Notes From The Director

This month features an interesting project located some 1400 miles to our south and, while we like to focus primarily on projects around the State of New York, I think it’s helpful to see what is happening in other parts of the country to get a perspective on the many unique and creative ways on which precast concrete is being used to build and rebuild our nation’s infrastructure. Our thanks to Ralph Verrastro of Bridging Solutions for submitting this project.

We are also continuing to highlight the PCANY Wastewater Certification Program with a new quarterly newsletter dedicated to water and wastewater issues. Our first issue announces the change in our cast-in listing tag from red to green, signifying that precast septic tanks are watertight and ecologically friendly.

Warmest Regards,

Ronald E. Thornton, P.E.
Winding Cypress Community — Naples, FL

Submitted by Ralph Verrastro of Bridging Solutions, LLC.

Winding Cypress, a community of new single family homes in Naples, FL, required 3 sizeable stream crossings for its site development. Bridging Solutions, LLC of Naples conducted a bridge study in order to determine the best option for the construction of the three structures. While not the least expensive solution, the owner ultimately chose to use multi-cell precast concrete box culverts as the absolute fastest way to complete the site work and release the lots for home construction.

While multi-cell culverts are not unusual, particularly in Florida where construction depth is generally very shallow, one of the crossings on this site consisted of 25 rows of 8’ x 3’ box sections totaling 225’ in length x 74’ wide in the direction of flow.

25 Cell Culvert—Phase 1 Construction
Gaps between cells filled with flowable fill
Cast-in-place wing walls, headwalls and cut-off walls

Project Credits:
Owner: Pulte Homes
Contractor: Haleakala Construction
Engineer-of-Record: Bridging Solutions, LLC
Precast Manufacturer: Oldcastle Precast—Cape Coral, FL
Precast Specialty Engineer: Oldcastle Precast (In-house staff)
PCANY Issues 1st On-Site Newsletter

Introducing PCANY On-Site, a quarterly newsletter dedicated specifically to issues regarding precast septic tanks and other wastewater products. The article below is from our inaugural issue that was sent to our initial email list of folks with an interest in water & wastewater topics. Please contact me if you would like to be added to this list and/or if you have items of interest for future publications.

PCANY Wastewater Certification Program

In 2004, PCANY instituted a voluntary certification program for precast concrete septic tanks. The purpose of the program is to assure the public and approving agencies that septic tanks have been subjected to rigorous testing and evaluation. To be considered for listing, each producer must submit a test report certified by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer. Each listed tank must be tested for both watertightness and structural integrity in accordance with ASTM C1227, “Standard Specification for Precast Concrete Septic Tanks”. To be considered watertight, a tank must withstand a vacuum pressure of 4” of mercury for five minutes without any loss of pressure.

For structural integrity, a tank must be tested to an applied load that is at least 1.5 times the anticipated actual load. Anticipated loads include vertical dead and live loads as well as lateral soil loads. Minimum design service load on a tank should be no less than 300psf. This equates to approximately 7” of mercury when vacuum tested and with the appropriate safety factor applied.

In 2016, the program was completely rewritten in order to better clarify certification requirements and to publish it in booklet format for distribution to health officials and other interested parties.

The PCANY Certification Program for Water and Wastewater Products requires that tanks be tested and certified annually. Certified tanks can be readily identified by the distinctive green “PCANY LISTED” tag cast into each structure. A complete listing of certified tanks may be found on our website at www.pcany.org.
Kistner Announces 2016 Mini-catalog
Kistner Concrete Products Inc. is Proud to announce the availability of their New 2016 Mini-Catalog. This 120 page color document is full of Standard & Custom Precast products widely used in the Highway & Wastewater Industry. A convenient Quick Guide & reference for your Office or Jobsite. Request a FREE copy Today. Email: michael.kistner@kistner.com

NEPCA to Host Open House
The Northeast Precast Concrete Association will have its summer open house at P.J. Keating Company in Lunenburg, MA on Friday June 17. Events will include site tours, crane safety program, and vacuum testing demonstration (Information)

ABCD—ENY Meeting Scheduled
The Eastern New York ABCD will be holding a Meeting on Friday June 17, 2016. The topic of the meeting will be The Hudson-Mohawk Region: Silicon Valley of the Nineteenth Century presented by P. Thomas Carroll, PhD. Dr. Carroll is the Senior Scholar and Treasurer of the Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway which among other things owns and operates the Burden Iron Works Museum. (Information)

Precast Concrete Association of New York, Inc.
31 Riverview Ave.
Binghamton, New York 13904