

AGENDA
CONCRETE INNOVATION FORUM
Hotel Clio - Denver, Colorado
August 12-14, 2025
Schedule is in Mountain Daylight Time.

Tuesday – August 12, 2025

1:00 pm – 4:30 pm **National Renewable Energy Laboratories Tour** *(Space Limited)*
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm **Welcome Reception**

Wednesday – August 13, 2025

7:00 am – 8:00 am **Registration & Breakfast**

8:00 am – 8:05 am **Welcoming Address**
Speaker: **Ann M. Masek**, CAE, Executive Director
Company: ACI Foundation

8:05 am – 8:10 am **CIC Overview & Meeting Logistics**
Speaker: **Lesley Ko**, PhD, Director (Cementitious & Sustainability Materials) & **CIC Chair**
Company: Structural Technologies

8:10 am – 8:50 am **Case Study: Moving an Invention from the Lab to the Market**
Speaker: **Luna Lu**, Vice President of Industry Partnerships & Reilly Professor of Civil Engineering with courtesy appointment in Materials Engineering
Company: Purdue University

8:50 am – 9:30 am **Technology Showcase: Early Application of Biochar in Concrete through Stakeholder Education and Buy-in**
Speakers: **David Shook**, PE, LEED, Associate Principal and Structural Engineer of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill and **Garrett Benisch**, Director of Development for Bioforcetech Corporation

9:30 am – 10:10 am **Technology Showcase: Bioinspired Material Innovations**
Speaker: **Wil V. Srubar III**, PhD, Deming Associate Dean for Innovation & Entrepreneurship, and Charles Victor Schelke Endowed Professor
Company: University of Colorado - Boulder

10:10 am – 10:25 am *****Break*****

10:25 am – 11:05 am **Presentation: Use Your Imagination to Start a Fire**
Speaker: **John R. Hillman**, PE, SE, M.ASCE, Structural Engineer
Company: Kiewit Engineering Group

- 11:05 am – 11:45 am **Presentation: Using Activity Index of SCMs to Innovate**
Speaker: **W. Jason Weiss**, PhD, Edwards Distinguished Chair in Engineering
Company: Oregon State University
- 11:45 am – 11:50 am **Address from ACI**
Speaker: **Frederick H. Grubbe**, MBA, CAE, Executive Vice President
Company: American Concrete Institute
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm *****Lunch*****
- 1:00 pm – 1:10 pm **Panel Introduction by NEx: An ACI Center of Excellence for Nonmetallic Building Materials**
Speaker: **Jerzy Zemajtis**, Executive Director
Company: NEx – An ACI Center of Excellence for Non-metals in Concrete
- 1:10 pm – 3:00 pm **Innovations & Opportunities of Non-metals in Concrete:** several technology owners will provide **15-minute snapshots** of either innovations or needs for innovations related to the use of non-metals in concrete. Following the individual presentations we will have a moderated discussion/Q&A between the panel and Forum attendees.
- Panel Moderator:** **Celeste M. Stawiarska**, Marketing Manager for NEx – An ACI Center of Excellence for Non-metals in Concrete
- Technology Snapshots (15 minutes each)**
- **Advances with Couplers for Fiber-Reinforced Polymer Bars** by **Alvin C. Ericson**, FACI, FPCI, Technical Consultant
 - **Current Sustainability Efforts in the Composites Industry** by **Danielle Kleinhans**, PhD, PE, FACI, Director of Engineering & Business Development for Mateenbar
 - **Siletie: Polymer Concrete Railroad Ties** by **Marco Antonio Kruger**, MBA, Precast Specialist & Project Engineer for Sileto
 - **PROXXIMA™ Polyolefin Thermoset Resin Systems: Enabling Breakthrough Performance in Composites for the Built Environment** by **Paul Taylor** of ExxonMobil
- 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm *****Break*****
- 3:15 pm – 3:55 pm **Presentation: Structural Innovation – the Story of the Populus Hotel**
Speaker(s): *to be confirmed*
Company:

3:55 pm – 4:35 pm **Technology Showcase: Reducing Clinker Content using Blended Type 1L Cements & Calcined Clays**

Speaker: **Maria G. Juenger**, PhD, Professor and current ACI Vice President
Company: University of Texas at Austin

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm **On-site Cocktail Hour & Dinner**
Fireside Restaurant & Outdoor Patio

Thursday – August 14, 2025

7:00 am – 8:00 am **Registration & Breakfast**

8:00 am – 8:40 am **Presentation: Leveraging the National Laboratories for Innovation of the Cement and Concrete Industry**

Speakers: **John T. Kevern**, PhD, PE, F.ASCE, FACI, LEED AP, Senior Researcher for Cement and Concrete Resilience and **Ana Aday**, Research Engineer for Material Science.
Company: National Renewable Energy Laboratory

8:40 am – 9:20 am **Technology Showcase: The Partanna Story - Development & Use of MgO Activated Slag Concrete**

Speaker: **Kevin MacDonald**, PE, PhD, FACI
Company: Beton Consulting Engineers LLC

9:20 am – 10:20 am **Mini-Panel: Project Success Starts with Design Phase Collaboration**

Moderated by: **Patrick Frawley**, PE, Director of Quality Assurance for Central Concrete Supply Co., Inc.

- Designer: **Cary Kopczynski**, PE, SE, FACI, FPTI, CEO & Senior Principal of Cary Kopczynski & Company, Inc.
- Developer: *to be confirmed*
- Producer: *to be confirmed*

10:20 am – 10:35 am *****Break*****

10:35 am – 11:35 am **Mini-Panel: Current Landscape of Tools to Lower Embodied Carbon**

Speakers: *to be confirmed*

11:35 am – 11:55 am **Presentation: Current Outlook for the Advancement of Reduced-Carbon Technologies: Public vs. Private and Domestic vs. International Perspectives**

Speaker: **Dean Frank**, Executive Director
Company: NEU – An ACI Center of Excellence for Carbon Neutral Technologies

11:55 am – 12:00 pm **Closing Remarks**