

Bob James
Director of Marketing and Technical Standards
Texas Aggregates and Concrete Association
900 Congress Avenue, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78701
512.451.5100



Future Events:

July 2007

Pervious Concrete
Contractor Certification
Dallas area
More details to come...

General Information

The Marketing and Technical Standards department continues to field numerous inquiries from contractors and the general public regarding locations of aggregate and concrete suppliers throughout the state. A website location tool will be featured on the new and upcoming TACA website that will assist the members, public and staff in providing the location and contact information of suppliers throughout Texas.

Continued contacts with TxDOT districts have included the following additional districts: Lubbock, Bryan, Laredo, Houston and Beaumont. Discussions are focusing primarily on aggregate quality for bases, asphalt and concrete mixes. Alkali-silica reactivity and local methods of mitigation are also being discussed. All districts have expressed interest in industry wide training venues focusing on topics such as soils, asphalt and concrete pavement material developments and pavement construction methods. TACA will seek additional opportunities with Texas Asphalt Paving Association, Cement Council of Texas and Texas Concrete Paving Association to provide these venues.

Special Activities

Pervious Concrete Design Seminar- Austin

On February 22, 2007, NRMCA and Land Breakthroughs, a landscape architectural group, presented the regional Pervious Concrete Design and Construction Seminar at the Norris Conference Center in Austin, TX. This seminar targeted building owners, architects, engineers, and code officials. TACA was a partner sponsor of the event and coordinated a pervious concrete placement demonstration at Custom Crete, Inc., a TACA member company. Twenty-one specifiers and industry personnel from Dallas, Austin, San Antonio and other locations completed the 8 hour course designed to provide in-depth understanding of pervious concrete design, construction and application. Custom Crete personnel, Bill Heath and Jerry Gaubert, spearheaded an outstanding demonstration of pervious concrete mixes and placement at their South Austin location. Also, Marvin Bragewitz with Euclid Chemical provided significant material support, mix design assistance and expertise throughout the planning and completion of this placement.

Huitt-Zollars- Fort Worth

Thirteen local engineers and one architect gathered in the Fort Worth office of Huitt-Zollars to discuss pervious concrete and potential applications for their North Texas clients. Bob James presented a full-hour discussion over lunch on specification, design and construction of pervious concrete.

Concrete Pavement Work Group- San Antonio

The Concrete Pavement Work Group consisting of representatives from TACA, Texas Concrete Pavement Association (TCPA), Cement Council of Texas (CCT), TxDOT, Texas A & M and the University of Texas met in San Antonio to continue the development of topics and areas of work regarding Concrete Pavements for Texas roads. The contractor training course, Integrated Materials and Construction Practices, was discussed and further detail plans were developed. Fine Aggregate durability and pavement noise research were also discussed as priority issues for Texas pavements.

Red Group Development- Dallas

NRMCA National Resource Director, Vance Pool, and TACA Director of Marketing and Technical Standards, Bob James, met with 3 principals from Red Group Development regarding residential development and sustainability applications. Pool discussed various ways of incorporating Green Building methods into residential developments as well as integrating correlating marketing schemes to accentuate a developer's plan. James discussed pervious concrete and its history and use in Texas to date, including the NRMCA Certified Pervious Contractor program that TACA is administrating in Texas. Red Group Development is involved in residential development in Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona and Colorado.

ACPA Winter Meeting- San Antonio

Director of Marketing and Technical Standards Bob James attended the American Concrete Paving Association's Winter Meeting that featured topics regarding Subbases and Subgrades and their relation to Long Term Pavement Performance (LTPP), and Noise/Surface Characteristics of Pavements. James received the current draft of the Subbases and Subgrades report that is under development by ACPA and will be released in the future.

International Center for Aggregate Research Symposium - Austin



Bob James attended the 2007 ICAR Symposium in Austin, TX at the

Hyatt Regency on May 9-12. This symposium featured a number of topics including density and angularity testing of aggregates, shape and size of microfines in aggregates, unbound aggregate bases, use of blended aggregates, effects of natural coarse aggregate coatings and the effects of decantation on TxDOT structures. This technical forum was fast paced and representative of much of the technical issues regarding aggregates in today's markets.

TACA Short Course - Lakeway Resort, Austin

Highlighting the Annual TACA Short Course were presentations and panels featuring technical topics on Aggregates Quality Testing and Optimized Gradations for Concrete. Caroline Herrera of TxDOT, Harry Bush of Vulcan Materials and Dr. David Fowler, of the International Center for Aggregate Research specifically referenced the Micro-Deval test as a pre-test for soundness testing.

In the concrete technical arena, Optimized Gradation development was presented by Dr. Karthik Obla, Senior Director of Research and Materials Testing of NRMCA, Dr. Rich Szecsy, Vice-President for New Product Development and Risk Management of Lattimore Materials, Ryan Barborak of TxDOT, and Dennis Warren of Texas Concrete Pavers Association. Each of these panels were insightful and received excellent comments from attendees.



Dr. Erin Ashley joined TACA at Short Course to present "Statewide Building Codes: What They Mean for Texas and What They Mean for You". Her presentation took an informative look at the impacts statewide building codes can have for all TACA producer companies. Ashley's presentation provided an insight into other code development efforts across the US and how Texas can achieve similar levels of use.

All of these topics are outstanding and relevant topics for our membership and industry today.

CPA Software Training Lattimore Materials Company- McKinney

On March 28, 2007, Bob James provided training and software CD's for 16 sales and marketing personnel at Lattimore



Materials in McKinney. A comprehensive presentation reviewed the use of the software for designing concrete pavements utilizing ACI330. Personnel attending the training received the NRMCA Concrete Pavement Analyst Software CD as well as practical instruction on the integration of the software with their customer base.

Innovations in Pavement Maintenance & Construction Seminar

On March 30, 2007, Bob James attended the Innovations in Pavement Maintenance & Construction seminar presented by Cement Council of Texas (CCT). Topics moderated by Matt Singel, Soil Cement and RCC Engineer, included Reducing Construction Time, Building Strong & Stable Road Bases, Addressing High PI Soils (Clays), Recognizing & Understanding Sulfates, Stretching Maintenance Budgets, Providing Long-Term Solutions, Quickly Reopening Roads to Traffic and Reusing Existing Materials. There was excellent discussion and attendance by many city and state specifiers.

Texas Aggregate and Concrete Association

900 Congress Avenue
Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78701

PHONE:
512.451.5100

FAX:
512.451.4162

We're on the Web!
<http://www.tx-taca.org>

NRMCA Pervious Contractor Certification- Georgetown

TACA held its first Pervious Contractor Certification program, April 18, 2007 in Georgetown and boasts a great attendance of 19 registrants. Each of the participants achieved certification following technical presentations on development, design and construction of pervious concrete pavements.

Marvin Bragewitz of Euclid Chemical, Patrick Brown of CEMEX, and Bob James of TACA were presenters. An excellent placement demonstration was coordinated and placed by Custom Crete, Inc. personnel Bill Heath and Jerry Gaubert. Bill and Jerry have invested countless hours over the last several months in assisting the Pervious Concrete Certification Committee with certifications and specifier training. Custom Crete has constructed pervious demonstration pavements at both their Georgetown and Austin plant locations for promotional use by TACA.



Concrete Pavement Work Group- Austin

The CPWG group including Jeff Seiders of TxDOT met in Austin April 19th to finalize plans for the Integrated Materials and Construction Practices seminar. Details were reviewed and a pre-registered attendance of 55 is anticipated. The seminar will be held at the Ellison Geotechnical Institute on the campus of Brookhaven College in Carrollton. Lisa Lukefahr of TxDOT, Jum Mack of CCT, Dennis Warren of TCPA, Moon Won of UT, Andrew Wimsatt of Texas A & M and Bob James of TACA are members of the CPWG. Jeff Seiders attended to offer TxDOT endorsement of the training and issues that this group is addressing.

University of North Texas Pervious Interest- Denton

Following an inquiry that originally went to NRMCA via their website and NRMCA's lead referral to a local promoter, Bob James met with Sharon Kirkpatrick of UNT to offer technical support regarding the application and design of pervious concrete for a parking lot being planned at UNT in Denton. Several support documents were shared with the university including the Hydrological Design Software that was developed jointly by NRMCA, PCA and the RMC Research Foundation. Other local promoters will be joining James in future meetings with the university as this project and others develop. The City of Denton has expressed interest in Pervious Concrete Development for Storm Water Management.

Future Event

Pervious Concrete Contractor Certification - July, 2007

The next certification class for contractors in Pervious Concrete will be held in the Dallas area near the end of July. Ramer Concrete has agreed to provide the demonstration placement and TXI will be supplying the concrete for this certification class. More details will be released soon regarding location, registration and speakers.

