



Hard Facts

N e w s l e t t e r

Fall 2007 - November

Vol. 10, No. 2

President's Letter



Hank Gottschalk
PCAV President

It is a great honor to have the opportunity to serve another term as President of the Precast Concrete Association of Virginia. The past two years have held both accomplishments and challenges for our association, and I am sure that 2008 will hold much of the same.

The Precast Concrete Association of Virginia has an incredible team of active members serving on various committees. I would like to thank each one of you for your dedication and hard work over the past two years.

Our success has always fallen on the willingness of our committee members who volunteer their time and talents for our industry. I would like to offer an open invitation for any new or current member to share your time serving on one of our committees. We can accomplish so much more standing shoulder to shoulder, than we can sitting face to face.

As we look toward 2008, let us keep focus on our goals and continue to achieve great things. I look forward to working with members of our association as we continue our education initiatives and promotion of concrete pipe and precast products to the transportation and construction industries.

Permatile Speeds Up At BMS

Bristol Motor Speedway is a highly recognized sporting venue. The Saturday night race in August is known as "the hottest ticket in NASCAR." In the



A section of 9' x 8' precast concrete box culvert being unloaded at the project site at Bristol Motor Speedway.

conditions, the site was not fully accessible by crane and the 222 linear feet of tunnel, which had two grade changes and a turn, had to be partially installed by forklift.

The use of a precast box culvert enabled the tunnel to be installed in just one day. Accessible by golf cart, it allows spectators, workers and drivers easy access from the driver's staging area and parking lot into the center of the track.

In 2007, BMS began plans for a new media building four on the track. They wanted a tunnel to move media personnel from the

past 10 years, the track has grown from 71,000 seats to its present capacity that holds 165,000 spectators!

When BMS decides to make alterations to the track, construction—like the cars racing on it—needs to move fast. That's why BMS turned to **Permatile Concrete Products Co.** twice in the last seven years to provide concrete precast improvements to the "fastest half-mile of racing."

In 2001, BMS installed an 8-foot-by-9-foot pedestrian tunnel in turn three of the track. Because of existing track

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PCAV Happenings



Mark Singer
PCAV Exec.
Director

As this newsletter goes to press, the PCAV continues to remain extremely active in promoting the value of precast products in Virginia. To extend our benefits, the association has purchased two adjoining booths at the **November 7-9 Virginia Transportation Conference** in Roanoke. We encourage all members to work the booth and simultaneously promote their products and our sector.

VDOT

Our two 2007 joint PCAV/VDOT meetings produced a lot of positive results and one not so positive development. On the positive side, VDOT has now approved, with only minor modifications, the NPCA Quality Assurance/Quality Control Technical Training Module for Mix Design as an alternative to the existing plant/field training option. The cost and convenience of offering this training online is a real benefit to our members, and should become a national trend moving forward. Towards that end, the PCAV is contributing up to \$6,000 to assist in the filming and production of this module.

Two important VDOT publications, the *VDOT Road and Bridge Standards* and the *VDOT Specification Book*, are almost ready for distribution, and PCAV has had input into the updates to both documents.

The not-so-positive development reflects the decision by VDOT, after an internal study of the data, to lift the current restriction limiting the construc-

tion of storm drain systems to reinforced concrete pipe. New federal requirements now dictate the use of alternate pipe materials whenever possible, and VDOT has said that they did not have sufficient engineering and economic reasons to exclude the use of other types of pipes in its storm sewer applications. The PCAV expressed its concern that such a change would ultimately result in increased overall life cycle costs to the state. In addition, the PCAV is urging that VDOT develop and implement stricter inspection and acceptance procedures to ensure that all pipe installations are installed according to manufacturers' recommendations.

The PCAV continues to work closely with the NPCA on a program that sends a team of experts into the states to conduct video testing on existing pipe construction projects. A number of both VDOT and non-VDOT sites have been identified in Virginia, and we anxiously await the results of the test/video procedures.

Annual Conference

The annual conference was recently held at Wintergreen and featured a host of exciting educational and networking opportunities. More on that meeting can be found on **page 4** in this edition of *Hardfacts*.

Also at the conference, the PCAV elected its officers for 2008. Congrats to second-term President Hank Gottschalk (Hanson Pipe and Precast), newly-elected Vice President Paul Sherman (Rotondo Precast) and Secretary Craig Whitten (East Jordan Iron Works). A full listing of the new Board of Directors, including newly-elected associate representatives to the Board, can be found in the left-hand column of **this page**.

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PCAV Happenings

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2008 Events

Finally, the PCAV is already working on next year's meetings and events, starting with a joint PCAV/VDOT meeting on **January 7, 2008** in Richmond that will feature a presentation by a member of the Governor's Commonwealth Transportation Board.

Member News

On a personal note, and on behalf of the members, board, and staff of the PCAV, I want to express our deep condolences to **Paul Sherman** and his family regarding their recent tragic loss. In addition, all of us at the PCAV are pulling for a speedy recovery for current PCAV Vice President **Alex Mason** (Americast) after an accident sidelined him over the summer.

Finally, there is not a member of this association who will not miss the knowledge, grace and hard work of outgoing PCAV Secretary-Treasurer **Carissa Alexander** (Hanson Pipe and Precast) who is taking a new position out of the area with Hanson. All of us wish Carissa the very best of luck.

~Mark Singer

Inspiration Corner

"Great minds must be ready not only to take opportunities but to make them."

~Colton

"Act as though it were impossible to fail."

~Anonymous

"Don't be afraid to take a big step if one is indicated. You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps."

~David Lloyd George

Permatile Speeds

Continued from page 1



Precast concrete pedestrian tunnel and site utilities at BMS.

center of the track into the building. Again, BMS contacted Permatile to provide design and fabrication of the precast box culvert for the tunnel. The project couldn't be started until the completion of the spring race and had



A section of precast concrete box culvert at the Bristol Motor Speedway job site.

to be completed by the start of summer race festivities, leaving a short window of time to complete all tunnel, grading and drainage work.

Permatile provided the concrete pipe and structures for the new infield drainage. They also provided a 9-foot-by-8-foot box culvert with a varying fill



Precast box culvert being installed as a pedestrian tunnel with grade changes and varying fill heights.

height of up to 8 feet. It consists of five grade transitions including two stairway landings. The use of a precast concrete box culvert again enabled speedy completion of the project. The 170 linear feet of precast box was set in two-and-a-half days.

Versatility and durability of precast concrete products, the adaptability of the precast product to location requirements, manufacturer reliability and staying on schedule played a big part in the success of the newest addition to Bristol Motor Speedway! For more information, visit www.permatile.com.

~Mimi Coles

Requirements For Taking New Streets Into Highway System

For many years the PCAV has contended that oftentimes subdivision streets were being accepted into the state roadway system that were not constructed in compliance with VDOT standards. Our specific concern was the inappropriate use of HDPE and other pipe materials that violated VDOT standards requiring the use of RCP in certain drainage applications. Senate Bill 1181, which was passed by the 2007 session of the Virginia General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor, should help our members' efforts to correct this growing problem.

The new law requires compliance with VDOT's secondary road standards before any such streets will be accepted into the state highway maintenance system. The Commonwealth Transportation Board is charged with promulgating the requirements for VDOT acceptance.

PCAV members are urged to share this information with local government officials, specifiers, and developers in an effort to ensure compliance. The result will surely be a broader usage of precast concrete pipe. The actual law is printed below for your reference. The relevant portions are bolded.

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY— CHAPTER

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered **33.1-70.3**, relating to taking certain streets into the state secondary highway system.

[S 1181]

Approved

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered **33.1-70.3** as follows:
§ 33.1-70.3. Requirements for taking new streets into state secondary highway system.

A. The local governing body of any county that has not withdrawn from

the state secondary highway system or any town within which the Virginia Department of Transportation maintains the streets, may, by resolution, request the Commonwealth Transportation Board to take any new street into the secondary system of state highways for maintenance if such street has been developed and constructed in accordance with the Board's secondary street acceptance requirements. Only those streets constructed in compliance with the secondary street acceptance requirements shall be taken into the state secondary highway system for maintenance. The Board shall promulgate regulations establishing such secondary street acceptance requirements. The secondary street acceptance requirements established pursuant to this section shall include such provisions as the Board deems necessary or appropriate to achieve the safe and efficient operation of the Commonwealth's transportation network.

B. In addition to such other provisions deemed necessary or appropriate by the Board, the regulations shall include, but not be limited to (i) requirements to ensure the connectivity of road and pedestrian networks with the existing and future transportation network; (ii) provisions to minimize stormwater runoff and impervious surface area, and (iii) provisions for performance bonding of new secondary streets and associated cost recovery fees.

C. No initial regulation establishing secondary street acceptance requirements pursuant to this section shall apply to subdivision plats and subdivision construction plans that have been submitted and accepted for review by the Virginia Department of Transportation on or before the effective date of such initial regulations. No locality shall be obligated to approve any subdivision plat or subdivi-

sion construction plans that are inconsistent with these regulations.

2. The provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ **2.2-4000** et seq.) shall not apply to initial regulations promulgated by the Board pursuant to this section, but such exemption shall not apply to subsequent regulations or amendments thereto promulgated by the Board.

3. That the Board shall solicit and consider public comment in the development of regulations required by this act.

4. Until such time as initial regulations establishing secondary street acceptance requirements are adopted pursuant to this section, the subdivision street requirements and the process and criteria for taking such streets into the state secondary system in effect on January 1, 2007, shall continue to apply.

~Submitted by Mark Singer

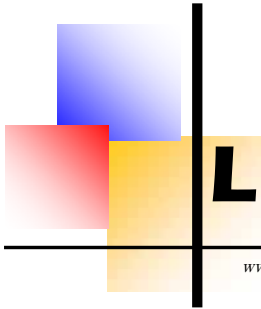
Precast Arches for Bridges or Culverts



Hanson Pipe and Precast produces its Hanson Arch in 12-foot to 48-foot spans. Some of Hanson's arches are used as small bridges and some as arch culverts.

Two arches were used on the JFK Memorial Highway (Route 95/695) Express Toll Lane Expansion in Maryland. The contractor was Tri-Venture with Corman/Wagman/McLean and the engineering firm was Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson. It consisted of 113 feet of

—Continued on page 5



PRECAST CONCRETE ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

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Fax: 804-346-8287
Email: pcav@gopcav.com

Contact Person

Company Name

Address

City State Zip

Requested topic (or circle above)

Approximate Number Attending: _____

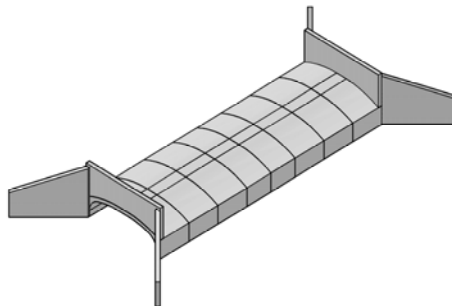
Hanson Arches

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16-foot by 10-foot arch sections with four each 45-degree Wing Walls.

American Infrastructure was the contractor and the engineering services were provided by a joint venture with URS Corp/Rummell, Kletter & Kahl (RK&K). It consisted of 306 feet of 16-foot by 8-foot arch sections with four each 20-foot Wing Walls with back anchors. For more information visit the website at www.hanson.com.

~Carissa Alexander



46' 14"x4' HANSON ARCH CULVERT (TYP.)
NOT TO SCALE

Life Cycle Cost Analysis Available

During the recent Virginia Transportation Contractors convention in Roanoke, the Precast Concrete Association of Virginia sponsored a breakout session as part of the VTCC conference program. The topic was *Life Cycle Cost Analysis for Infrastructure Projects*. PCAV's presentation addressed a core concern for the contractors, engineers and VDOT officials attending, all keenly interested in assuring their work is cost-effective for Virginia taxpayers over the long-term.

Created and presented by **Ron Brown**, Product Manager for Ashland-based **Americast Concrete Products**, the 45-minute program outlines how selection of component materials for infrastructure projects critically effects a project's ultimate cost to taxpayers and private owners. Methods for computing the costs of replacement, repair, user delay, and loss liability were explored, and tools for these analyses were offered free to all attending.

The Government Accounting Standards Board recently imposed new financial reporting standards on state and local government agencies involving all their infrastructure assets (*GASB-34*). These new standards make long-term cost a mandatory consideration for virtually every government agency in Virginia. The presentation puts *GASB-34*'s impact in perspective and offers advice on how better planning can benefit an agency's financial rating, funding justifications, and management decisions.

If you, or your organization would like more information on *Life Cycle Cost Analysis*, contact any PCAV member company. If you would like to have this presentation at your location, contact:

Ron Brown
Americast
(804) 833-9221
rbrown@americastusa.com

PCAV Annual Conference Recap

The Annual Conference for the PCAV was held on September 18-20, 2007 in the mountains of Virginia at the Wintergreen Resort.

We could not have ordered better weather; clear skies and warm temperatures allowed all who attended simply beautiful views of the Virginia mountains.

Our conference was well attended; we started on the 18th with our board meeting and continued on the 19th with our golf outing. That evening the reception and dinner were followed by a short trip to the betting tables with Casino Night! All members had great fun gambling for a chance to win any one of the fabulous prizes.

Our conference concluded on the 20th with the ever ingenious presentation by Dr. Ken Hover. Ken has a great ability to teach concrete with many visual aids that really enables total comprehension.

The group was very pleased with the unique educational opportunity. We then gathered for lunch and departed until the next time.

Information on the 2008 Annual Conference will be available very soon. Thank you for your continued support.
~Marie Derby

Thank you to all who attended and made this conference possible!



PCAV's new officers (L to R): Vice President Paul Sherman, Rotundo Precast/Oldcastle Precast; President Hank Gottschalk, Hanson Pipe and Precast; Secretary-Treasurer Craig Whitten, East Jordan Iron Works, Inc.



A big "Thank You!" from PCAV to the Conference Planning Committee: (L to R) Weldon Mitchell, Marie Derby, Jim Richmond, Carissa Alexander. Not pictured, Craig Whitten

Fun For All At The Annual Conference



Blackjack during Casino Night was loads of fun for many attendees.

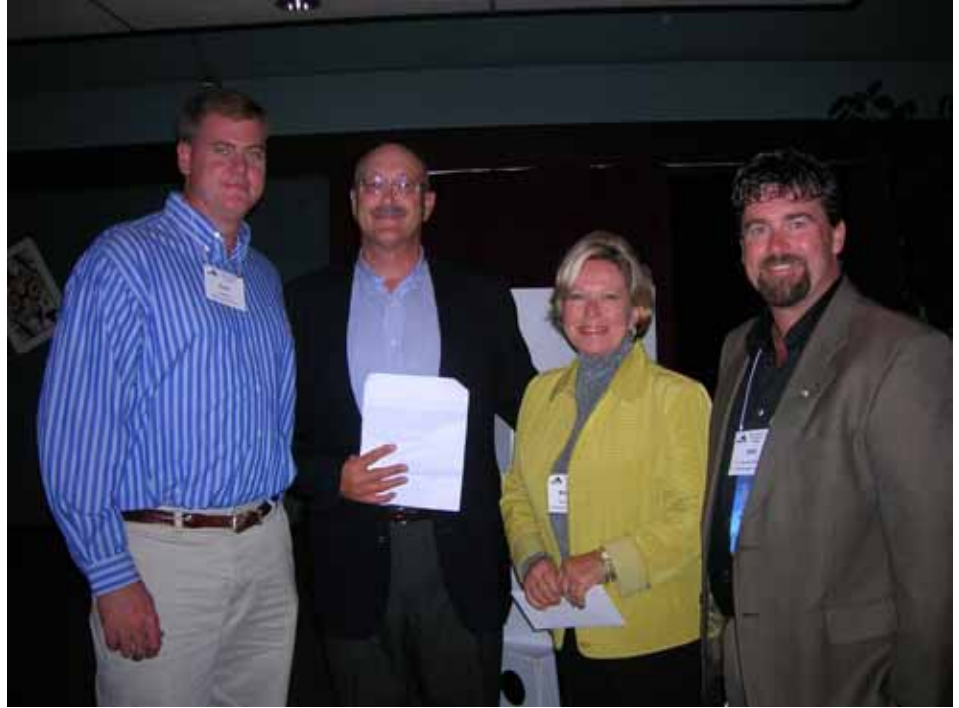


Carissa Alexander tries her luck at golf during the golf outing.

More Winners . . .

Hamilton Kent really sported some winners! Randy Reimer won the Longest Drive (Hole No. 5) and Alan Siebenthaler won the Longest Putt (Hole No. 18) along with his second-place team trophy.

And The Winners Are . . .



First place golf team (L to R): Brad Meyers, Swope & Associates, Inc.; Jim Richmond, PCAV golf chairman; Mary Beth Rainero, Permatile Concrete Products Co.; Hank Gottschalk, Hanson Pipe and Precast



The second place team (L to R): Jim Richmond, PCAV golf chairman; Darrell Wilson, Boral Material Technologies, Inc.; Frank Sisk, Hanson Pipe and Precast; Alan Siebenthaler, Hamilton Kent; Mike Barg, Rinker Materials

2007-2008 Calendar of Events

MONTH	EVENT/LOCATION
Nov. 7-9	Virginia Transportation Conference Roanoke, Va.
Jan. 7, 2008	PCAV & VDOT Joint Meeting Board Meeting Holiday Inn Koger Center Richmond, Va.

More events are being added now. Visit www.gopcav.com for all the details.

PCAV/VDOT Meetings

At the PCAV/VDOT meetings listed above, there will also be numerous committee meetings held in conjunction with these meetings. These meetings will run from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please note these dates on your calendars. Further information on these meetings will be sent out 30 days in advance of each meeting.

Check out the PCAV website!
www.gopcav.com

PCAV Members

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Americast - Division of Valley Blox, Inc.
Contractors Precast Corp.
Frederick Precast Concrete, Inc.
Hanson Pipe & Precast, Inc.
Mack Industries
Nansemond Pre-Cast Concrete Co. Inc.
Permatile Concrete Products Co.
Rinker Materials
Rotondo Precast/Oldcastle Precast
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Hamilton Kent LLC
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Universal Sales
U.S.F. Fabrication
Vulcan Construction Materials
W.R. Grace & Co.

Not a member? What's stopping you? Join now!
Call 888.503.4800 or visit www.gopcav.com.

PCAV Mission

The Precast Concrete Association of Virginia is dedicated to the growth of the precast concrete industry. We pursue that purpose by educating and partnering with specifiers, installers and end users on the advantages and proper utilization of our products and systems. The association will represent its members in the Commonwealth of Virginia

PCAV Past Presidents

Bill Tichacek, Americast	1991-1993
Jim Richmond, CP&P	1993-1995
Kirby O'Malley, Hydro Conduit	1995-1996
Don Anger, CP&P	1996-1997
Richard Rotondo, Rotondo Precast	1997-1999
Scott Crumpler, Americast	1999-2001
Mimi Rainero Coles, Permatile	2001-2003
Stephen Rodgers, Contractors Precast Corp.	2003-2005

Hard Facts is a publication of the Precast Concrete Association of Virginia for its members. Submissions, story ideas, member kudos, letters to the editor and comments are welcomed. Contact the editor, Lois Carter Fay, at 800.203.8660 or lcf@marketingideashop.com.

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