



Industry Partners Meeting

On January 20th more than 80 ready mixed concrete industry professionals gathered at the Renaissance Boston Patriot Place Hotel in Foxborough, MA to learn about the benefits of belonging to the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association. Ric Suzio of L. Suzio Concrete Company in Meriden, CT and current NRMCA Chairman shared his experiences working with the national organization and the benefits that relationship has brought to his firm. Mr. Suzio also provided an overview of the ongoing efforts by NRMCA to develop an industry check-off program to benefit producers across the country for consideration by the industry. A spirited question and answer period followed Mr. Suzio's presentation.

Association News

Please welcome the following new members to NEPCA:

L.E. Belcher, Inc. – Springfield, MA
Michael Natale, Jr.
mnatale@lebelcher.com
413-495-1210

Indiana Phoenix, Inc. – Avilla, IN
Ned Lackey
nlackey@indianaphoenix.com
877-932-8203

Robert Proulx—Barrington, NH
pruven@comcast.net
603-905-9036

Do you know a company that you work with that should be a member? Let the MaCAPA office know about them and we'll invite them to join!

Kane's Corner

Michael Kane, MaCAPA Business Development Manager, continued his efforts to promote your industry despite the chest deep snow! Here's a brief overview of recent activities he has been involved in:

UMass, Lowell – American Society of Civil Engineers, Student Chapter, February 24, 2015

Provided a presentation to students for the school's ASCE student chapter. Topics discussed included how pervious concrete works, is batched, placed & finished, and cured correctly. *(See additional comments on page 2)*

FlowFill Specification Steering Group March 5, 2015

Work continued by this group to develop a revised first draft of this specification for discussion with the

(Continued on page 2)

NRMCA to Host Free Design Assistance Webinar

NRMCA Paving Engineer Amanda Hult and Senior Director, National Resources, Doug O'Neill will host a free, one-hour [Design Assistance Program](#) (DAP) webinar on Tuesday, May 5 at 11:30 a.m. Eastern time. It will detail the free services provided to the industry through the Design Assistance Programs. NRMCA staff will discuss in detail the information provided in the deliverables as well as how to use this information as a part of the promotional effort for parking lots and streets & local roads.

This webinar is ideal for those involved in the promotion of concrete pavements or looking for assistance in gaining market share in concrete parking lots and streets & local roads. Designers & specifiers looking for information on how to submit for pavement design assistance are also invited to attend.

*Please contact Doug O'Neill
at doneill@nrmca.org for more information.*

UMass Lowell presentation

This feedback was received from Ellen Gerardi, UMass Lowell ASCE Student Chapter President (emphasis added)

I wanted to thank you for taking the time to give us such an informative presentation.

I thought it was very interesting to learn about pervious concrete, and all the benefits it had to offer the civil engineering field. The juniors here have only ever learned about regular concrete, so this was a great introduction to this alternative. You had said that this pervious concrete could be an economical and more efficient substitute to a bio retention pond. From working in town planning, I know that these ponds will go up on every subdivision. Using pervious concrete instead would save the effort of designing and making this pond. It would also double as useable space, and it would save money. **I believe that in the future when I am a professional civil engineer I may be able to implement this idea in my plans, making this valuable knowledge.**

Another new topic I learned during your lecture was about the heat island. I had never thought about how much heat can be generated in the black asphalt paved areas. The First Flush sounds like it is a serious problem, and something that engineers should definitely prepare for, so they do not add toxins into a community's waterways. I had no idea that there could be that significant of a runoff from one paved area. It sounds as though the pervious concrete is a better solution to these situations, because it will not cause run off, and it will not absorb as much heat as the alternatives.

During your presentation today, I learned a lot of valuable and unique knowledge. While we are in school, we go to class and learn technical skills. These skills are essential to our future careers as civil engineers; however it is also just as important to learn outside the classroom from first-hand experience. You were able to provide all of the students who came today with information that would not have been taught otherwise. **It is a great opportunity to hear about civil engineering from civil engineers themselves.**

(Continued from page 1)

Kane's Corner

MassDOT at the upcoming 3/27/15 meeting.

Massachusetts Department of Transportation, March 27, 2015

MaCAPA representatives including Mr. Kane, Allister Melvin of Aggregate Industries and Jody Staples of Boston Sand & Gravel will be meeting with MassDOT personnel to discuss a varied agenda of issues important to all producers. Expected to be included in the discussions are:

- Flow Fill
- Slump with HRWR
- Criterion consistency project to project
- Material tolerances

Utility Contractors Association of New England (UCANE) - March 11, 2015

Mr. Kane attended the recent UCANE Forecast Dinner which featured speakers from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (Fred Laskey, Executive Director) and the Boston Water & Sewer Commission (John Sullivan, Chief Engineer).

Mr. Laskey of the MWRA spoke about the achievements made in the last 20 years to clean up Boston Harbor, the Charles River and numerous other resources under their watch. He also pointed out that the City of Boston hosted the 2014 National American Water Works Association convention this past June and was voted by a AWWA national committee as the city having the best quality water in the country.

Mr. Sullivan of the Boston Water & Sewer Commission discussed the water they receive from the MWRA, the pipes that move it throughout the city and their plans for maintaining the system. Also mentioned

(Continued on page 4)

Committee Activities

Tech & Spec Committee met on January 29th and discussed a wide range of topics, including:

MASSDOT

It was suggested that discussions should be held with MASSDOT at the upcoming 3/27/15 meeting on these matters:

- The penalty system for perceived defective concrete. Members see the current system as unfair, in need of amending, and felt it should be based on the severity of individual cases.
- The possibility of consolidating specifications to reduce the number of mixes submitted each year.

General Discussion Points and Actions *(from previous meetings)*

The members agreed that there should be educational seminars for the engineering community on water/cement ratio versus strength. MaCAPA promotions to follow up.

11/20/2014 – It was stated that ACI does promotional training for specifiers and engineers on using ACI 318, as a new version was released this year. Paul Brooks will follow up and forward details to Michael Kane and Allister Melvin.

1/29/15 – Paul Brooks to follow up and send to Michael Kane.

A Series of educational sheets to be devised initially based on the recent article by NRMCA entitled “NRMCA’s Five Most Onerous Mix Requirements” .

11/20/2014 – Members to forward their proposal on what should be on each of the five information sheets. Allister Melvin and Tim Hurtack will compile and format the data sheets.

1/29/15 – Allister Melvin and Tim Hurtack will be meeting during February to follow up and prepare drafts.

General Discussion Points and Actions *(new)*

The members briefly discussed the proposal for a new specification for flowfill. All members agreed to read the first draft and submit their proposals for changes at the next meeting. Allister Melvin will send out the Draft again.

1/29/15 – Paul Brooks and Devon Wilton will work on a draft to present on February 24, 2015 to the flowfill spec group. *(meeting actually took place 3/5/15)*

ASR mitigation was discussed and the needs for industry to come up with an alternative to fly ash as reserves are becoming depleted. There is no silver bullet to resolve this at the moment however it is known that solutions are being sought within the admixture industry.

1/29/15 – No further discussions, this will be an ongoing topic.

It was proposed by Ralph Olds that perhaps MaCAPA should come up with a specifiers guide to concrete mix design in the form of an App. Further discussion is needed.

1/29/15 – No progress to date

Michael Kane asked the members if they could give him names of concrete professionals who could

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

speak at events targeting the engineering community. Please forward any suggestions to Michael.

1/29/15 – Ongoing with the addition of the suggestion from Ralph Olds to educate the engineering community on problems with specifying low water/cement ratios on flatwork.

It was also proposed that there should be an industry meeting to educate the engineering community on mix design. Michael Kane to follow up.

1/29/15 – Michael Kane offered to help members discuss ambiguous specifications with specifiers on an individual basis, as and when necessary.

1/29/2015 – Members agreed that the recent nationwide NRMCA survey on field strengths vs. water/cement ratio should be used at the state level to educate specifiers on the relationship between strength and water/cement ratio. Allister Melvin will collect the data and consolidate to publish a state average water/cement vs. strength chart for educational purposes.

Future Topics

Mitigating moisture in floor slabs – Allister to ask Matt Sherman of SGH if he could present to the group what the industry expectations and experiences are and what the concrete producers can do to be more proactive.

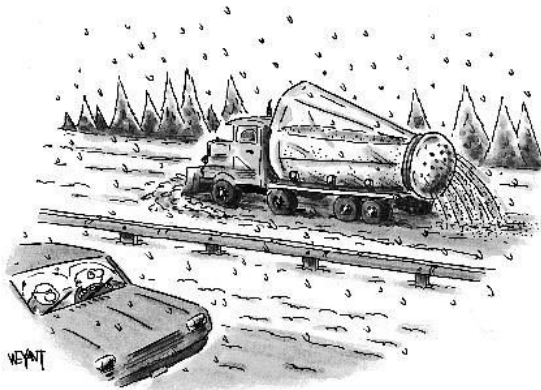
11/20/2014 – Allister to follow up.

1/29/15 – Allister Melvin spoke with Mathew Sherman who has agreed to do a presentation in June 2015.

The next Tech & Spec Committee meeting has not been scheduled yet but will take place in April.

Just for Fun

Looking for a way to keep pouring next year when the snow falls?



was stormwater runoff and management. According to Mr. Kane's observations this topic continues to gain more attention because both Authorities as well as the EPA do not want their clean water contaminated by runoff.

Included with this newsletter is information that was provided at this meeting information to be shared with our membership to show how clean water requirements are all interconnected.

The first sheet shows all the systems that are considered a solution by BWS. The 2nd & 3rd are sheets containing information that we as an Association have been promoting, pervious concrete.

If you would like more details on any of these activities or to schedule an engineering presentation to a firm in your area, please contact Mr. Kane at mkane@kaneengineering.com or call him at 978-634-1054.