

RC³ Mid-Year Newsletter



**Wayne Tarr (left) presents George Hamparian
with Lifetime Achievement Award**

At the Reinforced Concrete Construction Committee Winter Dinner Meeting held on February 25th at the Revere Hotel, the RC³ committee presented George Hamparian with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his support and dedication to the promotion of concrete construction throughout his 35-year career in the construction industry.

George Hamparian is presently self-employed as a contract sales engineer for Boston Sand and Gravel Company in Boston, MA. Mr. Hamparian was educated and trained in Building Construction Technology at Wentworth Institute, Boston, MA, and studied mechanical engineering at Northeastern University, Boston, MA. His strengths include estimating, specification and plan review, preparation of ready mixed concrete bids, project meetings and contract negotiations and deal recommendations

In his 35-year career in the building industry, Mr. Hamparian has been a Division Manager of Briggs Engineering Company, a Branch Manager of the Master Builders Company and was an Assistant Professor in Concrete Technology classes at the Graduate School of Design, Harvard

University, School of Architecture.

All throughout his career, Mr. Hamparian has been very active in professional and trade association work. He has served as officer and chairman of such groups as the Massachusetts Construction Industry Board, the Construction Specification Institute and the Reinforced Concrete Construction Committee.

After the major collapse of 2000 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, a disaster in concrete frame construction, Mr. Hamparian was appointed by Governor Michael Dukakis to serve on the Safety Board of the State Building Code Commission to assist the Commissioner in drafting regulations regarding concrete construction. Until this event, the State of Massachusetts did not have a building code. The regulations are currently in use.

Mr. Hamparian is a respected member of the building community in Greater Boston and is a tremendous source of practical information and guidelines.

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**George Hamparian (left) presents with Jim Lee
Lifetime Achievement Award**

At the Reinforced Concrete Construction Committee Winter Dinner Meeting held on February 25th at the Revere Hotel, the RC³ committee presented Jim Lee with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his support and dedication to the promotion of concrete construction throughout his 36-year career in the construction industry.

Mr. Lee started his career in 1979 on a concrete crew for W.R. Grace. A few years later he was hand-picked to join Grace's Specialty Research Team. This team had many technological breakthroughs in the industry including high strength concrete, corrosion inhibitors, and fibers. These years culminated in 1997 when the team was the recipients of the American Society of Civil Engineer's Charles Pankow Award for Innovation in Construction Design for Grace's shrinkage-reducing admixture, Eclipse™.

Soon after, Mr. Lee was appointed manager of Grace's cement, concrete and masonry laboratories where he wrote the Quality Control/Quality Assurance Manual and received accreditation from the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP).

These experiences gave Mr. Lee the opportunity to join Grace's newly formed Technical Service team as regional technical service manager in the northeast. In this position he investigated and resolved concrete and masonry problems for Grace Customers.

In 2002, Mr. Lee joined Boston Sand & Gravel for the final years of the Big Dig as a concrete sales rep. In 2005, he moved onto Wentworth Institute of Technology as a full time lab instructor. Mr. Lee, along with Mike D'Agostino, redesigned Wentworth's Concrete Lab; an achievement captured in their peer reviewed paper "Designing a Zero Waste Concrete Mix Testing Lab." This paper was published and presented at the American Society of Engineering Education 2012 Northeast Conference. Mr. Lee and Mr. D'Agostino earned Best Professional Presentation at the conference.

In 2014 Mr. Lee founded TECHTRAINING LLC and left his full time position at Wentworth to focus on his business that offers continuing education and training to the construction industry. Mr. Lee has a Master's Degree in Construction Management and continues to teach at Wentworth as an adjunct professor.

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Patrick Bard (left) of S&F Contractors, Inc. was this year's featured presenter.

Annual Reinforced Concrete Construction Committee Dinner

RC³ held its annual dinner meeting on February 25th at the Revere Hotel and the guest speaker was Patrick A. Barb vice president/project management of S&F Contractors, Inc. Pat spoke on the Millennium Tower Project from its early design stages through halted construction and the resumed design activity.

Millennium Tower will dominate the Boston skyline as the tallest residential building in downtown Boston. The 685-foot luxury skyscraper is set to redefine the face of luxury condo development in downtown Boston. Millennium Tower will be a gleaming 60-story monument framing downtown Boston's horizon.

Pat focused on the comparisons of other building frame choices and what led to its cast-in-place concrete construction.

If the project was built with structural steel, it would be 60 feet taller than the concrete structure. It would incur major additional costs for 60 vertical feet of curtain wall, elevators, utility piping, etc. If the steel building was the same height as the concrete building, the owner would lose six floors or about 90,000 square feet of sellable space.

Cast-in-place concrete construction was chosen over other building frame choices because of the following advantages.

- Design can be adapted to meet the building configuration.
- Lower overall building heights providing the same floor areas.
- Less sound transmission between floors making it more desirable for high end residences.
- No fireproofing typically allowing other trades on the floors earlier.
- Ceiling finishes can be applied directly to the concrete soffits.
- Adjustability in design allowing owners and architects to make changes to optimize the layouts.

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RC³ Spring 2015 College Scholarship Awards Student Concrete Cylinder Competition April 6, 2015

RC³ held its annual College Scholarship Awards Student Concrete Cylinder Competition on April 6th at Benevento Concrete's concrete lab. Twelve teams from five different colleges and universities across New England competed in this year's event.

The objectives of the competition are to design and produce concrete with the following targeted properties:

- i. Strength of 6,500 pounds per square inch (psi) 28-day compressive strength
- ii. A target unit weight of 143 pounds per cubic foot (pcf)
- iii. Highest efficiency defined as ratio of compressive strength to cementitious content (psi / (pounds per cubic yard))
- iv. Low cost (\$ / cubic yard)

The winning teams for the RC³ Spring 2015 College Scholarship Awards Student Concrete Cylinder Competition are as follows:

Overall Best Score

- First Place: Vermont Technical College, Team Demolition Man - \$1,000
Second Place: Vermont Technical College, Team Dave - \$750

Closest Strength

- First Place: Vermont Technical College, Team Demolition Man - \$300
Second Place: Vermont Technical College, Team Gemsters - \$200

Least Cost

- First Place: Wentworth Institute of Technology, Team RC³ - \$300
Second Place: Vermont Technical College, Team DRTS - \$200

Highest Efficiency

- First Place: Norwich University, Team No Name - \$300
Second Place: Northeastern University, Team Small Never Cement to Happen - \$200

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Annual RC³ Dinner *(cont'd)*

- No lead times on mill orders and fabrication for structural steel.
- Shear walls replace braced frames optimizing the use of the space.