

# IRMCA NEWS



Volume 22, Number 1

March

## President's Message

By Tim Huiner, IRMCA President

I returned yesterday from Las Vegas and the first E-mail I received was from Jennifer Bedell, our office manager, welcoming me home and letting me know I needed to get to work. I guess there is no rest for the weary.

I want to thank the board and our members for giving me the opportunity to serve as IRMCA president. I think if you are going to be in our industry you had better love a challenge, and I look forward to the new challenges that this position has to offer. We have a lot of fun events planned for this year, but we also have some important challenges to address. The one area in which I hope we can have great success this year is in our new contractor membership category. The staff has been hard at work doing their part, now it's time for the rest of us to do ours. Please give any mailings you receive your full and prompt attention. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and I think we will all benefit from this new membership category.

Another challenge we are facing is the hiring of a new field representative. This new position will help us increase our promotional abilities and give us the opportunity to offer our members expanded service. We are hoping one of our members will know of someone who might be able to fill this position. Please direct applicants to the IRMCA office-specifically to Bruce.

The only way to handle these and other challenges is with teamwork and our team is top notch. I would like to thank Bruce, Jennifer, Randy, Nikko, and Whitney for all of their hard work. They not only have the brains, talents, and abilities, but also enthusiasm and work ethic it takes to be a success in our industry. I encourage everyone to get to know our office staff and thank them personally for a job well done. I look forward to working closely with all of them this year.

I would like to acknowledge our newest board member George Mobarak of Rock River Ready Mix in Dixon, Illinois. George's talents and years of experience in the ready mix industry will serve our board well as we increase our membership and increase our promotional efforts in the coming year. I would also like to thank retiring board member Monte Bartels for his years of hard work and dedication to the Association. Monte's commitment was instrumental in bringing stability and success back to IRMCA.

Another person I would like to thank is our outgoing president Dan Edwards. Dan has logged over sixteen years on the board and has served as our president twice. He has dedicated almost two decades to ensuring IRMCA's success. I have learned a lot from Dan over the last few years and it's comforting to know he will be on the board to help me again this year. I also want to recognize the rest of the board who are some of the most knowledgeable men I have had the pleasure of getting to know. I don't believe there is any challenge that this group can't handle.

The board and office staff is capable of doing a lot but they can't do it all. I would like to encourage all our members to get involved with IRMCA. Serve on a committee, attend a meeting, promote concrete, get involved politically, or attend one of our events. Committees are forming right now, so let Bruce know if you or someone in your company would like to participate. Political involvement is also encouraged. This year IRMCA joined the Illinois Chamber of Commerce to be a part of the fight to keep federal dollars coming back to Illinois. You can take advantage of this money by making your local officials aware of the superior benefits and advantages of our product.

Finally, I would like to promise the membership that I will do my best to keep IRMCA pushing forward in the promotion of concrete. I am easy to reach and encourage everyone to call me if you have any questions or ideas. We are poised to do great things this year and with a little luck and God's blessings, 2003 should be one of our finest years yet! How about promoting some concrete today!!



Pictured left to right: Tim Huiner of Batavia Concrete and Dan Edwards of Edwards Ready Mix. At the 2003 Annual Convention, incoming president Huiner presents the above plaque to outgoing president Edwards.

## In this issue of the Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association

Farewell, Nikko, page 2

IRMCA Awards Nine Scholarships, page 3

Short Course Success, page 4

Las Vegas Annual Convention Lures High Numbers, page 5

IRMCA Promotion, pages 6-7

Safety Committee News, page 8

Legislative Update, page 9

IRMCA Holds Second Round Of Grant-funded Contractor Safety Training Seminars, page 10

Phoenix Airport Upgrades Runways To Concrete, page 11

What's Equal?, page 12

Highways Fully Funded At \$31.8 Billion, \$8.5 Billion Cut Averted, page 14

Officers

Tim Huiner,  
President

Dennis Oedewaldt,  
Vice President

Mark Blager,  
Secretary/Treasurer

Dan Edwards,  
Past President

Directors

John Albinger

Tom Beck

Paul Flynn

Ken Highlander

Dan Kuehler

Lou Marcy

George Mobarak

Staff

Bruce Grohne,  
Executive Director

Jennifer Bedell,  
Office Manager/  
IRMCA News Editor

Nikko Santiago,  
Administrative Assistant

Whitney Rush,  
Administrative Assistant



Working together to  
create value, teach  
excellence, and produce  
quality

## IRMCA Welcomes New Associate Members

**Arkalite**

Bryan Powers, Engineer

PO Box 1567

West Memphis, Arkansas 72303

870.735.7932

Products & Services: rotary kiln light-  
weight aggregate

**Bekaert Corp**

Nik Ljiljanic, Regional Manager

3251 W Barry Ave, Ste 1

Chicago, Illinois 60618

773.539.3819

Products & Services: steel fibers for  
concrete/shotcrete

**C. Grantham Co**

Don Cook, Vice President

PO Box 326

Columbia, Illinois 62236

800.251.8778

Products & Services: calcium chlo-  
ride

**Galena Road Gravel, Inc**

Rich Lucas, General Manager

PO Box 50

Chillicothe, Illinois 61523

309.274.6388

Products & Services: sand & gravel

**Truck Country**

John Gile, Account Manager

10703 Highway 61 South

Dubuque, Iowa 52004

563.556.3773

Products & Services: truck sales,  
service, and leasing

## Farewell, Nikko

We are both pleased and slightly sad-  
dened to realize that as of May 10<sup>th</sup> we will be  
saying good-bye to our friend and colleague Nikko  
Santiago as she graduates from Illinois State Univer-  
sity with a degree in Human Resources and moves  
back to her Chicago home. We are pleased because  
Nikko has achieved high level accomplishments and  
honors while at ISU and because we are positive  
that she will find successes in her future endeavors.  
We are slightly saddened, of course, because we will  
miss her!

Nikko began employment at IRMCA in  
September, 2000, the beginning of her sophomore  
year. She has worked at least 25 hours a week since  
then, maintained a full class schedule, been active  
in campus activities, and will graduate with a very  
high grade point average. We are proud of her and  
wish her much success and happiness.

If you have time, why not drop Nikko a  
note or call her and wish her well? She's been a big  
part of any successes IRMCA may have enjoyed the  
last three years.



Nikko Santiago (pictured above) has assisted the  
administration of IRMCA for several years. She im-  
mediately made an impact by creating membership  
databases and spreadsheets and through the years  
has continued benefiting the Association with her  
organization, bookkeeping, and computer skills.

## IRMCA Awards Nine Scholarships

Due to our members' great, consistent  
support of the Harvey Hagge Scholarship Golf  
Outings and due to the kind generosity of Terry  
Murphy and the Meyer Material Company, the  
Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association was  
able to present 9 \$1,000 2002-03 Harvey Hagge  
Scholarships to students representing 8 universities.  
All of the student winners are juniors, seniors  
or graduate students studying civil engineering,  
construction management or some other discipline  
related to the concrete industry. The applicants  
were interviewed and recipients selected by members  
of IRMCA's Scholarship Committee.

The 2002-03 recipients are:

- Patrick Shea, Bradley  
University
- Brian Walker, Southern  
Illinois University at

Edwardsville

- Matthew Vargo & Donald  
Kinzler, University of Illinois  
at Chicago

- Megan Folkmann, Illinois  
Institute of Technology

- Matthew D'Ambrosia,  
University of Illinois at

Urbana-Champaign

- Kelly Harman, Southern  
Illinois University at

Carbondale

- Ryan Kleiboeker, Illinois  
University

State

- David Dodd, Middle  
Tennessee State University

## Contractor Membership

Our contractor membership is off to a  
great start (just view the list at right),  
but we have a long way to go. Let us  
know if you need additional application  
packets; we have plenty of extras. This  
is a fantastic opportunity for contractors,  
so it should be an easy sell. Many of  
your efforts has already resulted in new  
members-thank you!

## IRMCA Welcomes New Contractor Members

**Akra Builders, Inc**

Paul Grunloh, President

PO Box 1225

Effingham, Illinois 62401

217.857.3109

**Deichmueller Construction Co**

Chuck Deichmueller, President

PO Box 312

LaSalle, Illinois 61301

815.224.2840

**Guinzy Construction, Inc**

V. Edward Guinzy, President

PO Box 360

Ashley, Illinois 62808

618.485.2293

**Imperial Concrete Construction**

Bill Slade, Vice President

4101 Colleen Drive, Ste B

Champaign, Illinois 61822

217.352.1692

**Martin Cement Co**

Dennis Martin, President

25 Forestwood Drive

Romeoville, Illinois 60446

815.886.0400

**Michael Concrete, Inc**

Carl Michel, President

3101 Great Northern Road

Springfield, Illinois 62707

**Runkle Concrete**

Butch Runkle, President

3101 Great Northern Road

Springfield, Illinois 62707

**Swederski Concrete Construction**

Len Swederski, President

2807 Route 173, PO Box K

Richmond, Illinois 60071

815.678.4035

**Van Der Laan Brothers, Inc**

Jerald VanDerLaan, President

8105 W 189th Street

Mokena, Illinois 60448

708.349.4567

## Coming Events

### April 2003

- 1 - Environmental/  
Safety Seminar,  
Springfield, IL
- 3 - Environmental/  
Safety Seminar,  
DeKalb, Illinois
- 24 - Board Meeting,  
IRMCA Office

### June 2003

- 13/14 - Summer Meeting,  
Galena, Illinois

### September 2003

- 3 - Scholarship Golf  
Outing,  
Washington, Illinois

### November 2003

- 20 - Board Meeting,  
IRMCA Office

Illinois Ready Mixed  
Concrete Association  
211 Landmark Dr, Ste D-5B  
Normal, IL 61761

Phone: 309-862-2144/  
800-235-4055

Fax: 309-862-3404

E-mail: [irmca@irmca.org](mailto:irmca@irmca.org)

Web: [www.irmca.org](http://www.irmca.org)

Mission

To be the voice for the  
ready mixed concrete indus-  
try in Illinois. To promote  
the use of quality ready  
mixed concrete through  
innovative educational  
programs. To accomplish  
common goals as an or-  
ganization that cannot be  
done individually.

## Short Course Success

The Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association held its 2003 Short Course at the PAR\*A\*DICE Hotel in East Peoria, Illinois, on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of January, 2003. Over 150 members and guests enjoyed the hospitality of our Reception Sponsors (see opposite page) Monday evening as they also visited some of our many exhibitors. Following dinner, attendees scattered to enjoy the many adventures of an evening in the Peoria area.

Following breakfast, the rest of Tuesday was dedicated to presentations by George Wyness, Motor Carrier and Hazardous Materials Compliance Officer, IDOT; Doug Dirks, Engineer of Concrete and Soils, IDOT; James E. Brown, Product Specialist, W. R. Grace; Tony Schlagbaum, Group Marketing Manager, Master Builders; Brian Rice, Director of Product Quality, Material Service; Terry Murphy, Manager of Quality Control, Meyer Material; Randy Riley, Engineering Consultant, IRMCA; and Dick Plimpton, Concrete Engineer, Prairie Group.

Sessions were well received and all attendees took something home with them that will benefit their business. Dave Ashton of Galesburg Ready Mix certainly took something of value with him, as he won the drawing for a IPAQ pocket PC. Congratulations, Dave.

Thanks are due the entire Short Course committee for their efforts in planning and managing this year's meeting, particularly to cochairs Rick Seybert of Lafarge NA and Jim Posadny of Continental Cement. Thanks also to Office Manager Jennifer Bedell and Administrative Assistants Nikko Santiago and Whitney Rush for all their efforts to ensure the success of this event.



Dave Ashton of Galesburg Builders Supply holds the IPAQ Pocket PC presented to him by IRMCA Executive Director Bruce Grohne.



Pictured above is the opening reception at which twelve associate members exhibited their products and services: Barnes Industrial Group, Bekaert Corporation, General Resource Technology, Humboldt Manufacturing, ISG Resources, Illinois Aggregate Equipment, Lafarge NA, McNeilus Company, NPC Bidco, Nycon Midwest, Solomon Colors, and WR Grace.



Pictured left to right are: Ken Parks of River Cement, Terry Castiller of River Cement; and Gary and Sheila Brand of Roger's Redi-Mix.

## Las Vegas Annual Convention Lures High Numbers

The Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada was the site for IRMCA's 2003 Annual Convention on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. Almost 120 members and guests gathered on Sunday night for a reception paid for by our generous Reception Sponsors (see list at right). On Monday, the morning was filled with IRMCA business-a board meeting, the annual general membership meeting, committee reports, and concluded with a "hands-on" demonstration of some of the rules and strategies of Las Vegas's famous sporting games.

Following a reception and dinner Monday night, outgoing President Dan Edwards, Edwards Ready Mix, spoke briefly about IRMCA accomplishments during his presidency and thanked the board members, committee volunteers and association staff persons who helped make his year successful. Dan then introduced the newly elected president for 2003-2004, Tim Huiner of Batavia Concrete.

Tim followed Dan to the podium and introduced the newly reelected board members John Albinger, Mark Blager, and Lou Marcy (not present). He also introduced new director, George Mobarak, Rock River Ready Mix. Tim thanked the association for the confidence shown him and outlined some of his goals for his year. The evening activities concluded with Tim presenting the traditional gavel/plaque to outgoing President Edwards. Dan was also given a golf shirt that honored the fact that this was the second time he had served as IRMCA president.

At Tuesday morning's business session, members heard a presentation from Scott Haislip, ACPA, on concrete streets, roads, and parking lots; Rich Warren, Southern Nevada Concrete and Aggregates Association on concrete promotion in the Las Vegas area; and Dave Vickers, Chairman of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association who reviewed the current status of NRMCA.

IRMCA adjourned its annual meeting at noon on Tuesday and members began to enjoy the many offerings of the World of Concrete which opened its doors Tuesday morning. Based on attendance and enthusiasm, the marrying of the IRMCA Convention to the World of Concrete seemed a big success.



Pictured left to right are: Sandy Davidson of T.H. Davidson & Company; John and Jean Albinger of Vans Material; and Marianne and Tom Clarke of Illinois Cement Company.



Randy Riley, IRMCA Engineering Consultant, discusses concrete overlays.

## IRMCA Hosts the American Public Works Association

The Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association hosted 29 members of the American Public Works Association Illinois Central Branch at the APWA January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting in Bloomington. Randy Riley, Engineering Consultant with IRMCA, presented a program on concrete overlays in Illinois. He not only discussed their history, but he also explained a program designed to ease engineering concerns when comparing concrete overlays with alternatives. Present at the meeting were representatives from the Peoria engineering office and they, Randy and Dick Plimpton, Prairie Group Concrete Engineer, shared their experiences during the recent whitetopping in Peoria.

Insert Lone Star Advertisement

**FOR SALE**

Concrete Wall Mold  
48" wide x 120" high  
10 gauge steel panels

**FOR SALE**

Call Mid-Illinois Concrete  
217.342.2498

## Prairie Group & Master Builders Join Forces To Present Cold Weather Concrete Seminar

At the request of Gary Oremus, Quality Control with the Prairie Group, Fred Boskovich, account executive with Master Builders, presented a seminar on cold weather concrete to a group of representatives of north suburban engineering departments. The presentation was held in the new council chambers of the village of Vernon Hills. Fred addressed good, safe cold weather concrete practices and dispelled the many myths that surround winter pours. Also in attendance was IRMCA promoter Bruce Grohne who urged the villages to adopt specification standards that would result in the increased use of quality, durable concrete.

## IRMCA Sponsors Basics of Concrete Seminar

On December 12, 2003, Jim Kolakowski, Technical Service Manager for the W. R. Grace Company led a Basics of Concrete seminar for employees of Centex Homes at their new headquarters in Elgin, Illinois. The seminar for over 50 was organized by Dan Garreffa of Illinois Cement and was sponsored by IRMCA. After covering the basics, Jim fielded questions about how to prevent problems with concrete and what to do if problems do occur. Questions were plentiful and both Dan and IRMCA's Bruce Grohne joined in with answers and suggestions. Ideas were made about improving lines of communications between the workers on the job and the ready mix plant.

## South Suburban Taskforce Shares Specification Manual With Suburban Building Officials

Suburban Building Officials met at the Terrace Restaurant in Lombard, IL on January 16<sup>th</sup> to hear a presentation from John Albinger of Van's Materials and other IRMCA members on durable, exterior flatwork ready mixed concrete. John explained how representatives from all aspects of the concrete industry came together in the south suburb area to develop specifications for ready mix and its use that when adopted will result in not only a better product, but also in increased use of that product. Enthusiastic officials of several of the villages represented at the meeting asked for further information and requested that IRMCA arrange presentations for their staffs.

John Albinger explains the South Suburban Taskforce Specifications Manual.



The seminar attracted over fifty participants.



Pictured above is Jim Kolakowski, Technical Service Manager for WR Grace; he led the seminar.

## Safety Committee News

By Steve Metz, Safety Committee Cochair

Recently our committee had a decision to make and we want you to know about it. In the spring of the year the IRMCA Membership gets very busy getting ready for the ready mix season and that very fact complicated what we were considering. We were deciding whether or not we wanted to ask you to give us some of your valuable time in the form of regional meetings. Keeping in mind that our committee is made up of people much like yourself and understanding our responsibility to bring value to these meetings, we have decided to go forward.

These meetings will be April 1<sup>st</sup>. in Springfield and April 3<sup>rd</sup>. in DeKalb and we will team up with the IRMCA Environmental Committee to bring you a full day of valuable information.

Our committee has joined with the construction industry to develop a Concrete Jobsite Safety video and that project has been completed. The results of this work will be available for these meetings. It will be reviewed by and will be given (free of charge) to those that attend these meetings. We believe it will serve as a valuable tool for you to communicate safety to your people. Our other partner in this project was Rita Mosley and DCCA who gave hours of time and almost \$30,000 for this project. It is something that we feel will benefit your company.

In addition, our current work with a Driver Training/Orientation Manual will be presented to you. It is also our hope that the finished product will be available at these meetings or shortly thereafter and those that attend the presentation will receive the material. This project is one that we have taken on jointly with the Northern Illinois Ready Mix and Materials Association (NRMMA) and it is one that we have wanted to address for a number of years. The rough draft is prepared and it is being cleaned up for these meetings. We feel strongly this will be a tool that you can use for years to come. It will help to formalize and document the training that you do. It will help you to bring new people into your industry, familiarize them with your operation, introduce them to the product that you manufacture and set the stage for them to be valuable and productive employees. Safety is a big part of this emphasis, but it is really aimed at the total work environment in and around your business. It is hoped that it will be educational, but also add to the efficiency and productivity of your operation over time.

Our committee is excited about what we have to share with you and I think it goes without saying that the IRMCA Environmental Committee will bring value to your business as well in these meetings. We look forward to the opportunity we have to help you take advantage of your decision to be a Producer Member of the Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association.



**Bidco Fiber**

**Reinforcement**

Using Bidco Fiber Reinforcement for your next concrete job will:

- ◆ Reduce shrinkage cracks
- ◆ Increase compressive strength, flexural strength, and splitting tensile strength
- ◆ Create greater impact resistance
- ◆ Increase fatigue resilience
- ◆ Reduce permeability to moisture and chlorides.

NPC's Bidco Fiber Reinforcement comes in a variety of styles to meet your specific needs:

- ◆ Fibrillated     ◆ Monofilament
- ◆ Nylon           ◆ Structural (NEW!)

Call one of our knowledgeable Customer Service Representatives today for more information on NPC Bidco Fiber!

**WE ARE COMMITTED TO CUSTOMER SERVICE!**

**Orders are shipped the same, or very next business day!**

**NPC, Inc.**

St. Joe Dr. & Lewis St. • Park Hills, MO 63601

Tel: 800-442-0401 • Fax: 573-431-1035

**www.bidcoinc.com**

## Legislative Update

By Jim Randolph, Legislative Committee Chair

Many assignments and personnel shifts are almost complete by the new Governor, Rod Blagojevich. He has appointed Timothy Martin of Chicago as the new Secretary of Transportation. Mr. Martin has for many years served as the Chief Operating Officer of the Chicago Public School System. We will inform you as other leadership assignments change within the department.

The only legislative requests handled since our last report again relate to overweight violations. There hasn't been much new to report on our weight law efforts since our last report because of our waiting for the recent election to be final. Now that the new congress is elected and are forming their committees, we will see activity increase in this area. It continues to involve the legislators, Illinois DOT, and the Illinois State Police. I believe that we may see significant progress this coming legislative session to our efforts.

Here are some tips for your to train you drivers on when they are pulled over by portable scales.

- All axles must be weighed at the same time. Moving the truck forward and weighing each axle one at a time on just one set of "bathroom" "suitcase" style scales is prohibited. That is not to say that an officer may weigh you on one set just to check you weight, but he would then have to set up and level and entire set of scales for each axle and weigh them altogether before issuing a citation.
- Scales of this type must be on a hard and "level" surface. Scale operators carry shims with them to level the scales. You should be able to pull up on the scales and park without brakes applied.
- DO NOT SET YOUR BRAKES while waiting to weigh. You run the risk of "binding up" the scales and applying unwanted pressure that may translate into a higher weight reading on a specific axle. If the scales are level this should not be a problem.
- You should keep your drum turning. Tests have shown that the drum rotation in the agitate speed will not effect the scales. With the drum rotating it will keep the load weight distributed as it is designed to do.
- You may request a printout of your axle weights from the scale operator or they may write it on an IDOT Wheel Weigher Scale Record form OPER 2390 (12/00)

Please make contact through the IRMCA office if you have questions, comments or legislative requests that we can be of assistance to you. We will need your help to call your legislators and seek their support when changes are ready to be voted on. We'll let you know when that

# Vulcan

## Materials Company

747 East 22nd Street, Suite 200  
Lombard, IL 60148 (630) 261-8668

**We mine the rocks  
that build the roads  
that carry you home.™**

**Recycle Aggregate and Concrete  
Dump Locations in Illinois**

Blue Island	Elgin	
Chicago (Pershing Road)	Eik Grove	
Crest Hill	Lake Bluff	

**Crushed Stone Locations in Illinois**

Bolingbrook	Kankakee	McCook
Casey	Lake Bluff	Plainfield
Decatur	Lake Villa	Sycamore
Grayslake	Lemont	Urbana
Joliet	Manteno	

## IRMCA Holds Second Round Of Grant-funded Contractor Safety Training Seminars



Pictured above are some of the twenty-five attendees of the Bloomington seminar. Seminars were also held in Collinsville and DeKalb.

At right, one of the contractors in attendance at the DeKalb seminar participates in an electrical current demonstration. During his presentation on Electrical Safety, Bob LoMastro led the entire class through this demonstration, which involved allowing two fingers to become part of the electrical current's path.



OSHA's extension of our Susan Harwood Grant allowed us to offer additional contractor safety training seminars this winter. The seminars were held in Collinsville on February 17, in DeKalb on February 19, and in Bloomington on February 21. Our efforts this winter reached over fifty contractors who will take the training and materials they received and utilize them within their companies' safety programs, thus effecting countless others.

The training began with Electrical Safety, presented by Bob LoMastro, president of LoMastro & Associates. Other topics were Silica Awareness, Concrete Burns, PPE, and Hand Signals, presented jointly by George Macaluso, Associate Director of the Laborers' Health & Safety Fund of North America, and John Condis, Safety Officer for the Midwest Laborers' Health & Safety Fund.

In addition to the training, participants received PowerPoint presentations, student manuals, and a certificate.



At left, Bob LoMastro, President of LoMastro & Associates, guides a contractor through an electrical conduction experiment. LoMastro's dynamic demonstrations made quite an impact.



John Condis (above), Safety Officer for the Midwest Laborers' Health & Safety fund, presented information on Concrete Burns and PPE at the seminar in Bloomington. Presenting along with Condis was George Macaluso, Associate Director of the Laborers' Health & Safety Fund of North America.

## Phoenix Airport Upgrades Runways To Concrete

The officials at Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix, Arizona were concerned enough about traffic congestion caused by construction that they placed a "sorry about our mess" announcement in the January 19, 2003 edition of the Arizona Republic. Why should that affect us here in Illinois? Why should we care, only a few of us actually fly into Phoenix very often? PLEASE READ THE ANNOUNCEMENT (below)! It's not often that we see such a ringing endorsement of our product. For further information on this project, refer to [www.pardonourdust.com](http://www.pardonourdust.com) or [www.phxskyharbor.com](http://www.phxskyharbor.com). The project was also highlighted in a recent issue of Engineering News Record.

### At Phoenix Sky Harbor, the Future is Concrete.

Every day over 1,600 planes take-off and land at the 5<sup>th</sup> busiest airport in the world. To help keep Sky Harbor's runways reliable, we're upgrading from asphalt to concrete. This will provide an enduring launch-pad and welcome mat for our community.

Now *that's* a solid future.

#### We're sorry for the inconvenience. In January and February:

- You may notice some temporary changes in runway operations.
- Please allow extra time for connection in other cities, as some Sky Harbor flights may be slightly delayed.
- Remember to schedule meetings at your arrival destination with time to spare — just in case.



Phoenix Sky Harbor  
International Airport  
[www.phxskyharbor.com](http://www.phxskyharbor.com)

Please support the Associate Members of the Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association

- A. Anderson Building Systems
- Advance Mixer, Inc
- Arkalite
- Arrow Magnolia
- Barnes Industrial Group
- Bekaert
- Bidco Fibre, Inc.
- Brett Admixtures
- Butterfield Color
- C. Grantham
- Cemex
- Continental Cement Company
- Coulter Construction Company
- Cummings, McGowan & West, Inc.
- Deslauriers, Inc.
- Dixon-Marquette Cement Company
- ESSROC Cement Corporation
- Feltes Sand & Gravel Company
- Galena Road Gravel
- General Resource Technology
- Holcim (US), Inc.
- Humboldt Mfg. Company
- ISG Resources
- Illinois Aggregate Equipment
- Illinois Cement Company
- Industrial Systems, Ltd.
- Kimble Mixer Company
- Kore Data Systems, Inc.
- L.M. Scofield Company
- Lafarge North America
- Lehigh Portland Cement Company
- Lone Star Industries, Inc.
- Master Builders, Inc.
- Material Service Corporation
- McNeilus Companies, Inc.
- Midwest, Ltd.
- Mineral Resource Technologies, L.L.C.
- O.M.I. Concrete Specialties, Inc.
- Putzmeister America
- River Cement Company
- S. I. Concrete Systems
- Scotwood Industries
- Solomon Colors
- Stuart Tank Sales Corporation
- Truck Country
- Viking Trucks & Equipment Sales, Inc.
- Vulcan Materials Company
- W. R. Grace & Company

The IRMCA Staff regrets any omissions from the above list

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT YOU

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT YOU

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT YOU

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT YOU

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT YOU

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT YOU

## What's Equal?

By Randell C. Riley, P.E.

As long as engineers have been debating asphalt versus concrete, they have been wrestling with the issue of "What's Equal" in terms of pavement cross-sections. No where is this more important to IRMCA members than in the parking lot market for this is one of the single greatest opportunities for rapid return on your investment of time in promotion. However, rarely in this market do we get designs that are anywhere near close to being equal. Let's see if we can address that problem.

Most of what we know and use today in pavement design is based on the old AASHTO Road Test. This road test, conducted in the late 1950s and early 60s was the basis of the AASHTO Guide for Design of Pavement Structures, a guide in use in many highway departments across the country today. Though detractors will say that it is based on old information and is no longer relevant, many of those detractors are asphalt guys that took a beating in the test results. We don't really care what they think, do we?

The reality is that the AASHTO (the "T" was added many years later) road test, to this day, still reflects the typical axle loads and pavement cross sections that we are likely to encounter in the local roads and parking lot market. The fact that the road test was conducted right here in Ottawa Illinois makes the results and the resulting performance forecast equations even more credible.

Asphalt pavements are designed using the AASHTO guide in a manner different from concrete pavements. Asphalt sections are designed using what is called a "structural number" that is analogous to concrete pavement depth, but accounts for the differences in strength in the layers. Structural coefficients are assigned to each layer. Typical values for Illinois if you do not know anything else are 0.40 for surface course, 0.30 for base course and 0.13 for granular layers. You can get more sophisticated than this in the analysis, but the differences are usually small for making a basic pavement comparison when you really don't know what the asphalt producer would have actually provided anyway.

Development of the structural number is simply the summation of the layer thicknesses multiplied by their respective layer coefficient as shown to the right.

Structural coefficients for concrete are not really part of the standard AASHTO design system. However, back in the '60s, shortly after the Road Test was complete, satellite studies in Louisiana proposed that deteriorated existing concrete pavement that is overlaid with asphalt should have structural coefficient of approximately 0.50, the oft cited value that you will see in some of the existing older concrete industry literature. In reality, this is a minimum value. The discussion is beyond this article, but I can mathematically demonstrate that the value ranges up to 0.74 new concrete typical of Illinois. In addition, the structural coefficient is in reality higher for thinner concrete sections and lower for thicker concrete sections. The value of 0.50 for concrete is a conservative value!

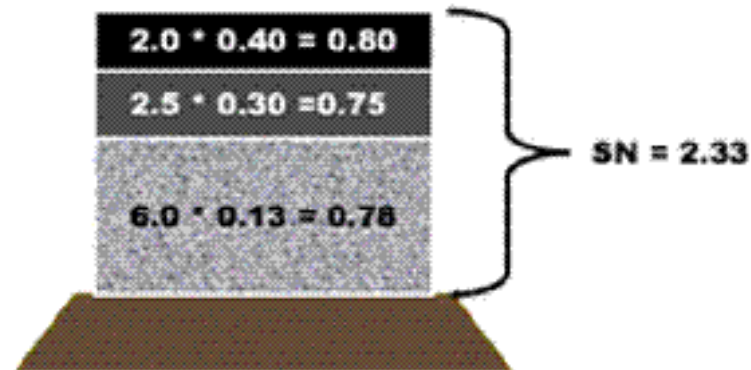
So, what is a realistic comparison? To solve that problem included in this issue is a nomograph (see opposite page) you can use to solve for the equivalent concrete pavement section for typical Illinois DOT Class PV concrete given an architect or engineer's proposed asphalt pavement section. Simply compute the recommended structural number and follow through on the nomograph to determine the equivalent concrete pavement thickness that would result using the 1993 AASHTO Guide for Design of Pavement Structures. The startling fact is that you should find that ready mix concrete will be competitive in most cases even using more conservative concrete designs. In the case above is the minimum calculated section is four inches of concrete placed on compacted clay subgrade. Normally, you could use five inches, double the carrying capacity, sell more concrete and still be competitive!

One word of caution though when using the nomograph. Though the nomographs are technically accurate, and do produce equivalent sections, there is one area in virtually every parking lot that I would insist on you using a 6.5-inch minimum concrete section. That is in the fifteen feet or so leading up to the garbage dumpster where the garbage truck loads.

Front-loading garbage trucks in particular create an odd loading situation in a static condition. The front wheels behave as a fulcrum for a lever arm as the hydraulics lift the dumpster into the garbage truck. In simple terms, the loads are much greater than the simple gross vehicle weight of the loaded truck. Have you ever accidentally pinched your finger under a crowbar while doing some carpentry or demolition work? The same effect is at work at the moment the garbage truck first lifts the dumpster and this is the single point in most concrete parking lots where I see problems occur.

If everything else is built right, then you should be able to promote a long-lasting concrete parking lot typical of most of fast-food establishments and shopping centers. And building them right is what I will discuss next time...

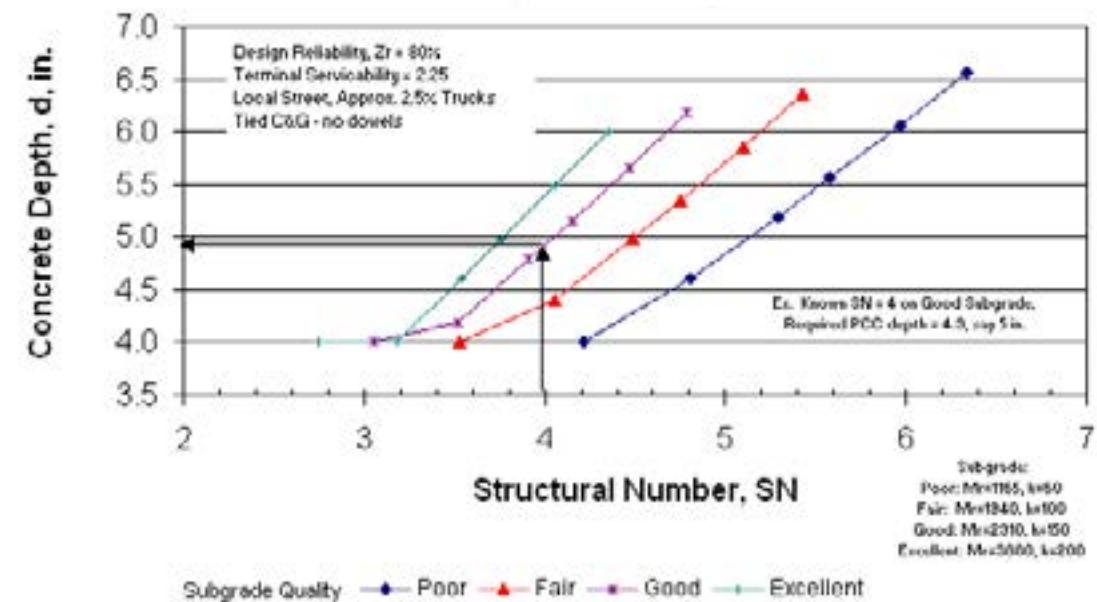
$$S.N. = a_1 * t_1 + a_2 * t_2 + a_3 * t_3 \dots$$



Calculation of the structural number for a proposed asphalt section.

(What's Equal continued from page 12)

### Structural Number vs. Concrete Thickness Mean 28-Day s'c = 750 psi



This nomograph allows you to determine the equivalent concrete section given a computed structural number for an existing asphalt section based on the 1993 AASHTO "Guide for Design of Pavement Structures" and is appropriate for use in automobile traffic loadings.

Randell Riley is an Engineering Consultant for the Illinois Chapter – ACPA, Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association and the Great Lakes Cement Promotion Association. He is actively involved in the day to day promotion of long-life quality concrete pavements. He can be reached at 217-793-4933 or on the Internet at pccman@InsightBB.com.

## Highways Fully Funded At \$31.8 Billion, \$8.5 Billion Cut Averted

Insert Barnes Industrial Full Page Advertisement

In an extraordinary victory for highway advocates, the conference report for the 2003 omnibus bill sets highway spending at \$31.8 billion. Barring any last minute glitches, the bill will be passed by the House and Senate and signed by President Bush before President's day. In February 2002, the fiscal year 2003 President's Budget proposal recommended a 27% cut in highway spending - to \$23.3 billion. Noting the \$18 billion cash balance in the Highway Trust Fund, highway advocates in the House and Senate pulled together to demand a restoration of funding. A full restoration seemed nearly impossible, as House Appropriators voted only to fund highways at \$27.7 billion, the budgetary baseline levels set for 2003 when the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) was enacted in 1998. However, over the course of TEA 21 funding consistently rose higher than baseline levels due to an automatic revenue calculation that increased highway spending in line with increased Highway Trust Fund revenues. By 2002, funding reached \$31.8 billion, \$4.5 billion higher than projected only four years earlier.

Enactment of the omnibus bill completes a long and contentious process to set 2003 funding levels for most federal government programs. Last year, the House and senate could not agree on a budget. Without a budget in place, the appropriations process was doomed to failure. Since October, as series of continuing resolutions were passed to keep the government operating at 2002 levels. Congress adjourned at the end of the calendar year without passing 11 of the 13 appropriations bills.

Appropriators in the new 108th Congress decided to combine all eleven unfinished bills into a single omnibus bill that would finalized funding levels. The Senate agreed to set highway funding at \$31.8 billion but many expected the House to demand the levels they agreed to in the 107th Congress, \$27.7 billion. Many observers expected a compromise at levels in between. However, an intense lobbying effort convinced a majority of conferees to support the Senate-proposed funding level and an agreement was reached to fully restore highway funding.

This article was originally published in Volume 7, Issue 105 of The Rules Of The Road and is reprinted here with permission of the American Highway Users Alliance.

**LEHIGH**  
HEIDELBERGCEMENT Group

**Lehigh Cement  
Company**

*For All Your Standard and Specialty Cement  
Needs*

*Central Sales Region*  
12800 N. Meridian St., Suite 480  
Carmel, IN 46032  
[www.lehighcement.com](http://www.lehighcement.com)

Phone: (317) 819-1600 / (800) 468-6211  
Fax: (317) 819-1605

*"Working Together To Build Our Communities"*

### Advertise in the IRMCA News

Take advantage of our low advertising costs  
and wide distribution.

Classified: \$20  
Business card: \$36  
1/4 page: \$56  
1/2 page: \$94  
Full page: \$150

\*Add an additional \$9 if your advertisement contains photos\*

- √ Send ad copy to [jbedell@irmca.org](mailto:jbedell@irmca.org)
- √ Send full payment to:  
IRMCA  
211 Landmark Drive, Suite D-5B  
Normal, Illinois 61761
- √ For additional information call 1-800-235-4055

**Submission deadline for next issue: May 16, 2003**



# Environmental/Safety Workshops

View and take home the new Concrete Construction Safety video in which IRMCA played a major role—a great driver training tool.

Be among the first to view and use the new Drivers Training Manual which has been developed as a joint effort between IRMCA and NIRMMA. Take home a copy of the manual on a CD that will allow you to customize the manual for your company's needs.

Ever wonder how a good safety program and record affects your insurance costs? Hear the surprising answers.

Storm Water Permits expire May 31, 2003! Come and learn how to complete the form, provide all the information EPA requires, and have it in on time.

The new Air Emissions Report is due May 1, 2003. There are changes of which you must be aware. Bring your form and fill it out.

Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasures (SPCC)—is this EPA's latest "hot button"? Learn what you should do to be in compliance.

A must for all producers; plan now to attend!  
4-1-03 in Springfield and 4-3-03 in DeKalb

## Summer Meeting, June 13 & 14, 2003

Eagle Ridge Resort  
Galena, Illinois



Beautiful resort offers:

Golf  
Hiking trails  
Spa  
Shopping  
Water activities  
Horseback riding  
Bike riding  
Tennis  
Hot air balloons  
Much more...