

Pennsylvania Precast Association

Membership Meeting

March 11, 2020

Welcome

Self-Introductions and Anti-Trust Reminder

Minutes were approved from January 2020 meeting

Quality Assurance / PENNDOT Topics

We reviewed on-going quality assurance items

- Silica Sand Exposure plans -
- Stock Items - "sell by" date 5 years/ FIFO
- Spotted Lantern Fly Permits req'd
- Clearance Transmittals
- Pub 408 updates -
- Changes to Pub 145 -
- Buy American/ PA Act 3
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- We requested an update from PennDOT on the progress of getting to electronic certificate of Compliance for precast products (CS4171 and 4171S forms, etc.)
- Can we get access to electronic portal for precast suppliers to upload job specific material certifications which would be accessible by the department contractor, etc.
- This will eliminate providing paper copies to trucking companies and their drivers and the mysterious absence of these certs upon arrival to the job site

- Discussion over the state prison system starting a pilot precast plant at the Houtzdale prison to fabricate precast items for PennDOT projects using prisoners /laborers. They are planning to start with small products at this point. The industry has concerns that they would be competing against certified producers with virtually free labor. Prison management and corrections officers also have concerns about this program.

ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT

Sandra Palone representing Cresset Chemical gave an update on their products and services.

Associate spotlights for the remaining 2020 meetings are all available. See Monica for more information and to reserve a date.

Membership and Marketing

- We are looking for new members!
- Please review your vendors and associates that are not involved. Send MS info of someone that may benefit from PPA membership.

- Update your email addresses or your firm and review web site to update contacts and company information
- Producer list of products needs updating – send MS any changes

MS provided a list of NPCA members (precast manufacturers and suppliers) in the PA area who are not members of PPA. If you work with or are in contact with any please ask them to join or attend a meeting to find out more about our association.

Industry Issues

Nyoplast/ADS and other plastic products are infiltrating our traditional markets of precast catch basins, manholes, septic tanks, etc. in addition to pipe. PPA has discussed this with NPCA national at the affiliates meeting to see if they had any help with proactive marketing response.

PPA is working on understanding the issues behind the selection of plastic – water tight systems, water stops, installation challenges, how to reach specifiers, etc.

Executive Director Report

- MS requested images and product information for updated web site content and e-newsletter and project profiles. Please send project info and photos to info@paprecast.org.
- If you are not receiving the PPA electronic newsletter, please let MS know to be added to the mailing list.
- Please review your company/personal contact info on the web site and send MS any updates.

Other Items

- Slate of officers for 2020 was approved at last meeting
- 2020 PPA Executive Committee
 - Immediate Past President = Todd Monahan, Airmatic, Inc.
 - President = Philip Lapp, Faddis Concrete Products
 - Vice-President= Rick Amlin, Delta Engineers
 - Treasurer= Nadine Brennan, Faddis Concrete Products
 - Secretary= Mike Buchan, AC Miller Concrete

Other Items for discussion/ brainstorming session

Each table brainstormed issues regarding the infiltration of plastic/composite materials encroaching our market. Specifically how to deal with Nyopolast (ADS) and their promotion of plastic manholes, catch basins, septic tanks, etc.

- ✓ Much of the discussion focused on proactive response.
- ✓ Make sure we understand the important issues – everyone wants watertight systems
- ✓ Maximize the NPCA promotional efforts in Wastewater magazine ads.
- ✓ Best ways to reach specifiers
- ✓ Is there a standard spec from NPCA?
- ✓ How do we combat the tendency toward bottom line/ cheapest solution?
- ✓ What does ACOE specify?
- ✓ Promote that lined manholes are best of both products?

PRECAST CONCRETE

- Installation familiar
- Weight of concrete
- Concrete is safer for the environment
- Concrete has greater longevity
- Concrete has better structural integrity / strength
- No issue with UV Exposure
- Septic tanks
- Better quality control NPCA certified; R&D research into H2S corrosion; promote green concrete versus petroleum based; promotional advertising; flotation added cost.
- Can handle deeper fill conditions
- Direct wheel loads
- Wide range of sizes for catch basins
- Widely available from multiple manufacturers
- Issues with water stops
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PLASTIC/ ADS/

- Plastic has shorter shelf life
- Plastic is not environmentally friendly
- Petroleum based products –resources have cost fluctuations
- Fire hazard? Melts
- Flotation/ buoyancy issues
- Direct wheel load??
- Do petroleum products affect drinking water /possible health effects?
- Greater liability for incorrect installation
- What is deterioration rate of plastic?
- No proven track record for water distribution
- Range of sizes? Minimums?
- Nyoplast inlets/MH/Catch basins require much higher degree of oversight for proper installation
- Structural integrity of plastic contingent on backfill – not only process but quality material
- Lightweight/ easy to install
- Completely watertight system

- PPA will start by leveraging existing NPCA programs for our use in Pennsylvania. To make more customers aware of precast – we will let them know about the specifier

webinars held by NPCA. There will also be another Precast Day event in October of this year, similar to last year.

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- Please contact MS with any additional suggestions, photos, projects and ideas that we can use in the development of these presentations.
- It was suggested to promote the NPCA Foundation and their scholarships available. Precasters are willing to sponsor students.

Review of Recent Financials:

- PPA current balance sheet total (as of February 29, 2020)= \$ 54,532
- MS will send out second reminders for outstanding dues.

Key Dates

PPA Meeting Dates for 2020:

May 6, 2020 ** (depending on Corona Virus closings)

September 9, 2020

November 4, 2020

NPCA Convention 2020: October 15-17, Amelia Island, FL