

Strategic Development Council Sponsoring Technical Session at ACI Convention – Fall 2019

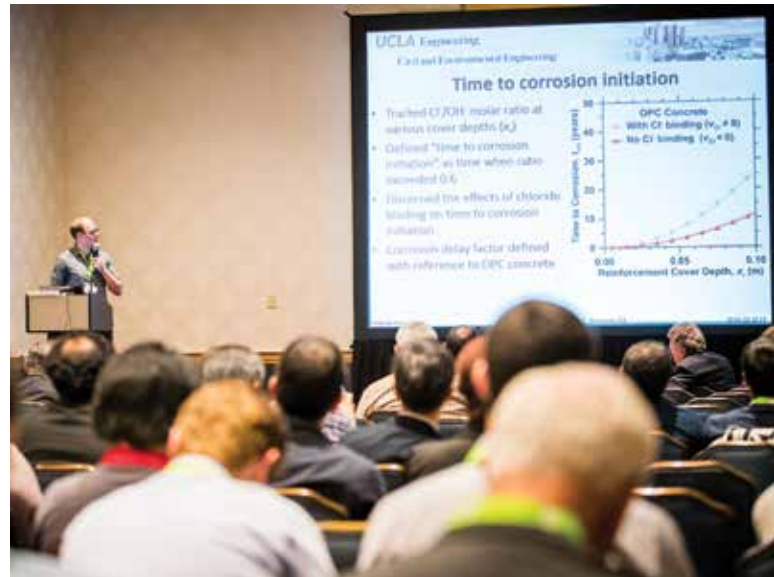
ACI Foundation's Strategic Development Council (SDC) collaborates across the concrete industry to address industry challenges and creates a forum to introduce and encourage new technologies. The SDC was at the forefront of the movement to introduce performance-based specifications to the concrete construction industry.

Performance-based specifications allow for innovation and provide contractors more flexibility so they can use materials, means, and methods that might otherwise not meet prescriptive requirements. Yet performance-based specifications create challenges for all parties—owners, designers, materials suppliers, and contractors.

A technical session on this topic will be held on October 20, 2019, at The ACI Concrete Convention and Exposition – Fall 2019 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. This session will provide a perspective on performance-based specifications from each of these key stakeholders and examples of where this approach to construction has been applied or is being implemented.

Moderated by G. Terry Harris, GCP Applied Technologies, and Lawrence L. Sutter, Michigan Technological University, the presentations will include:

- “Performance-Engineered Concrete Mixtures: An Effort by FHWA and State DOTs to Advance Concrete Technology” by Thomas J. Van Dam, Nichols Consulting Engineers;
- “Performance-Based Specifications for Concrete—A Design Professional's Perspective” by Frank Malits, Cagley & Associates, Inc.;
- “Perspective of a Material Supplier: Performance Specifications for Concrete Materials and Mixtures” by Colin L. Lobo, National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA); and



A technical session on performance-based specifications, moderated by SDC, will be held at The ACI Concrete Convention and Exposition – Fall 2019

- “Implementing Performance-Engineered Design and Construction Requirements for Concrete” by Oscar R. Antommattei, Kiewit Engineering Group Inc.

Prestandard for Performance-Based Design, Partially Funded by ACI Foundation

The ACI Foundation joined an important industry-wide initiative to encourage performance-based design in concrete design for wind, and the *Prestandard for Performance-Based Wind Design* was recently released by the initiative's main funder, the Charles Pankow Foundation. The prestandard development team was led by Principal Investigator Don Scott of PCS Structural Solutions.

Performance-based design can improve efficiency of design and construction and can potentially improve structural performance. The prestandard is “meant for structural engineers, architects, building component and cladding specifiers/designers, and building officials engaged in the design and review of buildings” and gives an alternative approach to prescriptive processes. Use of these performance-based approaches will assist ACI Committee 375, Performance-Based Design of Concrete Buildings for Wind Loads, in updating their documents.

Co-funders on the project were the ACI Foundation, American Institute of Steel Construction, ASCE Industry Leaders Council, the Charles Pankow Foundation, and the MKA Foundation. Additional industry support was provided by FEMA, NIST, and several structural design firms.

Contribute to the concrete research conversation! The ACI Foundation welcomes suggestions at any time for research needs from the concrete community. Add your input at www.acifoundation.org/research/suggestresearch.org.

ACI Foundation fellowships and scholarships are made possible through generous contributions by our donors in the concrete community. Together, we are strengthening the concrete industry by encouraging students to pursue professional careers in concrete design, construction, and research.

Visit www.acifoundation.org/research/researchprojects to review this product and other research reports.

Have Your Research Funded—Submit a Proposal by December 2, 2019

The Concrete Research Council of the ACI Foundation is seeking proposals for research that will further the knowledge and sustainability of concrete materials, construction, and structures. Key points of the request for proposals include:

- Topics are encouraged from all areas of concrete research;
- Up to \$50,000 may be approved per project for direct costs;
- The ACI Foundation limits the indirect costs of the research institution to 15%; and
- An ACI Technical Committee must support the research concept.

The latter point is essential for approval. Principal investigators should have already reached out to technical committee chairs to ensure that their proposed research will have the support and engagement of a committee. Proposal submissions are due December 2, 2019, by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time. Visit www.acifoundation.org/research.aspx for more information on requirements, details, and tips to prepare materials for submission.


Applications for Scholarships and Fellowships Now Open

If you know a student who would benefit from receiving tuition and networking assistance and who would serve our industry well, suggest they apply for an ACI Foundation

scholarship or fellowship. This is a life-changing opportunity for students, and we value their experience in this program. Students who apply are required to have at least one endorsement from an ACI member (nonstudent), so we encourage ACI members to consider offering an endorsement to a student.

Based on essays, submitted data, and endorsements, the Scholarship Council will select award recipients who appear to have the strongest combination of interest and potential for professional success in the concrete industry.


The ACI Foundation's Fellowship and Scholarship Program has been extremely successful in getting high-potential students to become more engaged in the field of concrete via education, as well as becoming more involved in the ACI community. We are proud to share that 85% of the students who have received an award from the ACI Foundation have remained in the concrete industry. Visit www.acifoundation.org/scholarships.aspx for more information on requirements, details, and tips to prepare materials for submission.



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