



# eNewsletter

Fall 2013

October 25, 2013

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### OPCA Board

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- Vice President  
Tim Gahm
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- Trustee  
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## OPCA To Exhibit at Ohio Contractors Association

According to the Code of Regulations, one of the missions of the OPCA is to promote the use of Precast Concrete Products (OPCA CR 2013, Article II(4)).

It is exciting to announce that during a board meeting on October 1, 2013, the board approved a budget to develop trade show booth collateral. The association will exhibit on December 2, 2013 at the Ohio Contractors Association meeting in Columbus.

Frank Palas and Sam Lines will attend the conference as the Co-Executive Directors of the OPCA. The booth will feature a backstop with a map of Ohio showing the location of all Producer Members.

Surrounding the map in the center will be photos from precast installations. Producer member information will be provided to guests who visit the booth.

The members of the Board will be visiting each Producer Member in the very near future to collect materials to be handed out. Each Producer can provide a one page sales sheet and up to 200 business cards.

Materials can be mailed to:

OPCA  
 PO Box 24  
 New Carlisle, OH 45344  
 C/O: Sam Lines

Please send materials no later than November 20, 2013 to provide enough time for mail delivery.

### Code of Regulations Revised

On October 1, 2013, the Board of Directors drafted a revised version of the Code of Regulations for the Ohio Precast Concrete Association. Producer Members must approve them by a two-thirds margin for them to be adopted.

Members will receive a ballot package by the end of November. A copy of the revised CR is included with notes shown marking the elements changed. All producer members are urged to provide a ballot response as soon as possible.

### OPCA Annual Conference Date Set

Our 2014 Annual Conference will be held in Columbus, OH on March 17-18.

## New Medical Certification Requirements: A Guide for CDL Holders (Federal Regulations)

Starting Jan. 30, 2012, and no later than Jan. 30, 2014, all CDL holders must provide information to their state driver's license agency (SDLA) regarding the type of commercial motor vehicle operation they drive in or expect to drive in with their CDL.

Drivers operating in certain types of commerce will be required to

submit a current medical examiner's certificate to their SDLA to obtain a "certified" medical status as part of their driving record. CDL holders required to have a "certified" medical status who fail to provide and keep up-to-date their medical examiner's certificate with their SDLA will become "not-certified" and they may lose their CDL.

Visit the following link and click on the "Medical Certification" tab. There are several links and one says "State by State Instructions for Submitting Medical Certificate" for details on how to comply in your state.

<http://www.aamva.org/CDL-Program/>

**"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."  
~ Ben Franklin**

## Tech Talk...Kelly's Concrete Dissolver

*By Wally Swiger*

A non-destructive cleaner using a molecular cement dissolver for removing dry hardened concrete from tools, mandrels, mixers, drains and even electrical conduits.

Using an active ingredient found in sugar cane syrup the product is not hazardous to equipment or workers. The detergent base utilizes unique green surfactants that are readily biodegradable and quickly break down into non-polluting compounds. It does not produce any fumes or odors and or contain muriatic, hydrofluoric, sulfuric or phosphoric acids. This allows it to be listed as approved with a Positive Environmental Profile on EPA design for the Environment Formulators Initiative (DFI) Safer Detergents Stewardship Initiative (SDSI).

The effects of sugar on concrete have been known for many years. In some parts of the world sugar is still commonly used to retard

the set of mortar and other cementations products." Sugar affects both fresh and hardened concrete. Dry sugar has no effect on hardened concrete, but sugar solutions can be very corrosive". This vulnerability has been turned into an opportunity to safely remove hardened concrete from a variety of surfaces that are otherwise difficult to clean. By molecularly attacking the Portland in cement it completely dissolves the hardened molecular structure back into rinseable mud. It actually breaks down the ionic bond in Portland cement, releasing the cement from any surface to which it has adhered. Chemically speaking, it converts the positive ions in the hardened matrix into negative ions and then dissolves the cement into a mud that can easily be rinsed away. Nor does not break down after continued use, so as long as liquid remains it will keep on dissolving concrete.

Application and use are relatively simple. The dry hardened concrete is saturated using a brush or spraying. Saturate again in 15 minutes. The concrete typically begins to soften in 20 to 30 minutes, at which point it should be rinsed off with water. Repeat applications can be used to remove thicker applications. Use the product undiluted because it works chemically, rather than mechanically to remove cured concrete from virtually any surface.

It is non - regulated by DOT (CFR49 (Sec.173.24) and because it is biodegradable meets ASTM: E1720-01 and being Non-Corrosive meets ASTM: G-31.

**Wally Swiger is a Sales  
Manager for A-Lok Products, Inc.**

# Hazard Communication Standard Final Rule

**New changes** to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Hazard Communication Standard are bringing the United States into alignment with the **Globally Harmonized System** of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), further improving safety and health protections for America's workers. Building on the success of OSHA's current Hazard Communication Standard, the GHS is expected to prevent injuries and illnesses, save lives and improve trade conditions for chemical manufacturers. The Hazard Communication Standard in 1983 gave the workers the 'right to know,' but the new Globally Harmonized System gives workers the 'right to understand.'

## Major changes to the Hazard Communication Standard:

- **Hazard classification:** Chemical manufacturers and importers are required to determine the hazards of the chemicals they produce or import. Hazard classification under the new, updated standard provides specific criteria to address health and physical hazards as well as classification of chemical mixtures.
- **Labels:** Chemical manufacturers and importers must provide a label that includes a signal word, pictogram, hazard statement, and precautionary statement for each hazard class and category.
- **Safety Data Sheets:** The new format requires 16 specific sections, ensuring consistency in presentation of important protection information.
- **Information and training:** To facilitate understanding of the new system, the new standard requires that workers be trained by December 1, 2013 on the new label elements and safety data sheet format, in addition to the current training requirements.

## What you need to do and when:

- **Chemical users:** Continue to update safety data sheets when new ones become available, provide training on the new label elements and update hazard communication programs if new hazards are identified.
- **Chemical Producers:** Review hazard information for all chemicals produced or imported, classify chemicals according to the new classification criteria, and update labels and safety data sheets.

Effective Completion Date	Requirement(s)	Who
December 1, 2013	<b>Train employees on the new label elements and SDS format.</b>	<b>Employers</b>
June 1, 2015*	Comply with all modified provisions of this final rule, except:	Chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers
December 1, 2015	Distributors may ship products labeled by manufacturers under the old system until December 1, 2015.	
June 1, 2016	<b>Update alternative workplace labeling and hazard communication program as necessary, and provide additional employee training for newly identified physical or health</b>	<b>Employers</b>
Transition Period	Comply with either 29 CFR 1910.1200 (this final standard), or the current standard, or both.	All chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers

See the full list at <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/HCSFactsheet.html>

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**OUR PURPOSE**

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association (OPCA) is a group of producer members and associated industries cooperating together as an association. The intent being to bring pertinent issues and information that impact the Precast Concrete Industry, to the attention of government agencies which participate in the origination of these issues.

The OPCA is interested in assisting these agencies by providing expert advice and counsel in the development of regulations involving the industry and the general public.

The OPCA producer and associate members whose products and services range from the construction of buildings and highways to the manufacture of precast concrete products for the treatment of commercial and residential waste water. The OPCA member products and services affect the lives of nearly every Ohioan on a daily basis.

Some specific areas of interest being pursued by the OPCA are as follows:

The introduction of new sewage guidelines relating to the specific construction and operation of home waste water treatment products (septic tanks, aerators, etc.) by the Ohio department of health and the Ohio EPA.

The introduction of programs and policies relating to the testing of materials and products being used on Ohio Department of Transportation projects.

The development of quality control procedures and inspections services training by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association will be expanding its' scope of interest as membership roles grow and diversify. The need for input, regarding issues and regulations which effect the large segment of the public which it serves, comes to the forefront.

# OPCA Member Companies

**PRODUCER MEMBERS**

- E.C. Babbert, Inc.
- Everly Concrete Products, Inc.
- Hanson Pipe and Precast
- J.K. Precast, LLC
- Lindsay Concrete Products
- Mack Industries
- Norwalk Concrete Industries
- Premier Precast Products
- Quaker City Septic Tanks, LLC
- Scioto Valley Precast
- Sickels Septic Tanks, Inc.
- Spoerr Precast Concrete, Inc.

- Stiger Precast, Inc.
- Uniontown Septic Tank, Inc.
- United Precast, Inc.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

- A-lok Products, Inc.
- A.L. Patterson, Inc.
- Blackthorn, LLC
- Champion Pump Company
- Concrete Sealants, Inc.
- EJ, Inc.
- Engineered Wire Products, Inc.
- Euclid Chemical
- Hamilton Kent, LLC

- Infiltrator Systems, Inc.
- Jet, Inc.
- Mixer Systems, Inc.
- Ohio Electric Control, Inc.
- Polylok, Inc. / Zabel Environmental
- Premiere Concrete Admixtures, LLC
- Sika Corporation
- St. Mary's Cement
- Tuf-Tite, Inc.
- W.P. Hilts & Company