The Latest on COVID-19
by Peter Kammer, The Kammer Group

As we have all been experiencing, information on COVID-19 is being updated regularly. WRMCA encourages everyone to check in with local, state and national health sources on a regular basis to review COVID-19 education, information and guidelines that are current, accurate and reliable. WRMCA has been in continual communication with the Administration since before the Governor crafted his “Safer at Home” order allowing our businesses to keep their doors open, and as he has been expanding safety efforts. We will continue to work with state leaders and stakeholders and keep WRMCA members updated.

Here are some questions and answers using the most current COVID-19 information:

**When will COVID-19 Peak in Wisconsin?** Coronavirus will peak in Wisconsin on or around April 26 of this year. That’s according to new data from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). The number of deaths and resources used will peak on April 26. From there, numbers will slowly start to improve. The number of deaths per day is set to reach zero by June 7. The U.S. will likely see its peak on April 15.

**Are WRMCA companies “essential businesses”?** Yes. Under the “Safer at Home” order construction projects are essential services and can continue as planned. All contractors (Prime and Subs), suppliers and service suppliers are all covered and considered essential.

**Under Governor Evers’ “Safer at Home” order are people required to carry documentation to leave their home?** No. In Wisconsin, individuals do not need special permission to leave their homes, but they must comply with this order as to when it is permissible to leave home. Similarly, if a business is an essential business or operation as outlined in this order, it does not need documentation or certification to continue work that is done in compliance with this order. However, some employers, unions and associations are developing documents for essential workers.

**Are roads less crowded?** Yes. WisDOT is monitoring traffic statewide. On average traffic is down as much as 50%. This is an opportunity to possibly accelerate construction work.

**Is there a centralized site for State information on COVID-19?** Yes. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) web site provides information for businesses and the public ranging from preparing the workplace to schools/childcare and more. See: [https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm)

For more information on the “The Safer at Home” order from Governor Evers see this FAQ document: [https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm)
ASSOCIATION NEWS

John Carew Elected Chairman of Board for NRMCA

At the recently concluded annual convention in Las Vegas, NRMCA membership elected John Carew of Carew Concrete & Supply Co. as chairman of the Board of Directors, succeeding William Sandbrook, U.S. Concrete Co., Inc. Succeeding Mr. Carew as vice chairman is Abbott Lawrence, Martin Marietta. John Holliday of Holliday Rock Co. is the new secretary/treasurer, replacing Mr. Lawrence. And Mr. Sandbrook is now the immediate past chairman, succeeding Rodney Grogan, MMC Materials, Inc.

2020 WRMCA ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician–Grade 1

Dates/Locations are (subject to change dependent on Safer at Home order):

- April 30th, Green Bay at NWTC and Carew Concrete
- May 21st, Milwaukee at Jackson Concrete
- June 4th, Madison, Wingra Redi-Mix

A flyer can be downloaded from the events calendar at www.wrmca.com. If you carry a current ACI, Concrete Field Testing Technician – Grade 1 certification, please be an examiner for the 2020 classes. To help, please contact Kim at 608-512.1292 or knovak@wrmca.com.

2019 Driver Highlights

The WRMCA Operations, Environmental & Safety Committee is pleased to identify the following Ready Mix Concrete Delivery professional as an outstanding leader within the industry. This professional has assisted to promote a commitment of Health & Safety, the Environment and Community and have been recognized by their company, peers and the WRMCA.

Congratulations is due to Gerald Ory of MCC, Inc. for his contributions & dedication to the ready-mix profession over the past 43 years.

20th Annual Technical Workshop Recap

Over 115 people attended the Technical Workshop held January 16-17 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

Day 1 features Andrea Breen giving a dynamic overview of the history of concrete. Larry Sutter will discuss Slag Cement followed by a panel sharing on the evolution of ordering concrete and delivery. A reception and dinner will provide ample opportunity to network. Day 2 includes a WisDOT initiatives update followed by a session on preventing concrete litigation by Buck Barker and ending with Larry Sutter giving a synopsis of the deicer research study.

Special thanks to We’re Partners sponsors for hosting a social hour on Thursday and to Dan Large, Technical Committee Chairman for all of his hard work. Mark Your Calendars - the 2021 Technical Workshop will be held February 4-5 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.
ASSOCIATION NEWS

2019 Plant Safety Awards
The WRMCA OES Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the 2019 Plant Safety Awards. The award criterion was completed using current Bureau of Labor Statistics Injury rates. Those individual locations with a frequency and severity rate better than the national average for the Ready Mix Profession were awarded a certificate of achievement by the OES Committee. Those “best in class” winners, or those with the best rates (in case of a tie, the plant with the most hours worked was selected), received a plaque.

Winners
Category 1: Sun Prairie Concrete, Inc. – Sun Prairie plant
Category 2: MCC, Inc. – Bonduel plant
Category 3: Carew Concrete & Supply – Fond du Lac plant
Category 4: Schmitz Ready Mix – Franklin plant

CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT

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CONCRETE DESIGN AWARD WINNERS

Close to 100 people attended the 38th Annual Concrete Design Awards on Friday, February 28th at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva. Owners, architects, engineers, contractors and ready mixed producers were recognized for their achievements on a variety of concrete projects. Special thanks to the following: Gary Wallis for helping with the presentation; Keith Nault, Solomon Colors and Rick Ross, Oshkosh Corporation for handing out the plaques; Todd’s Redi-Mix & Cornerstone Concrete for creating the plaques; and co-sponsors Euclid Chemical, Riv/Crete Ready Mix, Sika Corporation and ACI Wisconsin. View the presentation at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goo12nMT3aA.
CONCRETE DESIGN AWARD WINNERS

Agricultural
Clinton Farms
Owner: Clinton Farms LLC
Concrete Supplier: MCC, Inc.
Architect/Engineer/Contractor: Fox Cities Builders

Commercial
C.D. Smith Construction New Headquarters
Owner/Contractor: C.D. Smith Construction
Concrete Supplier: Carew Concrete & Supply
Architect: Kahler Slater

Concrete Overlay
Oneida Street Parking Lot
Owner: McKinnon Dental
Owner: Sagemark Consulting
Concrete Supplier: Carew Concrete & Supply
Contractor: Mark Cardinal Concrete Construction

Decorative Commercial
Tomorrow River School District Champions Courtyard
Owner: Tomorrow River School District
Concrete Supplier: County Materials Corporation
Contractor/Landscape Architect: Alchemy Concrete Inc.
Engineer: Point of Beginning, Inc.

Decorative Residential
Weslaski: Legacy at the Lake
Owners: Kevin & Claire Weslaski
Concrete Supplier: County Materials Corporation
Contractor/Landscape Architect: Alchemy Concrete Inc.

Education, Healthcare & Public
Saint John’s On The Lake
Owner: Saint John’s Communities, Inc.
Concrete Supplier: Riv/Crete Ready Mix
Contractor: VJS Construction
Architect: Eppstein Uhen Architects
Architect: Blitch Knevel Architects
Engineer: GRAEF

Industrial
Veritiv Corporation
Owner/Developer: Becknell Industrial
Concrete Supplier: MCC, Inc.
Contractor: Milis Flatwork

Parking Lot
Northern Ozaukee School District
Owner: Northern Ozaukee School District
Concrete Supplier: Schmitz Ready Mix
Contractor: Mark Cardinal Concrete Construction
Architect/Engineer: Bray Architects

Southwest Region
Tonyawatha Trail
Concrete Supplier: LYCON Inc.
Contractor/Engineer: Chris Foss Contractor, Inc.

Southeast Region
Dayton Freight Concrete Parking Lot
Owner: Dayton Freight Lines
Concrete Supplier: Riv/Crete Ready Mix
Contractor: Stark Pavement Corporation
Architect: Architectural Alliance
Engineer: EM Engineering
Engineer: EMH & T Engineering
Engineer: Schaefer

Northeast Region
Clover View Dairy
Owner: Clover View Dairy
Concrete Supplier: Carew Concrete & Supply
Contractor: Bill Lorrigan Construction Inc.
Architect/Engineer: Natural Resources Conservation Service

North Central Region
South Central Avenue Overlay
Owner: Nelsen-Jameson, Inc.
Concrete Supplier: County Materials Corporation
Contractor: Milis Flatwork

Northwest Region
Miltrim Farms Robotic Dairy Facility
Owner: Miltrim Farms Inc.
Concrete Supplier: Olynick
Contractor: S.D. Ellenbecker, Inc.
Engineer Building: Marathon Technical Services
The 70th Annual Convention was held at the Grand Geneva Resort & Spa in Lake Geneva from February 26-27, 2020. Over 80 attendees and guests were in attendance for the event. The convention sessions began Wednesday with Ray McVeigh, GLCPC giving an industry update. Dan Large, FRC presented on Fiber Reinforcement in 2020 and Bryan Birdwell, Structural Services ended the day talking about Evaluating Mix Designs for High Performance Floors and Pavements.

Thursday included sessions on Tomorrow's Workforce from Erin Henry, Northwestern Mutual; Solidifying A Business Plan, Panel including Nick Hunzinger, Wealth Partners; Efficiencies in Dispatching, Dirk Krueger, Command Alkon; Changes and Opportunities at NRMCA, Mike Philipps, NRMCA & John Carew, Carew Concrete, Legislative Update by Peter Kammer and Assembly Speaker Robin Vos. A We’re Partners reception and dinner was held Thursday evening to conclude the convention.

Special thanks to the following convention sponsors:
70th Sponsors - LafargeHolcim, Master Builders Solutions, Sika Corporation & St. Marys Cement
Breakfast Sponsors - Buzzi Unicem, CRH Cement, Euclid Chemical & GeoTest
Lunch Sponsors - Doral Corporation, 3M, GCP Applied Technologies, Oshkosh Corporation, Skyway Cement, and Terex Corporation
Dinner Sponsors - CarVen Metals, Command Alkon, FS/Growmark, Mapei Corporation, Otto Jacobs Company, Premiere Concrete Admixtures, Wingra Redi-Mix, and Wisconsin Cement Company
We're Partner Sponsors - AFFIRM, AON, Baker Tilly, Boral Resources, Butterfield Color/Scofield, Buzzi Unicem USA, Continental Cement, Euclid Chemical, Fabick, FRC, FESCO Direct, GeoTest, Inc., Giles Engineering, Great Lakes Cement Promotion Council, Industrial Systems, LafargeHolcim, Lannon Stone Products, Mapei Corporation, Master Builders Solutions, Oshkosh Corporation, Point of Beginning, Premiere Concrete Admixtures, Sika Corporation, Solomon Colors, St. Marys Cement, We Energies. WI/IL Cement and Wissota Sand & Gravel
OSHA’s Revised (NEP) for Silica and Amputations

OSHA compliance specialists have reached out to WRMCA making sure our membership is aware of the newly revised national emphasis programs in construction and general industry. The previous NEP, released in August 2015, expired on September 30, 2019. The new NEP’s will expire December 10, 2024. OSHA revised the Amputation NEP which includes industries and equipment that cause amputation injuries. Concrete and Ready Mix facilities could potentially be inspected under these emphasis programs. OSHA allowed a 90 day outreach period prior to enforcement inspections being conducted under the emphasis programs. The OSHA compliance officers have let us know that inspections will be starting soon! Please review the training documents to keep your operation in compliance, http://wrmcawpcontent/uploads/2020/03/2020-Outreach-Amputations-NEP-2019-002.pdf and http://wrmcawpcontent/uploads/2020/03/Silica-AMP-Webinar-Concrete-Specific_3_26_2020.pdf

NRMCA Launches Industry COVID-19 Resources Webpage

NRMCA’s Safety, Environmental and Operations Division launched a new webpage to serve as an industry clearinghouse on relevant resources members can use to address the widening COVID-19 situation. The webpage houses information on regulatory guidance, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and even NRMCA’s new Guidance For Ready Mixed Concrete Companies During the COVID-19 Pandemic. You can view the page at https://www.nrmca.org/operations/SAFETY/covid-19.htm. The Government Affairs team has worked in unison with our state and local government affairs teams to empower our state affiliates and our members to communicate the importance of the construction industry, urging their respective governors to designate it as essential. To view Governor letters, see which states have deemed construction essential and view which states have introduced COVID related bills, go to https://buildwithstrength.com/construction-is-essential/.

Small Business Loan Options

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is offering low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19). You can apply for the loan online at https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance.

You are highly encouraged to apply ASAP due to loan application backlogs. All lending programs can be found at https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources.

• Wisconsin SBA offers application effective through 09/30/2020 at https://wisconsinsbdc.org/services/covid-19/disasterloans/.
• SBA Express Bridge Loans. This program allows small businesses who have a current relationship with an SBA Express Lender to access up to $25,000 with less paperwork. These loans can help small businesses access capital quickly. For a list of Wisconsin SBA Express Lenders, https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/resource_files/UPDATED_MASTER_ONLINE_LENDER_LISTING_2-2020_002.pdf.
• Paycheck Protection Program. Small businesses with 500 fewer employees can receive a loan for the lesser of 2.5x their monthly average payroll from 2019. This can be spent on businesses expenses, but the amount spent on payroll, rent and mortgage obligations are forgivable. They are specifically designed to help small business keep their workforce employed. If you maintain your workforce, the SBA may forgive the portion of the loan proceeds that are used to cover the first 8 weeks of payroll and certain other expenses following loan origination. It is critical that companies seeking a Paycheck Protection Program loan contact their lenders immediately. While Treasury and SBA have not yet released guidance on these, your lender will be aware and should be prepared to assist when guidance has been issued.
Ready Mixed Concrete Truck Rollover
A rollover is one of the most serious types of truck accidents, resulting in many cases in serious injury and/or death to drivers or the general public at large. When rollovers occur, it puts the driver into a position that no amount of training or anticipation can assure the prevention of very serious consequences. All rollovers can be prevented: they occur due to a particular set of circumstances. If these circumstances are corrected or prevented, then any rollover can be eliminated. Rollovers create unnecessary human suffering, substantial cost and business disruption. It is everyone’s responsibility to do whatever he or she can to prevent the occurrences of rollovers.

Prevention of Mixer Truck Rollovers
Ready mixed concrete mixer truck rollovers will only be prevented if drivers remain focused. In order to accomplish this, repeated training must be conducted of “recognizing conditions” that are common to most rollovers.

Actions
• Think first
• Rural 2-lane roads with soft shoulders
• Freeway ramps
• Slow down when turning (especially right-hand turns)
• When mixer is loaded with concrete
• Soft or uneven jobsite terrain
• Stowed material inside cab
• Extreme weather conditions (wet or icy)
• Properly pressurized drop-down axles
• Seatbelt use
• Slow down

Resources
For more information on slips trips and falls, please follow the link below:
NRMCA: Safety Series

Contacts
Gary Mullings: gmullings@nrmca.org | Kevin Walgenbach: kwalgenbach@nrmca.org
Respirable Crystalline Silica
On June 23, 2018, the new respirable crystalline silica rule promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), became effective. The rule, which covers ready mixed concrete plants, is intended to eliminate exposure to workers of respirable crystalline silica. According to OSHA, exposure to silica over a certain threshold and prolonged exposure can lead to respiratory health problems, including silicosis. The new standard requires employers to prevent worker exposure to silica.

Preventing Silica Exposure
In order to determine how to prevent and/or limit worker silica expos a concrete plant first needs to know what, if any, the exposure level might be. Determining an exposure level through an exposure assessment, can be completed by an industrial-hygenist, third-party testing group, mail-order testing kit, or a producer’s insurance provider. Once an assessment has been performed, only then will a producer know what the exposure may be. If the exposure level is below a certain threshold, a producer may have little or no action to take. Exposures recorded over a certain threshold may require specific actions that could include regular testing and monitoring, creating a written exposure control plan, extra housekeeping, recordkeeping, signage, training, employee notification, new controls, a respiratory protection program and even medical surveillance.

Actions
Conditions that can prevent silica exposure and help maintain compliance with the new rule:
• Think first
• Proper ventilation
• Wet methods for grinding, chipping, cutting, sweeping
• Isolation of dust creating activities
• Worker rotation
• Use of water trucks and/or sprinklers in plant yard
• Regular, proper housekeeping
• Minimize drum chipping
• PPE where appropriate (OSHA views PPE as the last line of defense)

Resources
For more information on silica exposure compliance please follow the links below:
• NRMCA Silica Guide
• Respiratory Protection Program
• OSHA Silica Standard
• OSHA National Emphasis Program: Silica
• NRMCA: Safety Series

Contacts: Gary Mullings: gmullings@nrmca.org | Kevin Walgenbach: kwalgenbach@nrmca.org
2020 BOARD AND CHAIRMEN

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Vice-President - Scott Zignego, Zignego Ready Mix
Secretary/Treasurer - Mike Rivecca, Riv/Crete Ready Mix
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Region 2 (Southeast) - Hal Janke, Schmitz Ready Mix & Keith Nault, Solomon Colors
Region 3 (Northeast) - Ken Murphy, MCC, Inc. & Mike Tews, Carew Concrete & Supply
Region 4 (North Central) - Bob Wells, County Materials
Region 5 (Northwest) - Matt Flynn, American Materials & Andy Pearson, Sika Corporation

Mike Tews, 2020 President.

2020 Board
DATES TO REMEMBER

April 7   NRMCA Federal, State and Local Legislation and Regulation Affecting Construction Webinar
April 7   ACI How to Handle Concrete Placements Exposed to Rain Webinar
April 9   NRMCA Designing Concrete Industrial Pavements Webinar
April 16  NRMCA Soils 101: What to Know for a Successful Paving Project Webinar
April 23  NRMCA Concrete Pavement Jointing and Details Webinar
April 29  NRMCA The Business Case for Building Multifamily Buildings with Concrete Webinar
April 30  ACI Grade 1 Certification, Carew Concrete, Appleton
April 30  NRMCA Materials and Construction Specifications for Concrete Pavement Projects Webinar
May 6    NRMCA Life Cycle Assessment of Concrete Buildings Webinar
May 7    NRMCA Concrete Street and Parking Lot Maintenance and Repair Webinar
May 12   NRMCA Understanding the Guide to Concrete Overlays of Asphalt Parking Lots Webinar
May 14   WRMCA Board Meeting, Green Bay
May 14   NRMCA Concrete Overlays of Existing Asphalt Surfaced Streets and Parking Lots Webinar
May 21   ACI Grade 1 Certification, Jackson Concrete, West Bend
June 4   ACI Grade 1 Certification, Wingra Redi-Mix, Madison
June 25  WRMCA Golf Outing, Wild Rock, Wisconsin Dells