



Hard Facts

Newsletter

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Oldcastle Precast Provides Box Culvert for Emergency Bridge Replacement after Hurricane Irene

By Christopher Speck, [Oldcastle Precast](#)

Days after tropical storm Lee passed, rivers and streams raged on, leaving eroded shorelines and collapsed roadways in its wake. VDOT's Fredericksburg District was left with several dead-end road failures stranding entire neighborhoods. Route 624 in Westmoreland County was one in particular. The District needed to act quickly and repair the damaged Route 624 roadway.



The photo shows what was left of two undersized 36-inch pipes.

A blessing in disguise was the unexpected opportunity to upgrade to a box culvert crossing that would adequately handle future increased water flow. The existing elevated road had 36-foot pipes that were scattered along the wetland crossing and mixed with CMP and RCP. Oldcastle Precast was contacted by VDOT's Fredericksburg District because the company was currently manufacturing an 8-foot by 5-foot box culvert for VDOT's Staunton District that was compatible with the repair needed on Route 624. After being made aware of the situation, Oldcastle Precast adjusted its production schedule to manufacture an additional 16 sections of 8x5 box culvert totaling 96 linear feet.



This photo was taken during back fill of Oldcastle 8x5 Box Culvert.

Both VDOT Districts worked together with Oldcastle to coordinate the swap and replacement. Consequently, the impassible road was opened less than one week after the storm, allowing freedom of movement again to the previously stranded residents.

Manholes Aren't Just for Sewers

By Hank Gottschalk, [Hanson Pipe & Precast](#)

Standard round manhole sections can be used for an abundance of applications other than the originally intended buried sewer manhole. Although the use of manhole sections above ground is not uncommon, most of the time these structures get buried and are easily forgotten. Standard manhole sections are commonly produced to ASTM C478 specifications and play a vital role in allowing modern civilization to function on a daily basis by connecting sewer pipes of various sizes, angles and elevations, and allowing our sewers to do what they need to do.



An interesting use of standard precast concrete manhole sections recently occurred in Loudoun County, Virginia as part of the construction of a private astronomical observatory. Standard manhole sections, produced by Hanson Pipe & Precast, were stacked in the center of the observatory to serve as an elevated base for the astronomical equipment. This type of economical solution can allow minimal installation time when compared to a cast-in-place design. Precast concrete manhole sections are typically required to have a minimum compressive strength of 4000 psi, giving them significant bearing capacity when placed under a purely compressive load. This particular project utilized an epoxy joint material to "glue" the sections together during construction.

Attached is an article, "Rethinking Infrastructure Funding," written by NPCA President Ty Gable. Thank you to [NPCA](#) for allowing us to provide it to you.

Association & Member News

Organizational Changes at [Hanson Pipe & Precast](#)

Darren Wise was promoted to the position of Senior Vice President, Sales, Hanson Pipe & Precast East, effective October 1, 2011. In this capacity, Darren is responsible for leading and driving sales efforts and strategy for the Eastern United States pipe and precast product line. Darren has been a part of Hanson Building Products for 18 years and most recently held the position of Area Operations Manager for the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest areas. Darren previously worked in engineering, sales, and sales management and also held the position of General Manager for the Northeast.

PCAV Education Committee Active By Hank Gottschalk, [Hanson Pipe & Precast](#)

The PCAV Education Committee mission is to actively promote and educate proper design and use of precast concrete products. During this fall semester, the committee instructed a one-hour class lecture on concrete pipe design and installation at both West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV and at WVU-IT in Monroe, WV. These classroom presentations were attended by upper-level civil-engineering undergraduates who learned how RCP differs from flexible pipe design, how proper RCP strength design is accomplished by the indirect design method, and what to expect to see in the field during installation. PCAV donated to each student a hard copy of the American Concrete Pipe Association's *Concrete Pipe Design Manual*, commonly referred to as the "blue book." The *Concrete Pipe Design Manual* is an excellent resource for anyone involved in our buried infrastructure and an absolute necessity for our up-and-coming civil engineers.

The Education Committee also presented "The True Costs of Improving Our Buried Infrastructure" to the student chapter of the [American Society of Civil Engineers](#) at Old Dominion University. The presentation highlighted our buried infrastructure's vital need of repair, the critical aspects to be considered when addressing this need, such as initial costs, life costs, economic and social impacts, and how material choices can affect these key concerns. More than 20 students attended and have requested a plant tour in the spring. Plans to continue education this spring are in the works with invitations already made to several additional universities.

PCAV Officers & Directors

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2012 Construction Law Survival Seminars

March 13, 2012

Hyatt Fair Lakes
12777 Fair Lakes Circle
Fairfax, VA 22033

March 22, 2012

Sheraton Washington North
4095 Powder Mill Road
Beltsville, MD 20705

Topics Covered:

Mechanic's Liens
Time Limits, Notices and Claims to preserve rights in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and D.C.

Public and Private Payment Bond Rights
Federal Miller Act and State Little Miller Acts

Construction Contracts
How to Write, Review and Revise Contracts
Conduit, Pay-when-Paid Clauses and Claims Procedures

Changes, Delays and other Claims
Protect your Profit and Rights to Additional Time or Money

For more information call Fullerton & Knowles, P.C. at (703) 818-2600 or visit the website www.FullertonLaw.com for more seminar information.

Managing Consultant's Report

Mark Singer, PCAV Managing Consultant



As we head into the winter months, [PCAV](#) members should take a moment to reflect on the association's busy summer and early fall which began with the annual conference held in mid-May. Since that successful meeting, representatives of the PCAV met with senior representatives from [Henrico County's Public Utility Department](#) to discuss the County's usage of precast products--in particular precast pipe and structures--and to explore areas that the PCAV can serve as a more effective resource for the County going forward. As a result of this discussion, proposed revisions to the County's utility specifications will be shared with the PCAV, and improved communication between both groups is envisioned in the future.

On September 20 the semi-annual Joint [PCAV/VDOT](#) meeting was held in Richmond with strong representation from both groups. A number of technical issues were reviewed, and in some instances clarified, including Quality Control Technician Recertification, pipe post-installation inspection frequency and costs, and joint gap criteria for box culverts. There was also agreement to link the VDOT website reference to the [Inlet Stake-Out Manual](#) to the PCAV website which has for years included a pdf version of the entire manual. A policy discussion on the need for all VDOT districts to act in a more consistent fashion with regard to allowable specifications and variations from same (all districts are not yet using Load and Resistance Factor Design [LRFD] and one district seems to be using a different design review procedure than all the others), and both sides agreed that improvements in this area are needed.

Following the joint meeting, the PCAV Board of Directors met to review a full agenda of committee activities, the financial status of the association, and upcoming marketing opportunities for our members and their products. Those opportunities include speaking before engineering school students at the state's major universities, exhibiting at the Virginia Engineers' Conference and the upcoming meeting of the [Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance](#), as well as continuing to work closely with the [NPCA](#) and [ACPA](#). Board members also learned that difficult economic times may mean that despite the strong, professional and ongoing marketing efforts of the PCAV and its members, future marketing support from the Portland Cement Association may be diminished, at least in the short term. This diminishing financial support leads me to ask each of our current members to **help the association grow** by recommending at least one company that you buy from, sell to, or compete with, for membership in the PCAV. If we are going to remain the one strong voice of precast in Virginia, we will need adequate funding streams. Member dues are our principal income stream--please help!

Mike Barg
[Rinker Materials](#)

Associates Directors
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[Essroc Cement](#)

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[Roanoke Cement Co.](#)

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James D. Fullerton
[Fullerton & Associates](#)

Managing Consultant
Mark I. Singer
[Advocates of Virginia](#)

Calendar

March 20, 2012

PCAV/VDOT Joint Mtng
The Place at Innsbrook
Richmond, VA

May 9-10, 2012

Annual Meeting
Wintergreen Resort

September 18, 2012

PCAV/VDOT Joint Mtng
The Place at Innsbrook
Richmond, VA

Your association also needs to increase the number of industry allies who receive this electronic newsletter. You can provide the PCAV office with additional email addresses or **request business associates to visit the [PCAV website](#)** to sign up for the newsletter in ten seconds.

PCAV committees are hard at work planning next year's annual conference and joint meetings. Please see the calendar section of this newsletter for important dates you will need to place on your 2012 calendar now. As always, thank you for your continued support of the PCAV.

PCAV Members

Producer Members	City, State	Telephone
Americast	Ashland & Harrisonburg, VA; Martinsburg, WV	804-798-6068
Hanson Pipe & Precast	Richmond, Roanoke, Manassas, VA	804-233-5471
Nansemond Pre-cast Concrete Co. Inc.	Suffolk, VA	757-538-2761
Oldcastle Precast	Fredricksburg, VA	540-898-6300
Permatile Concrete Products Co.	Bristol, VA	276-669-5332
Rinker Materials	Frederick, MD	301-698-7373
Smith-Midland Corporation	Midland, VA	540-439-3266
Associate Members		
A.L. Patterson	Fairless Hills, PA	267-974-8341
A-LOK Products, Inc.	Tullytown, PA	800-988-7837 800-822-2565
American Step Company	Griffin, GA	800-988-7837
BASF Corp.	Beechwood, OH	610-212-5577
Boral Material Technologies	Reidsville, NC	336-274-1140
Capitol Foundry of Virginia Inc.	Virginia Beach, VA	757-427-9431
Columbia Machine, Inc.	Vancouver, WA	360-694-1501
CONAC Concrete Accessories	Norcross, GA	770-417-1110
Concrete Sealants, Inc.	Tipp City, OH	610-948-7867 800-332-7325
East Jordan Ironworks, Inc.	Richmond, VA	804-513-0674
Essroc Cement	Laneview, VA	800-624-8986
Fullerton & Knowles, P.C.	Clifton, VA	703-818-2600
Grace Construction Products	Westminister, MD	540-220-8159
Hamilton Form Co.	Fort Worth, TX	817-590-2111
Hamilton Kent, LLC	Toronto, ON & Boxford, MA	978-376-9965
Holcim Cement	Haggerstown & Ijamsville, MD	301-739-1150 443-472-6542
Insteel Wire Products	Mount Airy, NC	800-791-4108
Kaufman Products, Inc.	Baltimore, MD	800-637-6372
LaFarge North America	Chesapeake, VA	757-545-2481
Lehigh Cement Co.	Union Bridge, MD	800-462-9071
M.A. Industries, Inc.	Peachtree City, GA	800-241-8250
Martin Marietta Aggregates	Richmond, VA	804-674-9517
Meadow Burke Products	Lorton, VA	571-294-4049
Press-Seal Gasket Corp.	Ft. Wayne, IN	260-436-0521
Roanoke Cement Co.	Mechanicsville, VA	504-798-3251
Spillman Co.	Columbus, OH	800-443-6767
Swope & Associates	Charles City, VA	804-829-5551
TEKA North America	Chesapeake, VA	757-558-8846
Trelleborg Engineered Systems	Mount Airy, MD	800-626-2180
U.S. Foundry & Manufacturing Corp.	Brown Summit, NC	800-527-8380
Universal Polymer & Rubber, Ltd.	Middlefield, OH	260-436-0521
Universal Sales	Hendersonville, NC	828-891-4412
Virginia Contractor Supply	Manassas, VA	301-988-4900
Vulcan Construction Materials	Manassas, VA	703-368-2060

Government Members		
City of Chesapeake	Chesapeake, VA	

For more details and updates throughout the year, please visit the PCAV website, www.gopcav.com.



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.

Precast Concrete Association of Virginia

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