

ACI Launches New Center of Excellence for Carbon Neutral Concrete

ACI announced the launch of NEU: An ACI Center of Excellence for Carbon Neutral Concrete at the ACI Concrete Convention in Orlando, FL, USA. NEU aims to collaborate



globally to drive research, education, awareness, and adoption of carbon neutral materials and technologies in the industry.

NEU will focus on transforming the concrete industry into a proactive, unified group actively engaged in developing and employing both existing and new technologies to reduce the carbon footprint of the concrete industry. The ACI Board of Direction has approved funds for staffing and initial projects, including research to identify technologies that have the potential to significantly impact the carbon footprint of concrete. Additional core functions include technology acceleration, coordination with ACI committees, technology transfer and professional development, and technology assessment and validation.

NEU also announced Baker Concrete, Inc., as the center's initial member. A contractor in the United States, Baker Concrete specializes in preconstruction, construction, and project management services. Baker Concrete provides expertise in civil, commercial, industrial, institutional, multi-family residential, and mission-critical buildings.

"NEU envisions a concrete industry where all stakeholders have access to technologies and the knowledge needed to effectively and safely produce and place carbon neutral concrete and concrete products," said Andrea Schokker, Executive Director, NEU. "Concrete plays a major role in a sustainable future, and collaboration with members worldwide is critical to developing a comprehensive plan to help make the concrete industry carbon neutral by 2050."

For more information and to get involved, visit www.neuconcrete.org.

ACI Renames Annual Award Given to Outstanding Educators

ACI memorialized Clyde E. Kesler, Professor, University of Illinois, by renaming an annual award given to outstanding educators in the field of concrete materials and structures. The ACI Clyde E. Kesler Education Award is a renaming of the ACI Joe W. Kelly Award that had been given annually since 1975 to a long list of ACI members.

Professor Emeritus Kesler served on the faculty of the departments of both Civil Engineering and Theoretical and Applied Mechanics from the late 1940s until his retirement in 1982. Nationally recognized as "The father of the concrete

canoe," Kesler started the phenomenon of concrete canoe racing in the 1970s with a class project. In 1977, Kesler was elected to membership in the National Academy of Engineering, the highest honor that can be accorded to an engineer. In 1967, he was elected ACI President, the youngest individual to hold that post up to that time. He died on December 30, 2011.

The ACI Clyde E. Kesler Education Award was established by the initiative and financial support of University of Illinois Professors David A. Lange, Neil Hawkins, and Frances Young, who fondly recall Kesler's friendship, leadership, and impact on the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Seeking Nominations for ACI Awards

ACI and the ACI Foundation are seeking nominations for the 2022 Honors and Awards Program. Nominations are being accepted for ACI's Fellow of the Institute honors, as well as for the ACI Certification Award; Chapter Activities Award; Walter P. Moore, Jr. Faculty Achievement Award; and three ACI Foundation Awards. The deadlines for nominations vary, with select nominations due as early as May 31, 2022.

For more information, visit www.concrete.org/aboutaci/honorsandawards.

ACI Releases 2022 ACI Collection of Concrete Codes, Specifications, and Practices

The ACI Collection is the most comprehensive and largest single source of information on concrete design, construction, materials, and repair, with over 50 codes and specifications and more than 200 practices, including all guides and reports. The ACI Collection features ACI 318 "Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete," ACI 301 "Specifications for Structural Concrete," and ACI 562 "Code Requirements for Assessment, Repair, and Rehabilitation of Existing Concrete Structures and Commentary." In addition, the 2022 ACI Collection now includes more than 10 newly published documents.

The 2022 ACI Collection is available as an online subscription, a USB drive (coming soon), and a nine-volume set of books. Specifically developed for individual users, the online subscription to the ACI Collection is the most convenient format, is always up-to-date, and includes access to every new ACI document as soon as it is published. Additionally, the online subscription includes access to current and historical versions of ACI's codes and specifications, along with versions in both inch-pound and SI units. Special online access for multiple users, entire offices, and large multi-national companies is also available.

ACF Webinar 3D Printing and Construction Automation

Organized by the Asian Concrete Federation (ACF), administered by GECE of Seoul National University, and co-sponsored by ACI, the 2nd ACF webinar, “3D Printing and Construction Automation,” will be held on June 17, 2022.

Presentations will include: “The Optimal Velocity of Extrusion Nozzle for 3D Concrete Printing,” by Sung-Gul Hong, Seoul National University; “Research Activities on 3D Printing Technology of Cementitious Materials in Japan,” by Tetsuya Ishida, The University of Tokyo; “Development of a Printer and a High-Performance Concrete for 3D Printing Technology,” by Le Trung Thanh, Ministry of Construction Vietnam; and “Research Advances in 3D Concrete Printing Technologies,” by Jay Sanjayan, Swinburne University of Technology.

Participants can register for free at <https://forms.gle/qpXuRN27mBjewCGr9>.

ICC’s 42nd Annual Building Safety Month

The International Code Council (ICC) launched a new website dedicated to this year’s Building Safety Month at www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/building-safety-month/building-safety-month. ICC and its members and partners lead the Building Safety Month campaign every May to raise awareness about the importance of building codes and the role of building safety professionals in ensuring our communities remain safe, sustainable, and resilient. This year’s campaign will cover topics such as energy and innovation, building safety careers, water safety, and disaster preparedness.

Visitors to the website can get involved in the campaign and use the available resources to support this year’s theme, “Safety for All: Building Codes in Action.” Nations, municipalities, cities, and territories around the world are encouraged to submit a proclamation declaring their official recognition of Building Safety Month.

“This campaign creates an opportunity for individuals to

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engage with their local communities to reinforce the need for adopting modern, regularly-updated building codes, and help others understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures,” said Cindy Davis, CBO, President of the ICC Board of Directors.

This year’s campaign is sponsored by ACI, the Gypsum Association, LiUNA, State Farm, and the ICC Professional Chapter of Pennsylvania.

Visit www.buildingsafetymonth.org to download promotional materials, access resources, and updates.

ASCC Announces a New Safety Training Assessment and Recognition Program

The American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC) announced a new Safety Training Assessment and Recognition Program (STAR). The program is a product of ASCC’s Safety and Risk Management Council (SRMC), the mission of which is to make ASCC concrete contractors the safest in the industry.

“STAR is a benchmarking and improvement tool that can help contractors dramatically improve safety performance, regardless of company size or scope,” says Joe Whiteman, ASCC director of safety services. “It acts as a roadmap for companies’ policies, programs, controls, and initiatives to refine and grow their company’s safety environment.”

STAR provides 15 key performing indicators that companies can use to assess their present safety programs. Participants score their level of achievement for each component on a weighted point scale and document their safety statistics. They achieve a recognition of level Five, Four, Three, Two, or One star based on the data. Owners of companies applying for Four or Five STAR status will be interviewed by a panel of SRMC members.

For more information, visit www.asconline.org.

ACPA Announces New Board Members

The American Concrete Pumping Association (ACPA) announced the election of its new Executive Board. Elected to serve a 1-year term, the newly elected Executive Board includes:

President, Wayne Bylsma, Cherokee Pumping, Inc., Hampton, GA, USA; Vice President, Art Fink, CF&T Concrete Pumping, Hayward, CA, USA; Secretary, Eric Duiker, CanCrete Equipment, Mississauga, ON, Canada; Treasurer, Nathan Germany, Tri-Way Concrete Pumping, Inc., Roanoke, TX, USA; and Past President, Gary Brown, R.L. McCoy, Inc., Indianapolis, IN, USA.

In addition, the ACPA announced recent elections for the following board positions.

Pump Directors: Wayne Bylsma, Cherokee Pumping, Inc.; Art Fink, CF&T Concrete Pumping; Nathan Germany,

Tri-Way Concrete Pumping, Inc.; and Brian Lywandowsky, Conco Pumping and Belting, Inc., Concord, CA.

Regional Directors: Region 2, Gary Brown, R.L. McCoy, Inc.; Region 4, Jennifer Lockhart, Florida Concrete Unlimited, Inc., Miami, FL, USA; and Region 6, Chris Pernicano, San Diego Concrete Pumping Inc., Santee, CA.

Distributor Director: Wayne Allen, CPE America 1, LLC, Metter, GA.

Manufacturing Directors: Jim Bodeker, Construction Forms, Inc., Port Washington, WI, USA; and Gabriel Ojeda, Fritz-Pak Corporation, Mesquite, TX.

For more information about the ACPA, visit www.concretetumpers.com.

ASCE Selects Four Members of Congress as Honorary Fellows

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) awarded honorary fellowships to four members of Congress for their efforts to pass the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), including Senator Rob Portman (R-OH), Senator Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ), Representative John Katko (R-NY), and Representative Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ).

The IIJA was signed into law last November after months of negotiations between both parties and the White House. The legislation provides \$550 billion in new federal infrastructure investments over the next 5 years, marking the country’s largest investment in infrastructure in nearly a century. The IIJA also addresses all 17 categories in ASCE’s 2021 Report Card for America’s Infrastructure.

All Honorary Fellows were presented their awards this week in conjunction with ASCE’s Annual Legislative Fly-in on Capitol Hill at the Hyatt Regency.

Proposed Rule to Amend Federal Occupational Injury, Illness Recordkeeping Regulation

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is proposing amendments to its occupational injury and illness recordkeeping regulation, 29 CFR 1904.41. The current regulation requires certain employers to electronically submit injury and illness information—that they are required to keep—to OSHA. The agency uses these reports to identify and respond to emerging hazards and makes aspects of the information publicly available.

In addition to reporting their annual summary of work-related injuries and illnesses, the proposed rule would require certain establishments in certain high-hazard industries to electronically submit additional information from their log of

work-related injuries and illnesses, as well as their injury and illness incident report.

As part of OSHA’s mission to protect workers and mitigate workplace hazards, this rule would improve OSHA’s ability to use its enforcement and compliance assistance resources to identify workplaces where workers are at high risk. The proposed rule would also advance the department’s mission to empower workers by increasing transparency in the workforce.

The proposed rule would:

- Require establishments with 100 or more employees in certain high-hazard industries to electronically submit information from their OSHA Forms 300, 301, and 300A to OSHA once a year;
- Update the classification system used to determine the list of industries covered by the electronic submission requirement;
- Remove the current requirement for establishments with 250 or more employees not in a designated industry to electronically submit information from their Form 300A to OSHA annually; and
- Require establishments to include their company name when making electronic submissions to OSHA. Establishments with 20 or more employees in certain high-hazard industries would continue to be required to electronically submit information from their OSHA Form 300A annual summary to OSHA annually.

To learn more about OSHA’s injury and illness recordkeeping and reporting requirements, visit www.osha.gov/recordkeeping.

EPA Releases Final Strategic Plan to Protect Public Health, Address Climate Change

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published its final fiscal year (FY) 2022-2026 EPA strategic

plan to accompany EPA’s FY 2023 President’s Budget. The strategic plan provides a roadmap to achieve EPA’s and the Biden-Harris Administration’s environmental priorities over the next 4 years.

EPA’s final Plan includes a strategic goal focused exclusively on addressing climate change, as well as an unprecedented strategic goal to advance environmental justice and civil rights. At the foundation of the plan is a renewed commitment to the three principles articulated by EPA’s first Administrator, William Ruckelshaus—follow the science, follow the law, and be transparent—while adding an

additional fourth principle: advance justice and equity.

“This final strategic plan is the result of tireless work across EPA to develop a comprehensive strategy that delivers on our mission to protect all people from pollution,” said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. “I’m confident that our plan meets the moment. Our solutions are designed to confront the challenges in front of us, where achieving justice and equity are central to addressing climate change and environmental protection.”

For more information about EPA’s strategic plan, visit <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan>.

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