



Hard Facts

Newsletter

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TECHNICAL ARTICLE by Hank Gottschalk, [Hanson Pipe & Precast](#) **James River Interceptor in Lynchburg, VA**

When Lynchburg, Virginia built its sewer system over 100 years ago, it was among the finest in the nation. However, at the time, sewer systems were built to merely take sewage away from the population and transport it to a nearby creek bed or stream. Approximately 50 years later the shortcomings of this design were recognized and Lynchburg built a waste water treatment plant in the 1950s.

Although this new solution was a significant improvement, large rain events produced more water than could be processed by the waste water treatment plant, and several combined sewer overflow outfalls were required to allow relief during these events. These outfalls allowed for discharge of untreated sewage during the heavy rain events, so that the treatment plant could handle its full capacity flow. This type of "combined sewer" system still serves many of the older cities along the East Coast and is serving more than 11 square miles of the City of Lynchburg today.

During the 1980s Lynchburg invested in several projects to begin the transition from a combined system to "separated systems" by replacing the existing pipelines and installing a dedicated sanitary sewer system with a separate storm sewer system. Work progresses even today and the James River Interceptor Replacement, Lynchburg's largest and longest interceptor sewer, is one of these



projects.

The James River Interceptor is approximately seven miles long and consists of pipes to up to seven feet in diameter. Thalle Construction from Hillsborough, NC is currently constructing Divisions 2 and 6 with Reinforced Concrete Pipe and Precast Concrete Manholes fabricated by [Hanson Pipe & Precast](#). These two Divisions have over 4,700 LF of 72" diameter class V concrete pipe, as well as over 11,500 LF of smaller diameter concrete pipe, several manhole tee-bends and precast manholes up to 126" diameter (pictured below).



The 72" diameter reinforced concrete pipe was produced with rubber gasket joints and requires field testing in accordance with ASTM C1103. The 126" diameter precast manholes were produced with ALOK pipe connections to receive the 72" diameter concrete pipe. Construction is expected to continue through most of 2011.

Association & Member News



Executive Director's Report

The [PCAV](#) and its membership continue to cope with a very challenging business environment. Economists who keep suggesting that the "turnaround" has arrived should spend a few days with our members visiting infrastructure and building construction sites around the Commonwealth. It doesn't take long to conclude that construction in these areas is slow, weak, and sorely in need of a sustained stimulus creating jobs and new production. Federal stimulus dollars, an addiction easy to get used to but short lived in its application, have all but dried up. The picture is now more real, and it calls for a slow emergence from a deep recession.

However slow the process back to economic health is, it is occurring and things will get better. So PCAV members must continue to plan for the future, retain their key employees, and take the opportunity that a down time in the economy presents to make plant improvements, conduct training and certification classes, and tune up overall operations for better times. The PCAV must do likewise, and the association's Board of Directors is working hard to keep the organization lean and mean, without affecting needed services. Meetings will be crisper and in new locations that offer better value. Newsletters will be electronic, eliminating printing and mailing costs. Members will be asked to perform more volunteer services for the association, and staff will be trimming costs where ever possible.

Having said all that, the work of the PCAV goes on, and its committed members will ensure that our sector remains vocal and active in our advocacy for precast concrete products. For example, three pipe inspection demonstrations were recently held across the state for industry allies, local government, and [VDOT](#) folks. These demos focused on CCTV, Laser Profile and Micrometer Technology, and live inspections of pipe joints, cracks and deflection. A plant tour was included in these demonstrations which were all well

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attended and extremely worthwhile. In addition, PCAV weighed in on the national debate regarding whether to re-categorize fly ash as a hazardous material, which we opposed.

We continue to participate in trade shows and other industry events, highlighted by the reactivated Governor's Conference on Transportation held late last year in Roanoke. Of course, we also have our own gathering to look forward to each year, and this year's **PCAV Annual Conference** is scheduled for **May 11th and 12th in Wintergreen, Virginia**. Mark your calendars now, as this is the premier gathering of precasters in Virginia.

Our relationship with the Northeastern Cement Shippers Association continues to prove extremely valuable to our overall marketing efforts. It is worth recognizing **Ed Wiles** with [Roanoke Cement Company](#), who serves as our liaison between the [Portland Cement Association](#) and the PCAV. Ed continues to provide strong guidance to the PCAV regarding our ongoing and mutually beneficial relationship with the PCA, and he deserves our thanks for being so effective in that role. (Ed recently informed us that in the future Virginia will fall into the Southeast Cement Shippers Association's jurisdiction, effectively changing us from a NECSA state to a SECSA state.)

There are a couple of other members who deserve our recognition and thanks. **Don Wagner**, [Hanson Pipe & Precast's](#) VP of sales in the Mid-Atlantic, was recently recognized for his 25 years of dedicated service. Don is also the current Vice President of the PCAV. We congratulate him for his tenure and accomplishments. And the PCAV is pleased to welcome two new associate members: [Columbia Machine Inc.](#) and [Universal Polymer and Rubber, Ltd.](#)

Finally, it's rare for a state to have more than one representative on a national board of directors. But Virginia is proud to have two of our members serving on the board of directors of the National Precast Concrete Association. **Mimi Coles** with [Permatile Concrete Products Company](#) (and a past two-term PCAV President) is the current Secretary/Treasurer, and **Mike Mueller** with [TEKA North America, Inc.](#) serves as a Director. These industry leaders continue to make Virginia, and the PCAV shine!



Skip Francies joins A.L. Patterson
[A.L. Patterson, Inc.](#) is pleased to announce that **Skip Francies** has joined the company as President of the newly

formed Precast Division. Skip has more than 40 years' experience in the industry and is well known for his educational involvements and patented advancements with lifting and handling precast products. Skip will now direct sales, marketing, product development and services for this new Division. Skip can be contacted at 300 Ben Fairless Drive, Fairless Hills, PA 19030; skipf@alpatterson.com; 800-332-7090.

The Precast Show 2011

After three years of recession in the construction industry, there are signals that a recovery could be coming in the months ahead. The industry that emerges will be leaner and greener than ever. Those companies that understand the nature of "the new normal" in the precast concrete industry will be best positioned for success in the post-recession world. In the new economy, success in business is all about capturing the information you need to stay on the leading edge of the industry.

The Precast Show 201 held January 27-29, 2011 in Charlotte, NC featured comprehensive precast-specific education and technical training, along with a trade show floor filled with industry experts displaying the equipment, supplies and services required to run a 21st century precast concrete business. The Precast Show, sponsored by the [National Precast Concrete Association](#) and the [American Concrete Pipe Association](#), is an annual event--providing the most up-to-date technology, training and education available to the concrete pipe and precast products industry.

Several PCAV producer members and almost all PCAV associate members participated in the three-day industry event. PCAV producer member **Mimi Rainero Coles** of [Permatile Concrete Products Company](#) and associate member **Mike Mueller** of [TEKA North America, Inc.](#) serve on the [National Precast Concrete Association](#) Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

For more information about The Precast Show or either sponsoring Association, check out the websites at <http://www.concrete-pipe.org> or www.precast.org.

The 2012 Precast Show will be held in Orlando, Florida, March 1-3, 2012. Mark your calendar now.

Please forward this email to your colleagues, business associates, vendors and prospects and ask them to visit www.gopcav.com to subscribe.



Mission Statement

The Precast Concrete Association of Virginia is dedicated to the growth of the precast concrete industry. We pursue that purpose by educating and partnering with specifiers, installers and end users on the advantages and proper utilization of our products and systems. The association will represent its members in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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