

January 20, 2010

CRSI / NRMCA / PCA / PCI / PTI to Host the 2010 Structural Professors' Workshops

The 19th annual Buildings workshop is scheduled for August 2-4, 2010, and the 12th annual Bridges workshop for August 5-6, 2010. Both events will be held at the Portland Cement Association's headquarters in Skokie, Illinois. These informative workshops provide a forum in which the latest concrete industry developments are presented to university professors in civil, structural, architectural, and construction engineering. As in past years, there is no workshop registration fee.

National sponsors include: Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI), the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA), the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI), the Post-Tensioning Institute (PTI), and the Portland Cement Association (PCA.) The sponsors provide the speakers, teaching materials, and complimentary publications. They also sponsor networking events such as receptions, dinners, and daily luncheons during this event.

Participating professors are sponsored by local concrete industry groups from the US. Such groups include: Regional Cement and Concrete Promotion Groups, State Ready Mixed Concrete Associations, CRSI Chapters, and PCI Regional Associations. These groups cover the professors' travel, lodging, and meal expenses. Professors are usually reimbursed for all of their travel expenses by the local concrete promotion groups. Sometimes budget may allow only partial reimbursement of expenses. That is why professors interested in one or both workshops should consider applying ASAP.

In order to maintain a proper educational setting and to provide for meaningful interchange of ideas, attendance is limited to 32 professors per workshop, on a first come, first served basis.

1. Engineering and Economics of Concrete Buildings (August 2-4, 2010)

Up-to-date information on the design and construction of concrete buildings is provided so that participants can significantly enhance their concrete design courses. Economic and sustainable aspects of design and construction are pointed out. Other topics include teaching the fundamentals of structural concrete design, unified design provisions for flexure and axial loads in structural concrete members, seismic details for concrete buildings, strut-and-tie, and an overview of codes and standards. Changes introduced in ACI 318-08 will be discussed.

Participant's forums and open discussions enable those in attendance to discuss points of interest in teaching design of concrete buildings. Each attendee receives handout materials provided by the speakers and numerous publications related to the workshop topics.

2. Design of Concrete Bridges by the AASHTO LRFD (August 5-6, 2010)

Structural concrete design courses at universities focus on proportioning and detailing of building components by the ACI 318 Building Code. The concrete bridge design workshop

focuses on the AASHTO Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) Bridge Design Specifications. These are reliability-based specifications and have introduced new concepts for proportioning of concrete bridge members. The AASHTO LRFD concrete design provisions are significantly different than those of the ACI 318 Building Code.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide professors with background information and tools to facilitate teaching new concepts introduced in the LRFD bridge design specifications and current practice. They include, but are not limited to, bridge deck design, girder design (including shear design methods), substructure design, and bridge construction.

Each professor receives a participant notebook with copies of all slides, design examples, and a CD-ROM containing PowerPoint files of most presentations and design examples. These materials are provided to the participants to facilitate starting a new concrete bridge design course, or improving on an existing one. Professors are also encouraged to contact their state Department of Transportation and offer to bring them up to speed with the LRFD provisions.

For information on either of these annual workshops, please contact Caron Johnsen at the Portland Cement Association, 5420 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077, (847) 972-9058, E-mail: cjohnsen@cement.org or Basile Rabbat at (847) 972-9062, e-mail: brabbat@cement.org.