



Fall ...

..... is a season of change: leaves change colors, weather changes (as they say in New England, "If you don't like the weather, wait a minute ...") and life in general progresses forward with various levels of change every day. Change came to MaCAPA this year with the transition to a new Executive Director and the establishment of a new Corporate Headquarters facility. Our thanks (and especially mine) go out to Howie for his service and efforts on behalf of MaCAPA over the years.

If you haven't done so yet, please update your records to reflect our new address:

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One thing that hasn't changed is MaCAPA's commitment to our members & your success.

Kane's Corner

Michael Kane, MaCAPA Business Development Manager, has been busy promoting your industry. Here's a brief overview of recent activities he has been involved in:

October 2014 Rhode Island DOT

Meetings held with the Rhode Island DOT in October. They are considering using pervious and standard concrete for 2 projects in the Portsmouth, RI area.

10/28/14 ABX 2014 (Boston Society of Architects) Concrete Specification and Environmental Considerations

This panel discussion at the annual BSA Convention and Exhibition was originally to include Mr. Kane but when an opportunity to include Jeremy Gregory, the Executive Director of the MIT Concrete Sustainability HUB arose Mr. Kane gave up his seat to this recognized and well known expert in the field. Pat Reardon, Executive Director of PCA-Northeast and Dave Dimmick both attended this session to provide support.

10/31/14 27th Rhode Island Transportation Forum

Mr. Kane and Michael Buckley of Lehigh Northeast Cement Company

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Member Highlight

Producer Member Offers Textbook Case on Parking Lot Promotion

J.G. MacLellan Concrete Sales Manager Rick Lee recently succeeded in convincing an owner of a local auto repair shop to go with concrete for his parking area, reports NRMCA Senior Director, National Resources, Doug O'Neill. Lee asked the all-important question, "What about your parking lot?" which got the ball rolling for converting this project. He then worked several key aspects of the owners' interests, including the fact that he was a site contractor, which gave him an insight of the true costs of both asphalt and concrete. The owner was also very particular about the look of his facility, caring about aesthetics and cleanliness.

"What makes this such a great story is the fact that Rick was able to develop a relationship with the owner, learn what was important to him and then offered a solution that made sense to him," O'Neill said. "But he didn't just leave it there, he then set up a meeting with a contractor, S&S Concrete, that could do the work and together they walked the owner through exactly how they were going to construct the parking lot, leaving nothing to chance. This was a textbook case of how to promote and deliver a concrete parking lot."

For more information, contact Doug O'Neill at doneill@nrmca.org.

(Reprinted from This Week in the Ready Mixed Concrete Industry for October 20, 2014)



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attended the 27th Rhode Island Transportation Forum meeting at the University of Rhode Island (URI). This forum was the 27th gathering after the formation of a partnership between government (RIDOT and FHWA), Construction Industries of Rhode Island (CIRI), RICE and URI. Speakers for this year included Dr. Brian D. Prowell, P.E., President of the Association of Asphalt Paving Technologists (AAPT) and Ms. Amy Pettine, Director of Planning of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority. Topics of interest according to Mr. Kane included current and future paving options.

11/6/14 MassDOT- D Street Meeting

- MaCAPA discussed annual letter with testing lab.
- MassDOT to provide list of approved ASR Labs.
- Discussed fly ash concerns
- 1 1/2" stone to be removed from mix designs
- Re-work flow fill mix design
- Mix designs by producers to MassDOT by 1/1/15
- Response from MassDOT by 4/1/15
- Next Meeting Scheduled for Early February 2015

11/12/14 Tighe & Bond

MaCAPA member Chicopee Concrete hosted a presentation by Mr. Kane on the use & installation of pervious concrete for Tighe & Bond, a civil engineering firm with offices throughout Massachusetts, Connecticut & New Hampshire. This meeting was organized by Jason Allen & Norm Magnanti of Chicopee Concrete. Also in attendance were John Gallagher of Lehigh Northeast Cement Company & Mike Skidmore of Essroc Cement.

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 978-634-1054 or mkane@kaneengineering.com.

Additional Promotional efforts

On October 15th a **Regional Promotional Resources Review** meeting took place at J.G. MacLellan Concrete Company in Lowell, MA. Participating in this cooperative effort were:

Phil Nunley, Northern New England Concrete Promotion Association Executive Director

Michael Kane, MaCAPA Business Development Manager

Doug O'Neill, NRMCA Senior Director, National Resources

Dave Dimmick, MaCAPA Executive Director

Both Phil & I are new hires as Executive Directors for our respective groups and the purpose of this meeting hosted by Mr. O'Neill was to inform us of the resources available from his office and the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association to aid in our promotion efforts. The amount of support available was actually a bit overwhelming but I'm sure we will both find a great deal of needed support for future promotional efforts.

NRMCA ConcreteWorks – New England

This 2 day event held in conjunction with the Connecticut Ready Mixed Concrete Association on October 28th & 29th at Mohegan Sun addressed a number of topics of regional interest. Included on the agenda were the following (among others):

New England concrete market forecast provided by the Portland Cement Association

LEED v4: Environmental Product Declarations

The Past, Present & Future of Pervious Concrete

In addition, an overview of the National Check-Off Program was also provided by Robert Garbini, P.E. and President of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association.

Just for Fun Don't forget the opportunity for your children and grandchildren to become involved in the industry by participating in the NRMCA 2015 Kids Art Contest sponsored by the Truck Mixer Manufacturers Bureau. The theme for the contest is "Sustainability: The Future of Ready Mixed Concrete." The contest is open to kids up to grade 12 who have a relationship to an NRMCA Member. Entries must be post marked no later than December 31, 2014. For more information please contact Elizabeth Fox at efox@nrmca.org/240-485-1156



Committee Activities

Tech & Spec Committee Meeting

On October 23rd the Tech & Spec Committee met and discussed a wide range of topics, including:

MassDOT Annual Letter – A number of issues were identified as requiring clarification and several questions were developed for discussion at the meeting with MassDOT held on November 6, 2014.

General discussion points & action items – Committee members agreed that educational seminars for the engineering community on water / cement ratios versus concrete strength should be developed. Additionally, it was recommended that a series of educational sheets be developed based upon the recent NRMCA article entitled **“NRCMA’s Five Most Onerous Mix Requirements.”** The following is an excerpt from that article.

Recently NRMCA’s Engineering Division performed a survey where it asked the Research and Engineering Standards (RES) committee members for their five most onerous prescriptive requirements. RES members selected the following requirements (in this order):

- a. Maximum w/cm when not applicable
- b. Minimum cementitious content
- c. Restriction on SCM dosage
- d. Restrictions on aggregate characteristics like grading
- e. Restriction on type and characteristics of SCM (Class F fly ash only etc.)

Next, RES Committee members were asked to provide section construction project specifications (section 03300) and 102 concrete specifications were obtained. NRMCA engineers looked at each specification and noted if they had any of the above five prescriptive requirements. If a specification had all five requirements then it was calculated as 100% prescriptive. The calculated average of the 102 specifications was 51% prescriptive. This means that, on average, each specification has 2-3 prescriptive requirements out of the five. The percent of specification having each prescriptive requirement was calculated as follows:

- a. Restriction on SCM dosage – 85%
- b. Maximum w/cm when not applicable – 73%
- c. Minimum cementitious content – 46%
- d. Restriction on type and characteristics of SCM (Class F fly ash only etc.) – 27%
- e. Restrictions on aggregate characteristics like grading – 25%

A full report is being developed and will be published shortly as an article. NRMCA plans to conduct this survey every three years to track the industry's progress toward performance based specifications. Allister Melvin of Aggregate Industries and a member of the Tech & Spec Committee has just been appointed to the RES Committee and will follow up on this at the next committee meeting. In the meantime, MACAPA Tech & Spec, in conjunction with MACAPA Promotions, should look at our own cut sheet solutions to address the problem.

Future topics – Mitigating moisture in floor slabs – Mr. Melvin agreed to ask Matt Sherman, P.E., and Associate Principal at Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc. to speak to the group on what the industry’s expectations and experiences are and what the concrete producers can do to be more proactive at a future meeting.

Next Meeting – Thursday, November 20, 2014 beginning at 1:00 PM at Ken’s in Framingham, MA.