



eNewsletter

Winter 2014

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2014 OPCA Conference

Registration is open, and members can attend this year for \$25 per person when they register by March 1, 2014. This includes lunch on Tuesday. OPCA members can exhibit at the show for \$295 and this includes registration for two individuals. See you in Columbus in March!

One of the presenters this year will be G. Kent Mangelson from the American Society for Asset Protection. His presentation will explain how precasters can save thousands in takes and become invincible to lawsuits. See a preview [HERE](#).

We hope to have a representative from the Ohio Department of Transportation present on key issues related to doing business with ODOT. An overview of the latest regulations from the Ohio Department of Health concerning

Septic Tanks will be provided. Back again this year also will be a series of short presentation from the show sponsors/exhibitors.

The conference will be held March 17-18 at the Embassy Suites North in Columbus.

For additional information, please contact the OPCA by email at info@ohioprecast.org.

Registration form is available [HERE](#).

CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

The OPCA mailing address has changed. A new secure mailbox has been installed at the office of Executive Director Sam Lines. Mail will now be delivered to this location. The new address is: 9325 SR 201, Tipp City, OH 45371.

2014 Membership Renewal Time

Being a member of the Ohio Precast Concrete Association has many valuable benefits. First of all, member companies treat each other as friends, even though there is market competition for sales. Friends look out for the best interest of the group. Some producer members devote many non-billable hours in service to their fellow precasters. This effort has helped maintain the interests of precast concrete septic tanks throughout the development of the new sewage regulations.

Another value of membership is the strength in numbers that comes with association. If there is an issue that affects precast concrete, one plant may not have the leverage to influence decisions. But, as an association of manufacturers, the OPCA can and does use its strength in numbers to affect decisions at the local, state, and national levels.

Email us at info@ohioprecast.org for membership information.

OPCA Attends Ohio Contractor Conference

The OPCA Board of Directors approved the allocation of resources to promote the Ohio Precast Concrete Association at local industry shows. The pilot show was the Ohio Contractors Association meeting in Columbus on December 2-3. The association was represented by Executive Directors Frank Palas and Sam Lines.

Exhibiting required the design and creation of a table top display. Several members provided photos of products, and Associate Trustee Jesse Wingert designed the collateral for the display. These resources can continue to be used for future trade shows. If you have any suggestions for shows OPCA should consider, email us at info@ohioprecast.org



**"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more,
do more and become more, you are a leader."**

— John Quincy Adams

Tech Talk...How do I do that?

Determination of Aggregate Correction Factor

One requirement of ASTM C231 for calculation of air content in fresh concrete is the determination of the aggregate correction factor. In discussing this with precast plants, I often find that personnel are not familiar with this requirement. In this tech talk, I will briefly describe the procedure. For a full description of the process, see ASTM C231, section 6.

1. The aggregate correction factor is determined by applying the calibrated pressure to a sample of inundated fine and coarse aggregate in approximately the same moisture condition, amount, and proportions occurring in the concrete sample under the test.

2. Calculate the sample weights of the fine and coarse aggregate as follows:

$$F_s = (S/B) \times F_b$$

$$C_s = (S/B) \times C_b$$

Where:

F_s = weight of fine aggregate in concrete test sample, lb (kg)

S = volume of measuring bowl, ft³ (m³)

B = volume of concrete produced per batch, ft³ (m³)

F_b = weight of fine aggregate in the moisture condition used in batch, lb (kg)

C_s = weight of coarse aggregate in concrete sample under test, lb (kg)

C_b = weight of coarse aggregate in the moisture condition used in batch, lb (kg).

3. Mix representative samples of the coarse and fine aggregate, and place in a measuring bowl one-third full of water. Add the mixed aggregate to the bowl, introducing each scoopful in a manner which minimizes entrapped air. If necessary, add additional water to inundate the aggregate. Stir, rod and tap the sides of the bowl to eliminate entrapped air.

4. Soak the aggregate for a time period approximately equal to the amount of time between the introduction of the water into the mixer and the time of performing the test for air content.

5. For Type B air meters, perform the procedure described in 8.3.1 of ASTM

C231. Remove a volume of water approximately equivalent to the typical air content expected in the concrete. (Use the procedure in Appendix A1.9 of ASTM C231) Complete the test as described in 8.3.2 of the same standard. The aggregate correction factor is equal to the reading on the air content gauge minus the volume of water removed from the measuring bowl. The result will be expressed as a percentage.

Example:

Air meter reading = 6.5%

Volume of water remove is equivalent to 6% air content

$$6.5\% - 6\% = 0.5\%$$

The aggregate correction factor for this aggregate is 0.5%.

The aggregate correction factor may vary for different aggregates. Recheck the reading as necessary.

Excerpted from ASTM C231-10 and language from KSDOT.

Did you know: The tensile strength of concrete is approximately 1/10th the compressive strength.

Safety Tool: Job Hazard Analysis

You have safety policies in your facility to protect your employees. OSHA requires that you identify the hazards in the workplace and develop a plan to prevent injuries or illnesses as a result of these hazards. This plan is referred to as the **Job Hazard Analysis**.

The job hazard analysis (JHA) may be known to you by other names, but the purposes are all the same. The goal of a JHA is to identify each operation in the workplace, analyze the hazards associated with the operation, and then plan a countermeasure. OSHA, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, requires that the countermeasures follow a particular priority order.

Engineer it Out

First, if the hazard can be eliminated from the process, then this must be the first countermeasure. One method of doing this may be to redesign the product being produced. The installation of advanced machinery that eliminates exposure is another way to engineer the

hazard out. Sometimes this procedure is the most costly and can take a longer time to implement.

Administrative Controls

The second countermeasure is called administrative controls. These are rules and



policies established by management to explain how work is to be performed in a manner which should prevent an injury or illness from occurring. These policies and procedures require management support and supervision. When necessary, a consistent disciplinary procedure needs to be available when employees fail to follow the guidelines.

Personal Protective Equipment

After applying the previous two steps of hazard controls, the final component is to provide personal protective equipment (PPE). PPE is more than supplying hardhats, gloves, and safety glasses. It

also includes the training on how they are used. It includes instructions to the employees on the proper use and care of the equipment. In the case of a respirator, it requires a medical evaluation.

While OSHA mandates that the three countermeasures be applied in this order, it does not prohibit the use of all three controls together. The machine might be redesigned as an automated operation. Policies on the proper use, including safety, might be developed and on hand. And, management may additionally require that all employees in the area wear PPE such as safety glasses.

For more information on what might be found in a Job Hazard Analysis, check out the resources available from OSHA at www.osha.gov. Another source for tools and procedures is Ohio is the Ohio Bureau of Worker's compensation. For a link directly to these tools, click on the links below:

[OSHA](#)

[OhioBWC](#)

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We're on the web!
www.ohioprecast.org

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 Precast
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 Results, Inc.
Concrete Sealants, Inc.
EJ USA, Inc.
Engineered Wire Products, Inc.
Essroc Cement Co.
Euclid Chemical
Gotham Staple Co., Inc.

Hamilton Kent, LLC

Hill and Griffith Company

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