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Future Events

Chat-n-Chew
1/16/08
Houston, TX

Accident Training
1/25-26/08
Houston, TX

*Pervious Concrete
Contractor
Certification*
1/29/08
San Antonio, TX
Details to come...

*Batchman
Certification*
2/08
McAllen, TX
Details to come...

Visit taca.org for
more information on
TACA events!

Granbury Audience Hears Concrete Message



Approximately 25 code officials, engineers, builders, developers and contractors were in attendance to receive technical information regarding fibers in concrete and street and parking lot design relative to life cycle costs on November 7th. Russ Collins, General Manager, North America, for Rich Fiber & Systems, a division of Continental Manufacturing, Ltd. and Bob James of TACA shared the podium at the invitation of Troy Rodgers, Ingram Enterprises, L.P., a division of U.S. Concrete.

Collins presented "Fiber-reinforced Concrete Pavements" with case study information from the TxDOT and the cities of Abilene, Bellaire and Sugar Land. James utilized the NRMCA Concrete Pavement Analyst software to present life cycle cost analysis for concrete pavements in parking lots or city streets.



City of Weatherford Considers Blended Fiber Concrete Pavements

James and Collins also met with Weatherford City Engineer Mike Walker and Ingram Enterprises personnel to discuss the use of blended poly and steel fibers for a city subdivision being developed in Weatherford. Ingram has involved the City of Abilene as a demonstration for Weatherford of some effective use of fibers in concrete pavements with excellent performance histories. Weatherford will continue evaluation of concrete pavement designs for city streets including blended fiber systems to incorporate into their pavement design standards.



TACA is proud to have Wenchi (Frank) Zhou representing Texas at the national level of NRMCA's High School Essay Contest.

Wenchi (Frank) Zhou: Texas representative for TACA/NRMCA 2007 High School Essay Contest

Participation has increased fourfold in this year's TACA Concrete Essay Contest. Over 130 essays were received for judging in the 2007 Contest. Out of those essays, Frank was chosen as the state winner with his essay, "Material X". TACA will award Frank a \$2500 college scholarship if he enrolls in an concrete-related curriculum or \$1000 if he enrolls in a curriculum of his choice. Frank's essay will be forwarded to the NRMCA for consideration at the national level by industry executives and college/university faculty members with concrete-related backgrounds.

The winner of the national contest will be flown, expenses paid, along with a parent or guardian, to NRMCA's 2008 convention in Las Vegas, Nevada in March. He or she will be selected from the winning state entries generated from high schools around the country. In addition to being NRMCA's guest at the convention and being introduced at the convention's awards session, the national winner will also receive a scholarship of \$5,000 if they enroll for freshman year in a concrete-related curriculum such as the Concrete Industry Management programs. Should the winner not choose to enroll in a concrete-related curriculum, he or she will receive a \$2,000 scholarship for the freshman year at the college of his or her choice.

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

City of Galveston Invites TACA to Present Pervious Concrete Technical Session

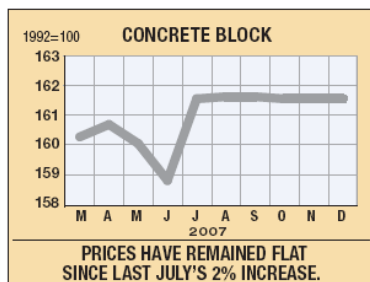
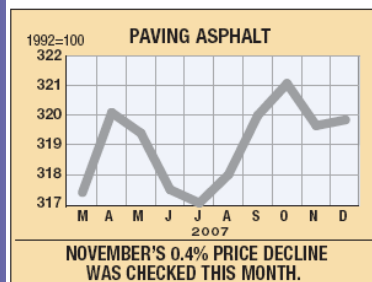
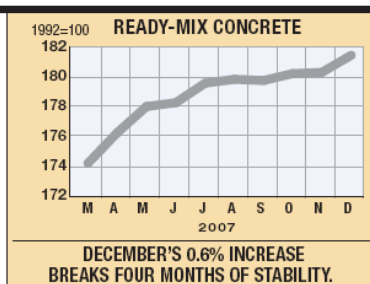
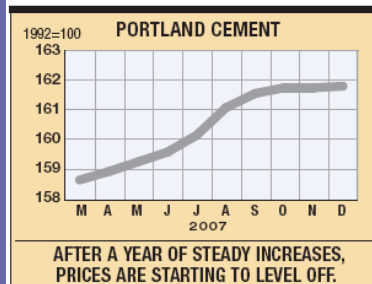


Galveston Assistant City Manager Brandon Wade invited TACA to present a technical update on pervious concrete to staff members and local consultants regarding applications, design and construction of pervious concrete pavements on November 27th. The original inquiry on pervious concrete originated with Planning Commission member, Chula Ross Sanchez. After discussion with Mr. Wade and TACA Director of Marketing and Technical Standards, Bob James, a four hour presenta-

tion was planned. Joining James were NRMCA National Resource Director Vance Pool and Sean Van DeList, Architectural Program Manager for Cement Council of Texas. Twenty nine persons were in attendance representing city departments including the fire department, storm water management, assets management, public works, engineering, planning and community development, island transit and parks and recreation. Following the presentation and discussion, Mr. Wade indicated a desire to implement pervious concrete where reasonable on the island and investigate providing credit for pervious cover toward impervious impact. TACA will be developing case studies for Galveston that will parallel comparable environmental conditions in Southeast US states such as Florida, Georgia and South Carolina.



ENR's Materials Price Indexes



SOURCE: MCGRAW-HILL CONSTRUCTION RESEARCH & ANALYTICS/ENR.

20-City Average

ITEM	UNIT	PRICE	% CHG. MO.	% CHG. YEAR
ASPHALT PAVING				
PG 58	ton	283.78	+0.1	-0.4
Cutback, MC800	ton	321.83	+0.1	+6.7
Emulsion, RAPID SET	ton	283.60	0.0	+8.5
SLOW SET	ton	275.11	+0.1	+5.8
PORTLAND CEMENT				
Type one	ton	101.22	0.0	+5.6
MASONRY CEMENT				
70-lb bag	bag	7.19	+0.2	+10.1
GRAVEL				
1 1/2" down to 3/4"	ton	10.13	0.0	-6.2
3/4" down to 3/8"	ton	10.31	0.0	-0.6
CRUSHED STONE				
Base course	ton	9.26	-0.5	+11.1
Concrete course	ton	9.62	+0.2	+12.5
Asphalt course	ton	9.88	+0.1	+11.2
SAND				
Concrete	ton	8.52	+0.4	+10.2
Masonry	ton	9.61	+0.5	+6.3
CONCRETE READY-MIX				
3,000 psi	cy	91.44	+0.6	+5.6
4,000 psi	cy	95.59	+0.8	+5.1
5,000 psi	cy	100.10	+0.7	+4.3
STANDARD MODULAR BRICK				
CONCRETE BLOCK				
Normal-weight: 8" X 8" X 16"	C	128.71	0.0	+0.4
Lightweight: 8" X 8" X 16"	C	151.20	-3.3	-1.5
12" X 8" X 16"	C	171.60	0.0	-0.1
MASONS LIME				
	ton	200.17	0.0	+0.4