



President's Message

By: Dean Plank

Fall is here, with winter quickly approaching. It is a very tense and worrisome time for many in this industry. Do we have enough to get through until spring picks up the pace again? Is there any more that we can do to prepare for another slow period, falling into three years of slower than normal project forecasts? Is the economy going to improve this winter? Maybe in the spring? Or hopefully summer?

We have all faced these issues during the last two to three years. Once again, winter is just around the corner and we will work our way through them again. Some of us in the industry can jog our memories back to a few other low periods of production, and slower years or seasons. But I believe you would have to go way back to compete with what we have seen over the last three years.

During this slow period my biggest fear is seeing the quality of the industry give way to, just doing what is needed to get by. For some, this may be the only way to survive this point in the recession. But, I would like to remind everyone of the consequences of not providing the best work, best testing practices, best materials, and best services available for each and every project. Project costs, and time schedules, can double or triple as well as reputations being ruined, simply by just trying to get by.

As a producer in the industry, I understand budgets are tight; tighter than ever before, but we simply cannot let our high standards of workmanship, materials, and testing procedures get relaxed in any way. Too much depends on all of us doing the best we can in this industry.

Concrete Paving, Pervious Pavement and High Early Strength concrete are all making major leaps in their respective areas. We need to stay with all of the new technology that follows. The testing procedures alone are getting broader but the amount of certified people in the workforce is reducing. In my own opinion, there is no better recognized or accepted accreditation, than ACI Certifications.

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Chapter Meeting Schedule

November 23, 2010	Breakfast Meeting, Timonium
December 8, 2010	ACI Field Grade 1 Training, Frederick
December 15, 2010	ACI Field Grade 1 Testing, Frederick
January 2011	Accepting Nominations for ACI Excellence in Concrete Awards
February 2011	Breakfast Meeting, Frederick
April 2011	Students Awards Dinner
May 2011	ACI Excellence in Concrete Awards Banquet
Spring 2011	Golf Outing

ACI Maryland Chapter Library

Did you know that our chapter has a library available to our members which contains numerous ACI documents and publications? The library contains many standards & reports, special publications and some miscellaneous items. Any ACI Maryland Chapter member can utilize these materials. They are maintained at the McGraw-Hill Dodge building in Towson. The address is 1050 Cromwell Bridge Road (just inside the beltway, I-695). A list of the materials included in the library can be found at the library link at www.aci-md.org.

Library Hours: M-F 8:00-4:30 pm

ACI Level I Field Technician Test Schedule

December 8 & 15-Frederick

Note: Group sessions can be scheduled for businesses or organizations- Approximately 2 months notice is required.

Contact Shela Stewart / Mindy Green – 301-694-4899

ACI Conventions

Spring 2011 - Concrete—The Strength of Florida
April 3-7, Marriott Tampa Waterside & Westin Harbour Island, Tampa, FL

For more information:

Go to www.concrete.org or call (248) 848-3795

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If you have not been able to keep up, now is the time to read your technical bulletins, new testing procedures, and all other information pertaining to how concrete is changing and growing in our industry. While you are at it, check your own certifications and expiration dates. This way you can schedule ahead, and be ready for anything the construction industry has to offer.

I hope each and everyone has an enjoyable fall, and you can take some time to look back at all the good things you have done. My challenge for each one of you is to find at least one way that you can improve on those good things.

Thank you,

Dean Plank
President
Maryland ACI

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**Md Chapter ACI 2010
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Peninsula Regional Medical Center
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PUBLIC BUILDING

Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center
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Four Seasons / Legg Mason Towers
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TILT-UP BUILDING

Fed Ex Freight
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HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

I-95 / I-695 Interchange, Contract 1
Baltimore, MD

PARKING STRUCTURE

Carroll Hospital Center Parking Garage
Westminster, MD

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING

Merryman Residence
Cockeysville, MD

REHABILITATION

Chesapeake Bay Bridge Replace and Rehab
Westbound over the Bay

ARCHITECTURAL / DECORATIVE

Annapolis Recreation Center
Annapolis, MD

MISCELLANEOUS

Loyola Univ. in MD Athletic Complex
Baltimore, MD



Membership in ACI National goes well beyond access to the latest documents and periodicals. Today's member recognizes the edge ACI gives them in running their business. Using your member benefits will keep you up-to-date with the latest concrete construction technology:

- **FREE DOWNLOADS OF ACI DOCUMENTS AND ARCHIVED PAPERS** - Each year you may download from a large selection of ACI committee documents, Symposium papers, and Journal articles dating as far back as the early 1900s.
- **CONCRETE KNOWLEDGE CENTER** - This award-winning tool presents practice-oriented technical information useful in the design, construction, and repair of concrete and concrete structures. Through the Concrete Knowledge Center, you may review actual design case studies, view references from 318, study common technical questions, download design spreadsheets, review troubleshooting articles, access hundreds of technical video presentations, visit a virtual concrete laboratory, and much more.
- **EARN FREE CEUs ONLINE** - As an ACI member, you are eligible to earn up to 0.8 **free** CEUs (8 PDHs) each year. Simply log in to ACI's website, read the provided ACI committee report or article, and take a short online exam to demonstrate your proficiency. When you answer the required number of questions correctly, we will e-mail you a certificate of completion.
- **PERIODICAL OPTIONS** - While all ACI members receive *Concrete International* magazine each month, you have more choices on additional periodicals. You can choose from *ACI Structural Journal*, *ACI Materials Journal*, or the International Concrete Repair Institute's *Concrete Repair Bulletin*. Simply call ACI at 248-848-3800 or visit www.concrete.org/members/crb.asp to manage your subscription preferences.
- **CAREER CENTER** - If you are looking to land a new job in the concrete industry, simply visit ACI's Career Center to search targeted job postings. Plus, employers seeking highly qualified candidates - ranging from entry-level to CEO to every job in between - can advertise in the Career Center.

Your membership also includes:

- Discounts of up to 40% on ACI Publications
- Discounts to Educational Seminars and Conventions Registration Fee
- Opportunity to participate in Chapter Programs
- Group Insurance programs
- Opportunity to serve on Technical Committees

For additional information on any of these benefits, visit [ACI's Membership Homepage](http://aci.org/membership), e-mail ACImemberservices@concrete.org, or call 248-848-3800.

ACI STUDENT SERVICES

ACI National has had a program for the last several years which offered the Manual of Concrete Practice (MCP), exclusive of ACI 318, ACI 318 Metric, ACI 350, ACI 350 Metric, and ACI 530, to students *free of charge* via the ACI website. This complimentary service gives students immediate access to over 175 documents.

The Faculty Network provides the connection between the chapter and the students. Members of the faculty network in your area can be found by visiting the ACI website, www.concrete.org, and clicking on Students button and choosing Faculty Network from the drop down menu.

To get access to this service, the faculty will need the User ID and Password on the attached page. Instructions are included as well. Please take a few moments and be sure to provide this information to Faculty Network members in your area. **The password for 2010-2011 will take effect on Wednesday, September 1, 2010 and remain active until August 31, 2011.**

This program is a wonderful opportunity for your chapter to reach-out to the faculty and students in your jurisdiction and form stronger ties. And the best part is that it does not cost your chapter anything to provide this service.

World of Concrete 2011 will soon be here, and the American Concrete Institute (ACI) is pleased to once again be offering complimentary registration to the exhibit hall and discounts to seminars. World of Concrete 2011 will be taking place January 17-21 (exhibits January 18-21) at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

This link will allow ACI National members to register to the event free of charge. Additionally, members can use the link to save \$40 on 3-hour and 90-minute seminars during the event.

<http://registration.experient-inc.com/showWOC111/Default.aspx?SourceCode=A21>

2010-2011 Chapter Officers

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