Notes From The Director

Our Spring 2017 PCANY meetings will be held Tuesday May 9th at AGC Headquarters, 10 Airline Dr., Albany. Our regular membership meeting will start at 9:30am followed by a joint meeting with NYSDOT at 1:30pm. We will also have an informal dinner for those who want to come the evening before.

Regarding this month’s photo, I could not resist highlighting the world’s two most famous giraffes, April and her yet unnamed baby boy who arrived on April 15th. The birth at Animal Adventure Park in Harpursville, NY (just outside of Binghamton) was carried live on YouTube to about 1.2 million viewers. My grandkids can’t wait to go and see this little guy.

Warmest Regards,

Ronald E. Thornton, P.E.
The New NY Bridge Traffic Barrier

Submitted by Tom Montalbine of Roman Stone Construction.

The replacement of the Tappan Zee Bridge in NYC has been an extremely high-profile project and one that greatly illustrates the advancements and creativity in the use of precast concrete elements in bridge construction. In addition to the massive precast pile caps and hundreds of deck panels produced for this project, there are also single-slope barrier sections being fabricated for the approaches. These elements are being cast with two layers of exposed galvanized rebar on 6” centers.

Precast barrier was specified for this project due to superior durability, aesthetics, and cost effectiveness.

Project Credits:
Owner: New York State Thruway Authority
Contractor: Tappan Zee Construction
Precast Manufacturer: Roman Stone Construction, Bayshore, NY
Reinforcing Concrete with Fiberglass Rebar

Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer (GFPR) bars are becoming an increasingly popular alternative to traditional reinforcing steel. The material is lightweight, non-corrosive and exhibits high tensile strength. Also, because it is non-metallic, it is particularly beneficial where electromagnet sensitivity is a concern, such as MRI facilities, monorail tracks, and steel recycling facilities.

GFPR can be supplied in tensile strengths up to 199ksi. However, it should be noted that this material does not yield like traditional rebar and, therefore, ductility cannot be relied upon in any structural analysis. Because of this, one cannot simply substitute the properties of GFPR in a typical ACI 318 design. Fortunately, there are design guides available specifically for FRP bars.

- ACI 440.1R-15 “Guide for the Design and Construction of Structural Concrete Reinforced with Fiber-Reinforced Polymer Bars, ACI 440 Committee, American Concrete Institute.

GFPR bars can be ordered in standard lengths and cut to length as needed. GFRP has a low modulus-of-elasticity (5.1ksi—7.4ksi) which means that it cannot be bent in the shop like rebar. Bent and spiral bars must be made to order.

For more information on fiberglass rebar, please contact one of the following PCANY Associate Members:

- ALP Supply, Fairless Hills, PA 800-332.7090 www.patterson-online.com

Check out all of our members in the PCANY Buyer’s Guide located on our website.
PCANY Welcomes New Member

GCP Applied Technologies of Cambridge, MA has joined PCANY as an Associate Member. GCP provides a full line of innovative products and technologies for the precast/prestressed concrete industry. Please contact Ben Cota at 802-349-2677 or ben.cota@gcpat.com.

NPCA Issues Guidance for OSHA Crane Operator Certification

Beginning November 10, 2017 anyone operating a crane at a construction site with a capacity greater than 2000lbs must be certified by an accredited source. Information on certification and how this ruling affects the precast industry can be found at precast.org/cranes.

PCANY Spring Meetings Scheduled

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