The precast concrete industry market is much larger and much broader than the common public perception, which often is defined by what is visible (such as bridges, buildings, stadiums, parking garages, housing, etc.). A significant amount of work is installed underground, and does its job quietly, not to be seen again. Here are some examples:

Randall’s Island Field Development used 13 offset wingwall units (photos 1 and 3). They have 10” bases and 12” walls, all reinforced with epoxy coated steel. All designs were done by Delta Engineers, Binghamton, NY; GC was Tully Construction, Flushing, NY.

Sixteen precast column foundations were used in the recent work for the Metro-North Railroad in Croton on Hudson (photos 2 and 4). Each base was 18” thick and 7 feet square. The integral columns are 2 feet square and 4’-6” tall. The contractor was a joint venture, Skanska/Ecco111, Whitestone, NY.

The Drive and Race Club project in Monticello used 5 precast detention basin outlets; all have 8” walls and bases, range from 7’-6” to 14’-6” tall, with mid-floors on the taller ones (photos 5 & 6). GC was Argenio Bros, New Windsor, NY.
SIXTEEN FOOT HIGH SOUND WALLS for new West Ridge Road

As part of the extensive reconstruction of West Ridge Road in Rochester, NY, Lakelands Concrete Products supplied these attractive precast concrete panels and posts for the easily installed, extensive sound wall buffering much of the adjoining residential areas. The 8” thick panels have an exposed aggregate finish on both sides, while the integral caps have a plain finish to form the distinguishing band. The supporting structural columns alternate in both size and finish; on the residential side, the finish is exposed aggregate, while on the road side, the finish is plain concrete on the small columns and ashlar stone on the large columns.

The ‘H’ shaped columns are either 21” square, plain concrete, or 24” x 39” (as shown, left) exposed aggregate finish on one side and an ashlar stone formliner finish on the road side, stained to match an existing cemetery nearby. Column caps were separate castings, and were anchored utilizing the same inserts used to erect the columns. The top column 1” coil inserts were simply filled with grout, and a matching 1/2” bolt screwed into the cap completed the anchorage. The columns are installed on cip caissons which stop 12” below grade. A combination of galvanized angles bolted to the columns, with leveling bolts, and field drilled connection inserts completed the connection to the caisson tops. The connection was then completed with concrete beneath the columns to take load and protect the connection hardware.

The project GC was Sealand Contractors, Rochester. Thanks to Chad Bond of Lakelands for the photos and facts.

Stonehenge Replicated

Do you want your manholes and catch basins round or square? Photos 7 & 8 illustrate both, part of an order for over 80 units for Pike Construction, Rochester, NY, headed for a project in New Paltz. All photos and work shown in this article were submitted by Joseph Amoia, A & R Concrete Products, New Windsor, NY.
If this work was above ground, it would take up two car spaces! As part of the storm water/site drainage plan for the Niagara Falls Wal-Mart, Kistner Concrete Products, East Pembroke, NY supplied the 12’ x 12’ by 7’ deep vault shown, with 8” walls. This is a standard unit for KCP — as with most PCANY Producer Members, you can link to their website (www.kistner.com) from the PCANY website, and find all standard square and round vault sizes, as well as all their other standard products available. It is available with either shiplap or tongue and groove joint (shown).

Both an inside and outside application of joint tape was placed to seal the two halves. FRA was the project engineer, and Yarussi Construction was the contractor.

To end this issue related to miscellaneous products, the 8’ x 8’ and 7’ x 7’ junction vaults further illustrate that an amazing amount of prefabricated product is installed below ground as part of our infrastructure. These units are made with watertight boots, a highly recommended improvement, to allow fast and easy pipe connection at the jobsite, while maintaining watertightness of the connection with pipe, since pipe inevitably settles and moves.

Project designer was TVGA Engineers, and contractor Catco Construction. Thanks to Mike Kistner for the photos and facts.

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Upcoming Events

June 10 – Basic Prestressed Concrete Design Seminar, Tufts University (PCI and PCI Northeast)

June 17 & 18 – Production and Quality School, Albany (NPCA & PCANY)