Notes From The Director

Please be advised that our offices will be closed for vacation beginning Monday September 10th for 2 weeks. I will be out of the country with limited access to email during this time but will respond when I can, if needed. I will be working to get our fall meetings scheduled before I leave.

As always, we appreciate the interest and support of our members and readers, many of whom are from well outside of New York State.

Warmest Regards,

Ronald E. Thornton, P.E.


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- Industry News & Events

Precast curbs in Winnipeg, Canada provide a safe separation between cyclists and motor vehicles. Source NPCA Blog visit link above for complete article
Griffon Park Comfort Station

Submitted by Geoff Lawrence of Lakelands Concrete Products, Inc.

Griffon Park is located on the Upper Niagara River in LaSalle, Niagara County. This precast, non-insulated building was constructed with individual precast panels erected on-site using bolted connections. Panels were installed on a cast-in-place slab on grade. The modular building includes three restroom areas, a plumbing/equipment chase, and a covered fish cleaning area. A wood truss roof, provided by others, will complete the building envelop providing the finishing touch for a durable, long-lasting facility that blends well with this historic and picturesque park.

Project Credits:
Owner: City of Niagara Falls, NY
Contractor: Sicoli Construction Services
Precast Manufacturer: Lakelands Concrete Products, Lima, NY
Specialty Precast Engineer: Delta Specialty Precast Concrete Engineers
Alternatives for Corrosion Resistance

Concrete is one of the most versatile and durable construction materials there is. However, much of the structural utility of concrete is gained through the use of reinforcing steel, which is a material that is susceptible to corrosion particularly when subjected to de-icing salts. The construction industry has, for a long time, delayed or prevented the corrosion of reinforcing steel by using epoxy coated bars. While epoxy coating has and continues to be highly effective for corrosion resistance, there are several alternatives as outlined in FHWA Publication No. 00-081 “Materials and Methods for Corrosion Control of Reinforced and Prestressed Concrete Structures in New Construction”.

♦ Corrosion Inhibitors—Chemical admixtures that are added to the concrete mix during batching. They protect by affecting the anodic reaction, the cathodic reaction, or both and may be classified as either active which facilitates the formation of an oxide film on the rebar’s surface or as passive which protect by reducing the rate of chloride ion migration.

♦ Galvanized bars conforming to ASTM A767—These require a chromatic treatment to prevent any adverse reaction between the zinc and fresh Portland cement paste.

♦ Stainless Steel Bars conforming to ASTM A955. These bars come in Types 304 and 316 stainless steel.

♦ Zinc alloy and copper clad bars—Lead, copper and zinc salts are prone to retardation of the cement hydration process.

There is no doubt that the deleterious effects from the corrosion of reinforcing steel is an issue that needs to be taken seriously. There is also no doubt that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. While the above measures are important considerations for corrosion protection, they are no substitute for proper design and construction practices including adequate bar cover, low-permeability, curing, crack control and other serviceability measures that are the hallmark of quality precast fabrication.

Some of the above products are available from PCANY Associate Members including BASF Admixtures, GCP Applied Technologies, Engineered Wire Products, and Valbruna Stainless, Inc. Please visit the PCANY Buyer’s Guide for more information.

2018 Southern Tier Professional Development Symposium..

Will be held Tuesday October 2 at the Holiday Inn, Binghamton from 8:30A to 4PM. Up to 6.5 PDHs are available. (Information)

Ken Hover to Speak at ACI-CNY Dinner...

On Sept 26th at the DoubleTree Hotel, East Syracuse. The title of this year’s presentation is “Variability in Testing Fresh Concrete: When to Throw the Challenge Flag”. (Information and Registration)

Registration Now Open for NPCA Convention...

Being Held in Providence, RI, October 4—6 at the Omni Providence Hotel. The convention will include plant tours, Precast Marketplace exhibits, educational sessions, committee meetings and more. (Information)