



Hard Facts

N e w s l e t t e r

Winter 2004 - February

Vol. 7, No. 1

President's Letter



Steve Rodgers
PCAV President

First, I would like to congratulate Mimi Coles of Permatile Concrete Products Co., and Ed Page, Hanson Pipe & Product, Inc., for organizing our first regional

meeting November 18, 2003 in Roanoke, Va. Thanks is also due Jim Richmond, Americast, and Todd Callis, Rotondo Precast/Old Castle Precast, for our meeting January 14, 2004 in Richmond Va.

With the Virginia Department of Transportation shifting more responsibility to its District Administrators, it is important to start developing communication, trust and teamwork through these regional meetings. I'm happy to say both of these meetings exceeded expectations in attendance by membership and district VDOT members.

This past year has shown us the advantages of PCAV membership. Our joint meetings with VDOT and communication with municipalities has given our members insight into job-letting trends before they happened. After emerging from a tough economic year, in which transportation funding was reduced and the number of jobs being bid for construction was cut, things now seem to be on the upswing. Let's be thankful for a strong housing market and projects associated with

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Eastman Chemical Installs Sludge Bed

Recently Eastman Chemical Company was faced with upgrading a coal slurry-process settling pond to ensure compliance with water quality



Installation of CC35 Mats on New Clay Liner

regulations. After several years of sludge removal the clay liner that was in place for water quality control was in need of replacement.

Eastman engineers decided that it would be a more cost-effective fix to pour in place a concrete liner to protect the new clay liner, thereby eliminating the need for future clay liner replacements (normally a five- to seven-year life cycle).

However, Steve Mingle, P.E. had attended a local American Society of Civil Engineers meeting where he was introduced to a product manufactured by Permatile Concrete Products

Company called Cable Concrete. Steve recognized Cable Concrete as an alternative to a poured-in-place liner with the added benefits of flexibility, speed of installation, and a high quality 5000 psi air-entrained precast concrete. After researching the material and installation costs, Steve recommended Cable Concrete mats with grout-filled joints as the preferred liner method for this pond.

Cable Concrete CC35

mats were sized for the project and a mat layout for the pond was created to best fit the 4'x 16' mats. The process plant where the waste sludge was generated was scheduled for shutdown

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PCAV Happenings

PCAV began the New Year with a bang. On January 14 nearly 50 PCAV members and VDOT guests attended the joint PCAV/VDOT meeting in Richmond.



Mark Singer
PCAV Exec. Director

The event kicked off with a gathering of the PCAV Specifications Committee. Discussions involved proposed Department of Health regulations affecting the size of structure openings, VDOT quality control issues, and the ongoing dialogue with political subdivisions in the Hampton Roads area concerning warranties on product coatings. As a result of PCAV's efforts on that issue, PCAV has been invited to participate in a newly formed Regional Construction Standards Technical Review Committee of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. The Committee expects to meet a number of times in the coming months.

A large contingent of Richmond-area VDOT personnel then joined the meeting and a two-hour open forum was conducted that was extremely beneficial to PCAV attendees. Following lunch, the PCAV Board of Directors met to review a number of issues related to events and activities scheduled for the coming year and to develop and approve the 2004 association budget.

As a result of actions taken at the Board meeting, an effort will be made to update and upgrade the association's website. Additional funds were approved for several important promotional and training seminars and meetings. And, the Board increased the budget for production of the association's highly-regarded newsletter, *Hard Facts*, in an effort to reach a larger number of specifiers around the state.

A similar meeting with VDOT officials in the southwest portion of the

state was held on November 18. Once again, the information exchanged between PCAV members and VDOT representatives proved extremely valuable. The next meeting of PCAV members and regional VDOT representatives is scheduled for March 24 in Norfolk. PCAV members will be receiving registration information on that meeting soon.

Members should watch their mail for notification of the Winter Technical Concrete Seminar, sponsored by PCAV, and scheduled for March 2 at the Williamsburg Marriott Hotel. The association offers these in-depth training programs to public employees and specifiers at no charge and a large crowd is anticipated.

The association would also like to congratulate Hanson Pipe and Products (Manassas, Virginia Plant) for being awarded the ACPA 2003 Chairman's Safety Award. The Chairman's Safety Award was implemented in 2001 to reward the plant with the best new safety initiative. Hanson won for its Safety Manual that was used as a basis for the ACPA's Safety Manual. There were over 50 entrants in the competition.

Finally, PCAV members received their 2004 dues invoices and directory update requests in December. If you have not responded to both, please do so immediately. The *2004 PCAV Directory* will go to press shortly, and only PCAV members current in their dues will be included in that important publication.

Your PCAV staff wishes you the best in 2004. If we can assist you in any way during the year, don't hesitate to contact the PCAV office.

—Mark Singer, Executive Director

Membership News

Roanoke Cement has a new Vice-President Sales and Marketing, Randy Thompson. He has been in the cement industry over 20 years and will be moving his family to Roanoke from Texas.

Precast Gets in the Ballgame

Pitt Field at the University of Richmond is finishing a major uplift. The stadium will have new seating installed, as well as new dugouts erected. PCAV member **Rotondo Precast** recently



supplied precast baseball dugouts for the stadium's renovations.

When the general contractor, Taylor and Parrish of Richmond, realized that the schedule was extremely tight, they looked at precast solutions for the dugouts. Initially, the firm considered using hollow core for the roof and field cast for the rest, but Brent Graves with Taylor and Parrish felt the whole dugout frame could be precast. He contacted Rotondo Precast and after a few conversations, it was determined that precast would be an excellent solution. The

President Speaks

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homeland security or 2003 could have been tougher on all of us. Luckily, this year's economy is growing strong, and I happily wish all of our members the greatest prosperity for 2004.

Membership in the Precast Concrete Association of Virginia is a valuable tool for helping our industry succeed in a highly competitive market. We continue to be dedicated to the growth of the precast industry and expansion of opportunities for our members through the development of strong relationships with municipalities, specifiers, engineers, and VDOT. Committees and members are striving to meet the challenges of the upcoming year to promote our industry by

decision to go ahead was made in mid-October, and after a few changes and additions, the dugouts were delivered in mid-December.

Each of the two dugouts created consists of eight 8' precast sections that are 10' tall and 8' wide on the floor, and 6' wide on the roof. The interior roof is sloped from 9" to 4" in thickness to give a better appearance and let in more light. The finished dugouts will be end-capped with brick in the field.

Rotondo was able to meet the aggressive schedule and odd shape of the dugouts by modifying one of their box culvert forms and utilizing Oldcastle's manufacturing facility (Avon Manufacturing) to create the special part with the interior roof slope while maintaining the desired finish.

Interior appearance of the dugout was a major concern for all involved. Because of Rotondo's use of Self Consolidating Concrete (SCC) and the improved appearance from SCC, everyone was pleased with the finish on the inside of the dugouts and no other finishing was needed.

giving seminars, participating in trade shows, college events and the many other activities of the association.

I want to thank all of our members, associates and partners for your continued support and participation in PCAV and look forward to all of us working together to promote the quality, value and performance of precast concrete.

Together, we can make a difference. I strongly encourage each of you to begin talking and/or writing to your legislators about adequate transportation funding, which is important to Virginia's growth.

—Steve Rodgers

Bobby Garland, the project manager for Taylor and Parrish, said everyone from the university to the architect was pleased with the way the precast dugouts looked and how efficiently they were installed. Using precast will allow project completion before the Spiders' opening day.

So if you make it out to Pitt Field at the University of Richmond this spring to catch a game, remember to pay careful attention to the dugouts!

—Todd Callis

Eastman Chemicals

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Pouring of Grout as Mat Installation Proceeds



Final Product Before Plant Goes Back Online

maintenance for the month of September 2003.

Cable Concrete material was shipped to the contractor and installed during the first three weeks.

The results: The process plant was put back into operation *ten days ahead of schedule and at approximately 50 percent of the original budget.*

2004 Calendar of Events

MONTH	EVENT/LOCATION
March 11-12	Virginia Concrete Conference\ Richmond, Va.
March 24	PCAV/VDOT, Board of Dir'tors Dinner w/Associates Norfolk, Va.
March 25-26	VTRBA/VDOT Contractor/ Engineer Spring Conference Norfolk, Va.
May 12-14	APWA Regional Conference Norfolk, Va.
July 22	PCAV Brd & Committee Mtngs PCAV/VDOT Luncheon Meeting Northern Va.
September 15-16	PCAV ANNUAL CONVENTION Wintergreen, Va.
September 21-23	Virginia Engineers Conference Williamsburg, Va.
October TBA	VDOT Transportation Conference Lexington, Va.
October 22-25	NPCA Conference Rancho Mirage, Ca.

Winter Technical Concrete Seminar

Today's pipeline and infrastructure professional is constantly dartsed with information about new drainage materials, product specifications, installation challenges and budget constraints. If you are interested in learning more about concrete products, competitive drainage products and new research that affect the drainage products industry, then you should attend the Winter Technical Concrete Seminar.

We are pleased to offer Continuing Education Units (CEU) for attendance. Attendees will earn 4 PDHs. Attendance at the March 2 seminar is just \$20, and lunch is included.

HURRY!
Deadline is Feb. 25

Williamsburg Marriott Hotel
50 Kingsmill Road
Williamsburg, Va 23185

March 2, 2004
9am through 2pm

You can still register for the seminar if you call Contractors Precast Corp, Virginia Office, at 540-972-6677 by **February 25**.

PCAV Mission

The Precast Concrete Association of Virginia is dedicated to the growth of the precast concrete industry. We will educate specifiers and end users as to the advantages and proper utilization of products and systems, and we will represent the industry in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PCAV Past Presidents

Bill Tichacek, Americast	1991-1993
Jim Richmond, CP&P	1993-1995
Kirby O'Malley, Hydro Conduit	1995-1996
Don Anger, CP&P	1996-1997
Richard Rotondo, Rotondo Precast	1997-1999
Scott Crumpler, Americast	1999-2001
Mimi R. Coles, Permatile	2001-2003

Check out the PCAV website!
<http://www.gopcav.com>

Hard Facts is a publication of the Precast Concrete Association of Virginia for its members. Submissions, story ideas, member kudos, letters to the editor and comments are welcomed. Contact the editor, Lois Carter Fay, at 800.203.8660 or lcf@marketingideashop.com.

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