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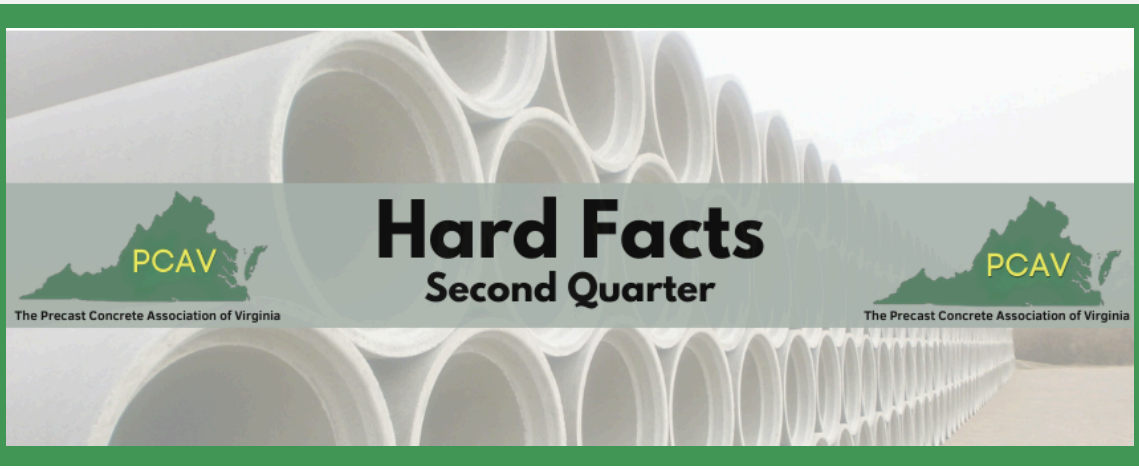

Dear Members,

We were so glad to see many of you at the Virginia Concrete Conference in Richmond, Virginia. What a wonderful opportunity for education, networking, and doing business!

We also want to thank you for your continued membership and investment in the PCAV. Your active participation champions Virginia's precast concrete industry's strength, visibility, and future.

Despite the ice and snow, our virtual 2026 PCAV Winter Meeting was highly successful. We were grateful for the PCAV members who made their way to Richmond as well for our rescheduled Legislative Day in March, where we focused conversation on the value of precast, its resilience, safety, **economic value**, and the infrastructure that connects our communities.

Looking forward, we invite you to join us for our **2026 PCAV Annual Conference** Tuesday, May 12 through Wednesday, May 13 in Richmond. We look forward to a tour of **Stone Brewing**, exhibiting the success of precast in its production facility!

You'll find a number of important updates and highlights in this edition of HardFacts, including:

- Register, Sponsor our 2026 PCAV Annual Conference May 12-13
- Friendly Reminder: 2026 PCAV Member Dues Renewal
- Recap: 2026 PCAV Winter Meeting and Legislative Day
- ACPA Announces John Rainero 2026-27 Chairman of the Board
- Virginia Concrete Conference: "25 Years of Concrete Excellence"

- Member Highlight: Permatile Panels Get CSX Line Back on Track After Hurricane
- Board Nominations
- VDOT Resources

As always, we are thankful for this year's financial support from the Southern Cement Promotion Association (SCPA) and its members as well as non-SCPA's promotion funding support from Heidelberg Materials.

Thank you again for your continued engagement with the PCAV. We look forward to seeing you in person in May.

Warm regards,

Scott Crumpler
Vice President, Business Performance | Concrete Pipe & Precast, a CMC Precast Business; President, Precast Concrete Association of Virginia



2026 PCAV Annual Meeting

Registration and Sponsorship are now OPEN for our 2026 PCAV Annual Conference May 12-13 in Richmond, VA! We look forward to this annual event with valuable speakers and networking opportunities. Are you ready to enhance your network?
Join us today!

Click **HERE** to register and/or sponsor the 2026 Annual Conference.

Please note: the **VCTA District Dialogue with the Richmond District** is scheduled for the afternoon of May 13 just down the road at The Westin Hotel.

Board Nominations

During our upcoming Annual Meeting, PCAV will elect our 2026-2027 Board of Directors. Our PCAV board make up includes a representative of each member producer as well as associate member representatives. Our associate members will elect their representatives during the Associates Meeting the morning of May 13.

2026 PCAV Dues Renewal

Associations are only as strong as their members—and PCAV is no exception. Your membership is not just a line item; it is an investment in the strength, visibility, and future of Virginia's precast concrete industry.

We thank all of our producer and associate members who have returned your 2026 PCAV Dues. As a friendly reminder, if you have not done so, please do. Your continued membership is essential to sustaining PCAV's advocacy efforts, education programs, relationship-building, and communications—ensuring your interests are all represented where decisions are made.

Please contact Katie Hellebush **via email** to renew your dues today.



Thank you to our Sponsors!

2026 PCAV Winter Meeting

Despite the ice and snow, our 2026 PCAV Winter Meeting was productive even if virtual. We thank all of you, our PCAV members and VDOT representatives, for your participation and all of our sponsors (listed above!)

Education Committee: We thank Aimee Connerton for her continued leadership of the Education Committee and the planning for a day long fall training, 8 AM - 3:30 PM. Registration fees would be donated to a charitable organization as an incentive for participation. (Suggestions include **Feed More**, **God's Pit Crew** and others.) Locations include Richmond, Tidewater, Fairfax, Roanoke/Blacksburg. Topics include cast in place vs precast; design; use; repair; lifting; and maintenance. Please **email Katie Hellebush** with additional topics you would like to be considered for inclusion.

Technical Committee: Hank Gottschalk is the new chair of the Technical Committee. We thank him for his leadership. We are seeking one representative from each PCAV producer and associate company to serve on this committee. This is a one year commitment. Please **email Katie Hellebush** to advise who your company representative will be.

Marketing Committee: Thank you for all your submissions for Hard Facts! As a reminder, you may submit throughout the year using **this link.**

Membership Committee: We welcome your recommendations for new producer and associate members!

Joint Meeting with VDOT: Discussion items included providing updated standard drawings to VDOT to include updated stamps, business logo, and calculations if not blanket approval. Questions surrounding calculations, timeline will continued to be discussed with VDOT. We are also keeping our eye out for the updated Materials MOI for review. Finally, VDOT will be using AASHTO Approved Lists going forward. VDOT will provide for a one year grace period to allow for the approval of materials and products. In addition FHWA Virginia Division provided an update on BABA/Buy America. Make sure to review **this technical guidance**.



ACPA Announces John Rainero 2026-27 Chairman of the Board



Irving, TX – April 2026 – The American Concrete Pipe Association (ACPA) announces the appointment of John V. Rainero, P.E., Vice President of Construction and Engineering at Permatile Concrete Products Company, as its new Chairman of the Board. Rainero was confirmed during the ACPA's Annual Business Meeting, held March 22–24, 2026, in Point Clear, Alabama. In his new role, he will lead both the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, which includes Vice Chair David Marchbanks (Gossett Concrete Pipe), Treasurer Eric Jensen (Jensen Infrastructure), Secretary Bruce Spratz (Rinker Materials), and Immediate Past Chair Mark McCormick (Dunn Utilities).

As the 119th Chairman, Rainero brings a wealth of leadership experience, industry knowledge, and a commitment to advancing the ACPA's strategic initiatives. His leadership will be pivotal in growing and strengthening industry

relations, enhancing member engagement, and supporting the advancement of the ACPA's Research and Education Foundation.

"It is an honor to step into the role of Chairman of the Board of the American Concrete Pipe Association, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve the ACPA in this capacity," said Rainero. "As we look ahead, our mission remains clear: to strengthen the ACPA, support our membership, and create value for those we serve. The competitive challenges we face are real—but so are the opportunities to grow our industry. With collaboration, transparency, and a shared commitment to excellence, there is truly little we cannot accomplish together."

"We are honored to welcome John V. Rainero as Chairman of the Board. As a professional engineer and a key leader in a multigenerational, family owned business, John brings a rare combination of technical expertise, deep industry heritage, and forward-thinking leadership. His lifelong connection to the concrete pipe industry gives him a thorough understanding of the challenges and opportunities ahead, and we are confident his guidance will strengthen our association and the industry we serve," said ACPA President, Steven Hawkins, AIA.

The ACPA also welcomes two new Board members: Bruce Spratz of Rinker Materials, and Eric Varnadoe of Oldcastle Infrastructure. They will be great additions to the board.

For a full listing of the updated ACPA Board of Directors and Executive Committee, please visit **concretepipe.org/member-leadership**.

2026 Virginia Concrete Conference

PCAV was pleased to serve as a gold sponsor and participate in the 25th Virginia Concrete Conference planning committee! Thanks to SCPA Staff, Planning Committee, and all speakers, attendees, sponsors and vendors for making it a great event. We are already looking forward to next year!









Permatile Panels Get CSX Line Back on Track After Hurricane



Precast concrete lagging panels used in restoration project in Poplar, North Carolina.

Submitted by Mimi Coles



Hurricane Helene washed out a critical section of a CSX rail line in Poplar, North Carolina, taking out a flood wall and embankment. The damage shut down a key transportation route and required an immediate fix. To complete the repairs, CSX called on Permatile Concrete Products Company to supply an engineered panel system that could be built on an emergency schedule.

The solution was a system of steel piles paired with 1,152 precast concrete lagging panels. This design would replace the washed-out soil and failed metal walls with a solid flood barrier. Working with the railroad, Permatile developed a custom color for the panels, helping the new construction blend in with the steel and the surrounding mountain landscape.

Permatile's ability to manufacture all 1,152 panels off-site was the key to the project's speed. This precast approach meant there were no delays waiting for concrete to cure on the job, allowing railway contractors to start installing panels as soon as they arrived. Permatile was able to move

from the initial order to the final delivery of all 1,152 custom-colored panels in less than 90 days.

The project was a clear example of how Permatile's off-site manufacturing can deliver custom, engineered solutions to meet the most demanding emergency infrastructure schedules.

VDOT Resources

Dear Prequalified Vendors:

As a follow up to the previously held webinar in October 2025, VDOT has posted materials related to Buy America and other domestic product requirements to its website. The documents can be found under *Guides and Manuals* within the Resources section.

The direct link to the webpage can be accessed here: **Construction | Virginia Department of Transportation**.

Thank you,
VDOT Prequalification

Prequalification Office
Central Office, Construction Division
Virginia Department of Transportation
1221 E. Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Please note the new address
Kris Pyers, Coordinator (804) 786-2938
Melodie Carter, Coordinator (804) 786-0747
Mandy Nicholas, Supervisor (804) 371-2009
Prequalification@VDOT.Virginia.gov
VDOT Prequalification Webpage: **Highway contractors | Virginia Department of Transportation**

2025-2026 PCAV Calendar

April
23

VCT District Dialogue with the Western Districts
📍 Richmond, Virginia

May
12-13

2026 PCAV Annual Meeting
📍 Richmond, Virginia

May
13

VCTA District Dialogue with the Richmond District
📍 Richmond, Virginia

View all upcoming activities on our website

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