



Newsletter

nebraska chapter
american concrete institute

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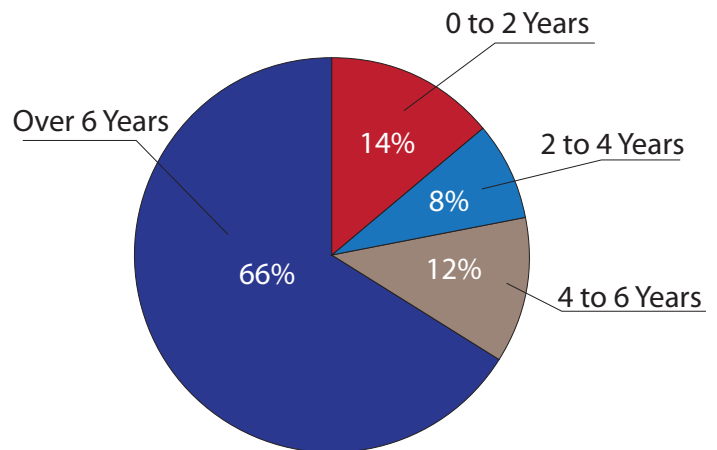
Analyzing the 2011 ACI-NE Membership Survey

Jereme Montgomery

ACI-NE Vice President, ACI-NE Membership Chair

Last month, many of you received an invite to participate in an online survey. The survey was short and sweet. I would like to show and discuss the results of this survey. First, the ACI-NE Chapter represents 214 individual members. The current ACI-NE boards of directors and committee chairs have a responsibility to keep the members current on concrete technology and industry topics throughout each year. I have been a part of ACI-NE for the past 5 years. Now, as Vice-President, I felt it was important to reach out and get some feedback from the members on our chapter's directives. For this reason, the membership survey was produced.

Length of ACI - NE Membership



For the complete survey results, see pages 4-6

Gerdes Recaps Year as ACI-Nebraska Chapter President

Another construction season has slowly settled in for winter hibernation. Many of us are thankful for the warm dry late fall and utilized this time to finalize work before winter.

As a lame duck President, I will use my last newsletter article as a chance to thank all those involved in our Chapter. A strength of our Chapter is our numerous volunteers throughout the state of Nebraska that support the Chapter from aiding with technical certification training programs and exams to those serving as the Chapter's Officers and Directors.

It is also important to recognize the companies behind the scenes. As a volunteer group, we all have full time jobs and serve the Chapter with the approval and commitment of our employers. It is clear that numerous private companies and local public agencies support our goal for industry training and technician certifications.

The following entities come to mind over the past year: Ash Grove Cement Company, Consolidated Concrete, Grace

Performance Chemicals, Lafarge, Lamp Rynearson & Associates, Nebraska Concrete & Aggregates Association, Nebraska Ash, Overland Concrete, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Paulsen, Inc., Odell Concrete Pumping and Thiele Geotech.



Michael Gerdes
ACI Nebraska President

For some history, I was accepted onto the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Chapter of ACI in 2002. From 2002 to 2007, I acted as the Chapter's Treasurer. From 2008 through 2010, I fulfilled various Officer positions. The Chapter's Officers and Directors roles are uniquely structured so individuals serving pass through a series of positions with specific roles and responsibilities.

My role for 2012 will be serving as Past President. While commitments to this and similar organizations can be lengthy, our Chapter and numerous other similar organizations exist

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . . continued on next page

printed quarterly by



**AMERICAN CONCRETE INSTITUTE
NEBRASKA CHAPTER**

Chartered, December 1987

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . . continued from page 1

in our communities and these organizations need your assistance and expertise. Please consider serving on your local organizations. My time and experiences with the Chapter have been rewarding.

I want to recognize Dr. Richard T. DeLorm for his contributions to our Chapter. Dr. DeLorm has acted the Executive Director throughout my 10 years service. Dr. DeLorm is one of the Charter Members of the Nebraska Chapter. A Charter Member is an individual that joined the Chapter in its first year. Dr. DeLorm has been instrumental to the Board in providing linkage to the Chapter's founding principles and our operational bylaws.

"I wish all the best to you, your families and your companies in 2012 and beyond. I wish to encourage each of you to attend the Nebraska Chapter ACI Annual Banquet and Awards presentation in February of 2012."

In my waning days of holding power, I'm performing the typical duties of issuing Executive Orders and pardons. Just kidding.

Michael Gerdes

ACI NEBRASKA
WISHES TO THANK
MICHAEL GERDES FOR HIS YEAR
OF SERVICE AS THE 2010-11
CHAPTER PRESIDENT

American Concrete Institute Announces New Adhesive Anchor Installation Certification Program

ACI partners with Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. - The American Concrete Institute (ACI), in partnership with the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI), announces the development of the new ACI Adhesive Anchor Installer Certification program, which will fully go to market in summer of 2011.

In the summer of 2006, a portion of the concrete roof of the Central Artery/Tunnel Project in Boston, Mass., also known unofficially as the "Big Dig," collapsed, killing a motorist and injuring another. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released its accident report soon after and made recommendations to several parties, including the American Concrete Institute.

The recommendation to ACI was to use its "building codes, forums, educational materials, and publications to inform design and construction agencies of the potential for gradual deformation in anchor adhesives under sustained tensile-load applications."

As part of the overall response to the recommendations of the NTSB, ACI has partnered with CRSI to develop a certification program for Adhesive Anchor Installers. Adhesive anchors are recognized by the structural design profession as an important structural connection in many applications. Adhesive anchor effectiveness is measured by the bond strength achieved between the adhesive and concrete, and adhesive and anchor. Adhesive anchor manufacturers have developed installation procedures for their specific products that when followed, are intended to provide the proper conditions for the anchor system to achieve that required bond strength.

ACI and CRSI assembled a group of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) who identified the criteria candidates must meet for certification as ACI/CRSI Adhesive Anchor Installers. Candidates are required to be able to read, comprehend, and execute instructions to properly install adhesive anchors as are typically provided by adhesive anchor manufacturers. In addition, candidates must possess the knowledge to properly assess ambient conditions, the condition of the concrete, materials, equipment, and tools for installing adhesive anchors and determine when it is appropriate to proceed with an installation or when additional guidance from a supervisor/foreman/project engineer is needed.



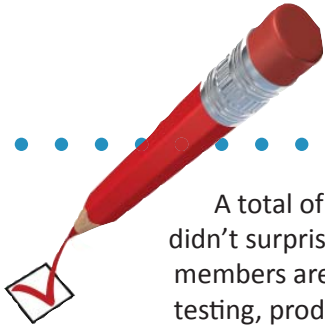
"There are many different variables to consider when installing adhesive anchors," said John W. Nehasil, managing director of certification programs at ACI. "From understanding jobsite conditions and manufacturers' instructions to recognizing time limits of the adhesive and proper selection and assembly of equipment, installing adhesive anchors properly involves awareness of the variables and skill in executing instructions. The ACI/CRSI Adhesive Anchor Installer Certification program is designed to verify that candidates possess these qualities."

ACI and CRSI completed two pilot programs earlier this year with a total of 35 participants taking both the written and performance examinations.

The ACI/CRSI Adhesive Anchor Installer Certification program is planned to go to market in early summer of 2011, before the release of ACI 318-11. In the meantime, ACI and CRSI are working on the completion of a study package and all documents and assisting Local Sponsoring Groups that offer ACI certifications around the world with program start-up. Additionally, ACI and CRSI plan to start the development of a training program to accompany the examination program.

For more information about ACI Certification programs, please visit www.concrete.org.

(Note: ACI-NE has been in discussion with CRSI to bring this certification program to Omaha. Please stay tuned for more information this spring.)

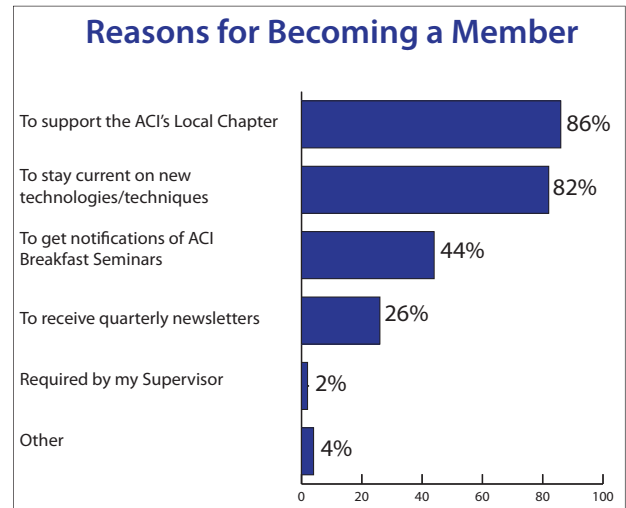


results

A total of 66% of those surveyed have been members of ACI-NE for longer than 6 years. This didn't surprise me. I actually thought that the percentage would have been a little higher. Most of our members are what I would call "die-hards," meaning they are directly involved with concrete design, testing, production, or placement. I believe there is some room for growth on recruiting new members outside of the "die-hards".

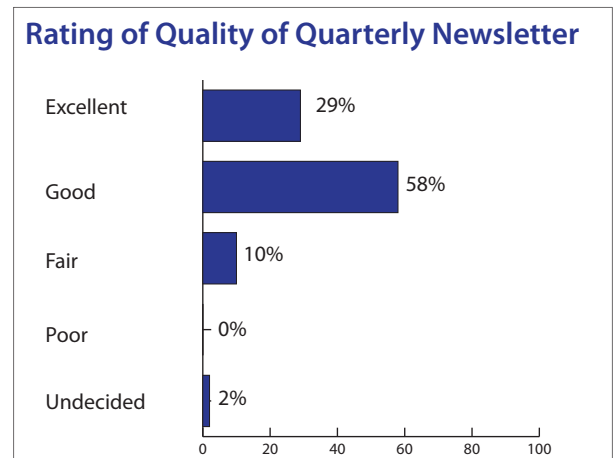
Question 2: Why have you chosen to become a member of ACI-NE? (Multiple answers permitted)

Even though multiple answers were permitted, it is clear that most of the members pay their annual dues to support the local chapter. The next two highest ranked answers related to staying informed: staying current on technologies and breakfast seminar notices. I guess the real question is how do we keep our members informed on the latest technologies to retain member support?



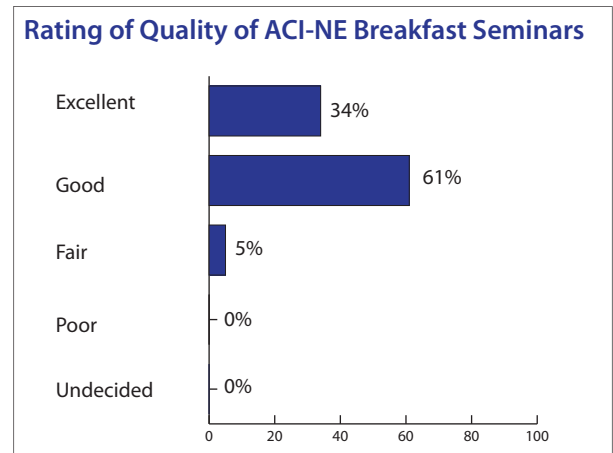
Question 3: How would you rate the quality of ACI-NE quarterly newsletter?

Over 75% surveyed rate the ACI-NE newsletter as good to excellent. I would agree. Of all the newsletters I receive from various organizations, ACI-NE produces a good quality newsletter informing everyone on the latest topics, news and events. But even I believe it could be even better with member input. The ACI-NE newsletter is produced by the board of directors and committee chairs. If you feel something should be communicated to the members, don't hesitate to contact us.



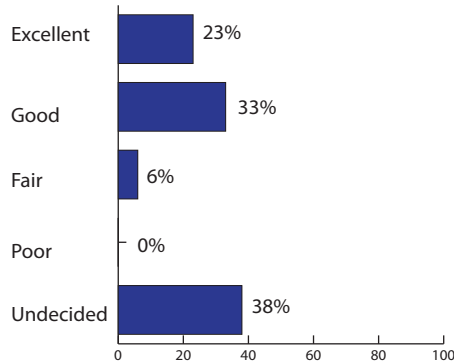
Question 4: How would you rate the quality of ACI-NE breakfast seminars?

Not hard to figure out that the ACI-NE breakfast programs are top notch. The ACI-NE Board of Directors and Committee chairs frequently discuss topics that need to be communicated to our members. The problem is that I believe these programs could receive better attendance. I have seen attendance range from 15 people all the way to 70 people on rare occasions. Lately, attendance for programs has been down. We have always held programs in Omaha just due to better attendance. Maybe we should reach out to hold these programs in Lincoln and other locations out West.



2011 ACI-NE Membership Survey

Rating of Quality of ACI-NE Annual Awards Banquet



Question 5: How would you rate the quality of our ACI-NE Annual Awards Banquet?

Even though this question also had high ratings for those who have attended the ACI-NE Awards Banquet, these numbers are a little skewed. First, I know that the majority of those who actually took the time to fill out the survey are those “die-hards”. Being a part of the ACI-NE Awards Banquet for the past few years, it is always the board of directors and the award winners that attend the annual meeting. General membership attendance is very low....extremely low.

Every year, the ACI-NE Chapter recognizes outstanding work for the use of concrete in the state of Nebraska. Doesn't the general membership want to see these projects? Do we need to add something to the program that will draw general membership? I don't know the answer, but I can tell you it is on the table for discussion every year on how can we increase attendance.

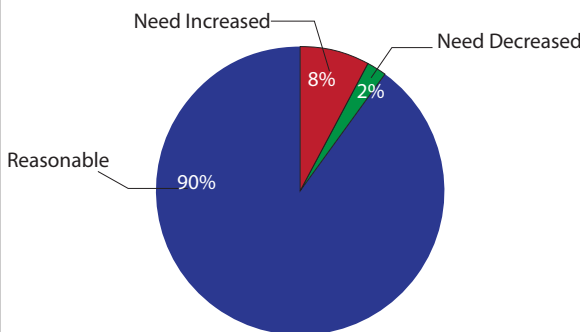
Question 6: Do you think ACI-NE annual membership fee of \$30 per year is reasonable?

Well I guess that answers that question with an overwhelming 90% believe membership dues are reasonable. I wish I would have asked the question, would you pay more if you found the extra dues beneficial? What if ACI-NE could award more scholarships? What if ACI-NE could actually pay speakers to present at the breakfast seminars? What if ACI-NE sponsored more industry programs? In order to do that, ACI-NE needs to be able to sustain our finances. We could do those things for the next couple of years but sooner or later, we need to be able to at least break even on the year. Just a thought.

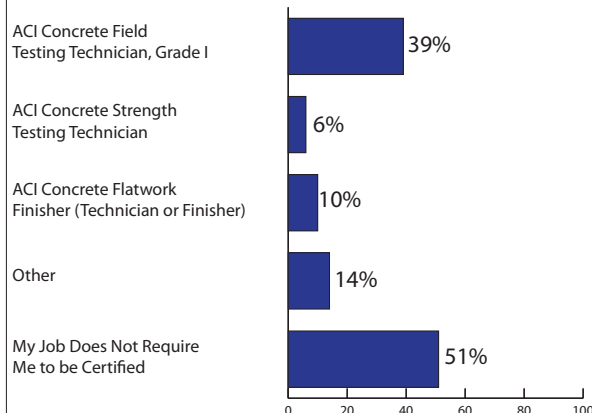
Question 7: Are you ACI Certified in Any of the Following? (Multiple answers permitted)

To be honest, I am not exactly sure what information we wanted to get out of this question. Just good statistics.

Perceptions of Annual Membership Dues

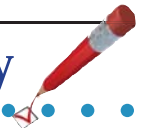


Level of ACI Certification



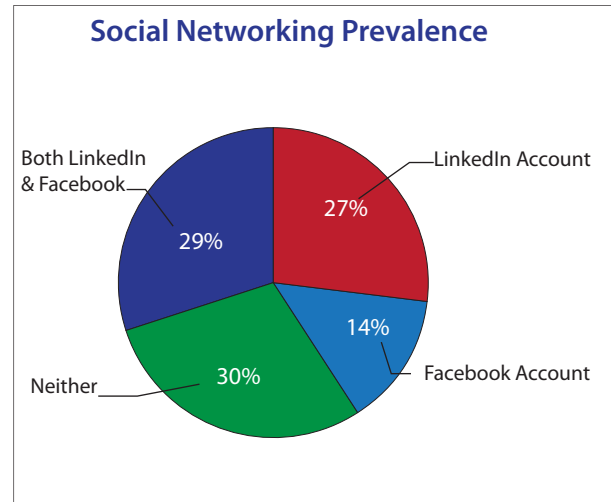
results

2011 ACI-NE Membership Survey



Question 8: Do you use Facebook or LinkedIn for social networking?

70% of those who responded do have a Facebook or LinkedIn account. Just a few years ago, social networking was just for personal networking. But lately, I have seen a huge increase in Facebook Pages for businesses and LinkedIn Professional Profiles that allow individuals to receive notices and information through social media. Maybe it is time for ACI-NE to get on board with social networking.



Question 9: Additional Comments/Suggestions to ACI-NE

- *Breakfast seminars seem a bit costly for 'breakfast food'. Annual banquets in my opinion do not need 'entertainment'....in fact that seems to keep me from going most years. Less technical breakfast seminars could be a nice switch. Sometimes they can be a bit 'over my head'. Appreciate all of the work by the officers and committees. They do a good job.*
- *Spruce up the annual ACI Banquet (i.e. place or program). If the Chapter has extra money, spend it on the members. What good is it doing in the bank?*
- *PDU credits for breakfast is a good idea!*
- *Reduce the breakfast meetings to one every other month (six per year). Target quality content. There is a lot of competition for everyone's time.*
- *I am a retired GCand former member of AGC.*
- *Would like to see some training on ACI Manuals for Division 3 and free web access to the Manuals*
- *I am very active in ACI International but not at all involved in local chapter work. Scope is beyond field testing, strength testing or local projects.*
- *Coordinate breakfast seminars outside of Omaha. Have ACI Nebraska sponsor and/or exhibit at more industry conferences to increase membership benefits to increase membership.*
- *Offer joint meetings with other engineering organizations (NSPE, ASCE, etc.) to increase attendance, share speakers and expenses.*

Now that the survey is complete, I do wish we could have asked a couple other questions or worded some questions differently. Hindsight being 20/20, I do believe that the ACI-NE Chapter can take some of these statistics and suggestions to reevaluate our directive.

The ACI-NE Chapter will continuously work to provide our members with the tools and information designed to keep everyone on the leading edge of concrete technology.

In closing, I would like to state that the strength of any organization is built by its members...not by the elected officials. We need your input and suggestions. Never hesitate to contact ACI-NE for any suggestions you feel the Chapter can provide.



From your
ACI Nebraska Chapter

ACI/NDOR Training Season Has Begun

*Training Schedule
and Registration Now Available*

The 2011-2012 ACI/NDOR training season has started with ACI Grade I Field Testing Technician, ACI Strength Testing Technician, ACI Flatwork Finisher Technician, ACI Aggregate Testing Technician, NDOR field testing technician, and NDOR Plant Technician certifications scheduled for this season.

We anticipate full classes this training season, so please register for training classes as soon as possible to assure the classes desired. The Training Calendar on the NC&AA website (www.nebrconcagg.com) will be current and should be consulted for class availability.

The certification programs are a joint effort with the ACI Nebraska Chapter, the Nebraska Department of Roads, and the Nebraska Concrete & Aggregates Association (NC&AA). To register for classes, contact Rochelle Hitz at 402-325-8414 or Leon Schaefer at 402-440-1001. You may also register online at www.ncaamembership.com, or download a registration form at www.nebrconcagg.com

Class	Date	Location
NDOR Concrete Field Inspector, Level I	December 6, 2011	Norfolk
ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician, Grade I	December 7-8, 2012	Norfolk
NDOR Concrete Field Inspector, Level I	January 17, 2012	Lincoln
ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician, Grade I	January 18-19, 2012	Lincoln
NDOR Concrete Field Inspector, Level I	January 31, 2012	Omaha
ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician, Grade I	February 1-2, 2012	Omaha
NDOR Concrete Field Inspector, Level I	February 7, 2012	North Platte
ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician, Grade I	February 8-9, 2012	North Platte
NDOR Concrete Field Inspector, Level I	April 17, 2012	Kearney
ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician, Grade I	April 18-19, 2012	Kearney
NDOR Concrete Plant Technician, Level II	March 6-7-8, 2012	North Platte
NDOR Concrete Plant Technician, Level II	March 20-21-22, 2012	Lincoln
ACI Strength Testing Technician	February 23, 2012	Lincoln
ACI Concrete Flatwork Finisher Technician	April 3-4, 2012	Lincoln

Nebraska Concrete & Aggregates Association 53rd Annual Quality Concrete Conference "Nebraska's Most Wanted"

January 11th, 2012
Younes Conference Center
Kearney, NE

January 12th, 2012
Lincoln Firefighters Reception Hall
Lincoln, NE

Registration now available!

More Information at www.nebrconcagg.com



Program Committee Report

By Tim Hedgeholz

I hope everyone is having a safe year thus far! At this time, I would like to say thanks for the attendance to the programs this spring and for the input for topics this fall. I continue to ask for your input as we need more topics for this 2012 seminar season.

For this fall season, your Chapter Program Committee has had two excellent programs which generated a lot of questions. Our Nebraska Chapter President, Michael Gerdes, presented the September program on the accreditation of testing laboratories and the benefits to customers. The October program was on utilizing lightweight aggregate as an internal curing mechanism and our presenter was Daron Brown from Buildex.



Do you Need Some PDH Credits yet this year?

We have a two-hour breakfast program set up for December 13th on a variety of structural repair procedures by John Krudwig, who has a wide variety of knowledge of concrete restoration and repair. This program will focus on understanding and specifying concrete surface preparation methods, understanding structural repairs of concrete structures and strengthening, rehabilitation and repair of concrete structures with externally bonded FRP systems. Please

Industry Data Survey Highlights Disturbing Trend for Ready Mixed Concrete Industry

(Silver Spring, MD) – According to data included in the recently released Industry Data Survey by the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association, ready mixed concrete producers have been hit hard by the recession and slow economic recovery. The average pre-tax profit for ready mixed concrete producers fell to a record -\$7.27 per cubic yard in 2010. When the recession began in 2008, ready mixed concrete producers reported an average pre-tax profit of 20 cents. This figure fell to -\$3.07 in 2009 as the effects of the recession took hold of the economy.

Ready mixed concrete production in 2010 fell to just 258 million cubic yards, or 0.8 cubic yards per capita from a high of 1.51 in 2006. At the height of the housing boom in 2005, ready mixed concrete production reached 458 million cubic yards but has been declining ever since.

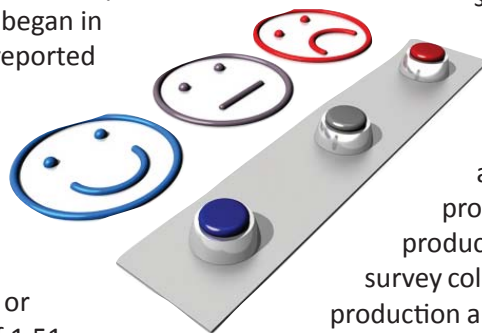
“It’s clear from the data that the ready mixed concrete industry is suffering,” said NRMCA President Robert A. Garbini. “Production levels haven’t been this low since 1994. The recession wiped out more than a decade of growth in the industry. The average loss per cubic yard

reported shows an industry which cannot sustain itself.” More than most, the ready mixed concrete industry has been hit hard by the combination of the housing market collapse, tightening credit and resulting constricted commercial construction, and a lack of serious infrastructure investment. In response to the unprecedented drop in demand, Garbini noted that many ready mixed concrete producers are seeking to “balance their portfolios” by looking at untapped markets such as parking lots and streets and local road in order to augment production.

“There’s great potential growth in these market segments since ready mixed concrete is under-represented in these sectors,” he said.

NRMCA’s Industry Data Survey is an annual survey of ready mixed concrete producer members and is available to producers that participate in the survey. The survey collects information on ready mixed concrete production and the costs associated with the sales and support of concrete. The survey reports on U.S. averages as well as regional statistics.

NRMCA, based in Silver Spring, MD, represents the producers of ready mixed concrete and the companies that provide materials, equipment and support to the industry. It conducts education, training, promotion, research, engineering, safety, environmental, technological, lobbying and regulatory programs.



ACI Spring 2012 Convention

March 18-22
Hyatt Regency Dallas
Dallas, Texas

On behalf of the ACI Northeast Texas Chapter, we would like to invite you to attend the ACI Spring 2012 Convention March 18-22, 2012, in Dallas, TX. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to host this convention, and we look forward to welcoming you to the city we call home.

From its founding in 1841, Dallas has had a remarkable history and the Northeast Texas Chapter is excited to show you why. We have created a unique and educational technical program based on the convention theme "Art of Concrete." Convention highlights include the ACI Opening Reception and Awards Program, Student Fiber-Reinforced Concrete Bowling Ball Competition, and the Concrete Mixer, which will be held at the world-renowned Gilley's Dallas.

In addition, you can look forward to a variety of technical sessions, networking opportunities, and a guest program with tours of historical and local landmarks that you don't want to miss.

We are sure you will find the ACI Spring 2012 Convention to be a valuable opportunity to contribute your expertise to the industry, a place to learn about the latest advances in concrete technology, and a place to develop relationships with the world's leading concrete professionals. We look forward to seeing you all in Dallas, Texas, March 18-22, 2012!

Quotable Quotes:

"Regardless of the dedication of our committee members and tireless committee chairs, and no matter how hard the local members or headquarters staff work, we cannot will better concrete or a more reliable, sustainable infrastructure into existence. Our goal can only be to have an impact on the people who design, specify, build, or furnish materials for that infrastructure. So, in the final analysis, we are a group of people whose goal is to influence other people and encourage them to join us while we are at it."

- Ken C. Hover, ACI International President

We're saving you a place...



For:

Anyone wanting to learn more about Concrete paving, Concrete Overlays and the latest important industry-specific information.

When:

January 24, 2012

Where:

The Cornhusker Marriott at 333 South 13th Street, Lincoln, NE

Registration forms will be available soon! Watch your mail or visit www.nebrconc.org in November to download a form. Registration cost will be \$199.00.

Expense reimbursement available through Work Force Development Funds / NDOR, for qualified Local Agency personnel.

Come join us for an informative and enjoyable experience at the 33rd Concrete Paving Workshop

Make plans now to Attend
the 33rd Annual
NCPA Concrete Paving Workshop

Learn More About

Local Agency Topics

- Concrete Paving Rehabilitation
- ADA-PRAG Issues
- Update on NDOR 2012 Concrete Paving Projects
- Pervious Concrete and Sustainability
- Fast-Track Bridges
- How Can Local Agencies use Buyout Money for the 'Biggest Bang'?

Roads & the Mighty Missouri River
Deicers & Concrete
To Seal or Not to Seal?
PCC Overlays

Much More!



Awards Banquet on Tuesday the 24th



nebraska chapter
american concrete institute

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R.T. DELORM

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Progress through Knowledge

For reservations please call Tim Hegeholz at 402-643-8235 or email him at tim.hegeholz@ashgrove.com

Reservations per person are \$45 and \$85 per couple.

evening with more refreshments.

The evening will begin with refreshments or your choice at 6 pm. We will have a fabulous steak and salmon buffet starting at 7 pm and then proceed into the Awards of Excellence presentation. Please join us if the fun and celebration of another great year of Your ACI Nebraska Chapter. Entertainment will conclude the relaxing

parking is free and in very close proximity.

On February tenth, 2012 the Nebraska Chapter ACI will hold its Annual Banquet at the Scott Conference Center located at 6450 Pine Street in Omaha, NE. This beautiful facility is easily accessible as everything is ground level and the

Make sure you do not miss this opportunity for fun, awards of excellence, new Board of Directors and Officer Transition plus spending time with friends of the Concrete Industry.

Save the Date

