrete Construction's* "10 Most Influential People in the Concrete Industry."

ACI Honorary Member and Past President **Tharold Eugene ("Gene") Northup** passed away on December 7, 2024, at the age of 93.

Northup attended the University of Maryland, College



Northup

Park, MD, USA, while in the U.S. Air Force, which included 3 months of military training in State College, PA, USA. He received his BS in civil engineering from State University of Iowa (now the University of Iowa), Iowa City, IA, USA, in 1958, and his MS in civil engineering from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, USA, in 1963. While in Tennessee, Northup also

attended the Oak Ridge School of Reactor Engineering, where he completed all required courses.

Northup worked at General Atomics in California for 28 years, serving in a number of managerial positions including Reactor Design Manager. During his time at General Atomics, he was also active on various boards and committees, including several California State Civil Engineering boards. After retiring from General Atomics, Northup partnered with others to form three companies: Leading Edge Engineering in 1993, Cutting Edge Products in 1997, and BreezElectric LLC in 2000.

An ACI Honorary Member, he served on various ACI committees, including serving as the Institute’s President in 1987.



Weinberg

ACI Honorary Member **Bertold E. Weinberg** of Albany, NY, USA, passed away on September 21, 2024, at the age of 98.

Weinberg received his bachelor’s degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, and his master’s degree from The State University of New York at Albany, Albany, NY. Following his graduation, he would go on to serve

our country honorably during World War II and eventually retiring at the rank of Colonel. He worked as a Civil Engineer for the N.Y.S. Dormitory Authority for more than 20 years until his retirement.

An ACI Honorary Member, he served on various ACI Committees, including C620, Laboratory Technician Certification; C630, Construction Inspector Certification; 311, Inspection of Concrete; and 362, Parking Structures. He also served as Chair of the Concrete Research and Education Foundation (now the ACI Foundation) Scholarship Council.

Weinberg received the 1977 ACI Henry L. Kennedy Award for “outstanding contributions” to the Institute.

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