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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PCI Announces 2018 Big Beam Contest Results

CHICAGO—August 31, 2018—The Judging Committee recently selected the winners of the Engineering Student Design Competition, also known as the Big Beam Contest. PCI’s Student Education Committee (Dr. Wael Zatar, Chair) organized the Big Beam Contest (sponsored by GCP Applied Technologies, PTAC, and ASPIRE Magazine) and assigned the judging committee (Dr. Richard Miller, Chair). The objective is for teams of students to fabricate and test a precast/prestressed concrete beam with the help of local precast concrete PCI Producer Members. Prizes are awarded to the top twenty (20) performers in consideration of efficient design, highest load capacity, and other categories.

Entries were ranked by total number of points earned per the contest rules and the first-place team was from the Saint Martin’s University, Lacey, WA.

Overall Results

First place: Saint Martin’s University [Snap Crackle Pop]; Lacey, Washington

Faculty advisor: Jill Walsh, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Concrete Technology Corporation; Tacoma, Washington (Austin Maue)

Student team: Jarad Roschi, Joel Rodgers, Tyler Sloan, Carthney Laukon, Jesse San Nicolas, Luis Camacho, Turner Kreman, Chase Weeks

Points: 57

Award: \$2000, plus other prizes

Second place: Northern Arizona University [Breaking Beams]; Flagstaff, Arizona

Faculty advisor: Robin Tuchscherer, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Tpac (a Kiewit Western Company); Phoenix, Arizona (Gabby Wilson)

Student team: Roy Crouch, Stephen Gergal, Fernando Rojo, Brandy Wagoner

Points: 56.25

Award: \$1750

Third place: The University of Alabama [Alabeama]; Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Faculty advisor: Sriram Aaleti, PhD

PCI producer: Gate Precast Company; Monroeville, Alabama (Harris Carter)

Student team: Sumedh Sharma, Daniel Valentim, Emily Gould, Gabrielle Willis

Points: 54.75

Award: \$1500

Fourth place: Florida International University [Team 1]; Miami, Florida

Faculty advisor: David Garber, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures; Medley, Florida (Luis Compres)

Student team: Daniel Castillo, Charmaine Emanuels, Ivan Reyes, Fabio Baldini, Andrei Perim

Points: 53.25

Award: \$1250

Fifth place: University of Notre Dame; Notre Dame, Indiana

Faculty advisor: Yahya Kurama, PhD

PCI producer: Strescore, Inc; Southbend, Indiana (Adam Reihl)

Student team: Gavin Chamberlain, Sydni Clark, Daniel Fisk, Chris Garcia, Julian Mancini, Kathleen McKeon, Olivia Perham, Andrew Rossi

Points: 53

Award: \$1000

Sixth place: University of Minnesota Duluth [Team 1]; Duluth, Minnesota

Faculty advisor: Ben Dymond, PhD

PCI producer: Molin Concrete Products; Lino Lakes, Minnesota (Paul Kourajian)

Student team: Connor Mills, Ethan Herberg, Lucas Kaari

Points: 52.75

Award: \$1000

Seventh place: University of Kansas [Team 3]; Lawrence, Kansas

Faculty advisor: Bob Lyon, PE

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures; Kansas City, Kansas (Terry Fleck)

Student team: Liba Daniel, Jae Kim, Pratik Mishra, Riddhik Naik, Vanessa Notario

Points: 51

Award: \$1000

Eighth place: United States Military Academy; West Point, New York

Faculty advisor: MAJ Lyle R Milliman

PCI producer: Blakeslee Prestress, Inc; Branford, Connecticut (Rick Fitzgerald)

Student team: Evan Pape, Benjamin Parmer

Points: 49.5

Award: \$1000

Ninth place: University of Washington [Project Vulcan]; Seattle, Washington

Faculty advisor: John Stanton, PhD

PCI producer: Concrete Technology Corporation; Tacoma, Washington (Austin Maue)

Student team: Sam Turner, Hao Zhuang, Lionel Mizero

Points: 48.5

Award: \$1000

Tenth place: Lehigh University [Team 2]; Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Faculty advisor: Clay Naito, PhD, PE

PCI producer: J&R Slaw, Inc; Lehighon, Pennsylvania (Jeremy Klotz)

Student team: Matthew Mutti, Michael Duffy, Henry Paul

Points: 48.25

Award: \$1000

Eleventh place: University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee [D.A.V.E.]; Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Faculty advisor: Jian Zhao, PhD

PCI producer: Spancrete; Valders, Wisconsin (Randy Neumeyer)

Student team: Dallas Martin, Andrew Szulczewski, Victor Ramirez, Ethan Smith

Points: 47

Award: \$500

Twelfth place: Lehigh University [Team 1]; Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Faculty advisor: Clay Naito, PhD, PE

PCI producer: J&R Slaw, Inc; Lehighon, Pennsylvania (Jeremy Klotz)

Student team: Jayne Marks, Kyle Root, Nicholas Swank

Points: 45

Award: \$500

Thirteenth place: Idaho State University; Pocatello, Idaho

Faculty advisor: Mustafa Mashal, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Forterra Structural Precast; Salt Lake City, Utah (James McGuire)

Student team: Jared Cantrell, Karma Gurung, Maximilian Casanova, Christopher Clauson, Henrik Karstens

Points: 44.75

Award: \$500

Fourteenth place: Florida International University [Team 2]; Miami, Florida

Faculty advisor: David Garber, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures; Medley, Florida (Luis Compres)

Student team: Mohammed Alalawi, Frandy Manasse, Rozita Mazaheri, Amir Sadeghnejad, Rutambara Sonawane

Points: 43.75

Award: \$500

Fifteenth place: Minnesota State University, Mankato; Mankato, Minnesota

Faculty advisor: Farhad Reza, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Wells Concrete; Wells, Minnesota (Dustin Jones)

Student team: Padam Dhungana, Khada Dhungana, Issac Fritz

Points: 41

Award: \$500

Sixteenth place (tie): Colorado State University; Fort Collins, Colorado

Faculty advisor: Rebecca Atadero, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Plum Creek Structures; Littleton, Colorado

Student team: Aatir Farooq, Abdullah AlGasem, Claudia Quezada, McKenzie

Flaherty, Jordan Illian

Points: 38.5

Award: \$250

Sixteenth place (tie): Montana State University; Bozeman, Montana

Faculty advisors: Michael Berry, PhD

PCI producer: Missoula Concrete Construction, Inc.; Missoula, Montana (Adam Bauer)

Student team: Adam Sticka, Sam Wilkes, Dylan Nisbet

Points: 38.5

Award: \$250

Eighteenth place: University of Kansas [Team 1]; Lawrence, Kansas

Faculty advisor: Bob Lyon, PE

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures; Kansas City, Kansas (Terry Fleck)

Student team: Lavanya Bala, Pooya Grayli, Sarah Pippen, Tristan Yount

Points: 36.5

Award: \$250

Nineteenth place: University of Kansas [Team 2]; Lawrence, Kansas

Faculty advisor: Bob Lyon, PE

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures; Kansas City, Kansas (Terry Fleck)

Student team: Alireza Bahadori, McKayla Blackhurst, Duncan MacLachlan, Danqing Yu

Points: 24.25

Award: \$250

Twentieth Place: California State University, Sacramento; Sacramento, California

Faculty advisor: Eric Matsumoto, PhD, P.Eng.

PCI producer: Clark Pacific; West Sacramento, California (Glenn Underwood)

Student team: Lal Sah, Richard Ly-Lee, Maxwell Hampton, Raju Sah, Ram Sah, Luis Martin, Asia Al-Maliki, Monil Singh

Points: 22

Award: \$250

Best Report

The judging committee considers the overall presentation of the report when deciding on a best report winner. In addition to verifying the report contains all the requested sections and required signatures, judges look for clear presentation of data, professional look and formatting, and an overall well-written report.

Northern Arizona University [Breaking Beams]; Flagstaff, Arizona

Faculty advisor: Robin Tuchscherer, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Tpac (a Kiewit Western Company); Phoenix, Arizona (Gabby Wilson)

Student team: Roy Crouch, Stephen Gergal, Fernando Rojo, Brandy Wagoner

Award: \$500

Best Video

Contest requirements include a video taken of the beam being tested. Teams are encouraged to be as creative as they wish when preparing the final video. Videos with a storyline related to the big beam competition are clear standouts and the judging committee may elect an entry to receive a best video award.

University of Notre Dame; Notre Dame, Indiana

Faculty advisor: Yahya Kurama, PhD

PCI producer: Strescore, Inc; Southbend, Indiana (Adam Reihl)

Student team: Gavin Chamberlain, Sydni Clark, Daniel Fisk, Chris Garcia, Julian Mancini, Kathleen McKeon, Olivia Perham, Andrew Rossi

Award: \$500

All videos are posted online on PCI's Big Beam Channel on YouTube. Simply visit www.youtube.com and search *PCI Big Beam*.

PCI has 12 regional affiliate organizations throughout the United States to support its members at the local level. These organizations provide numerous services, such as continuing education, marketing, various resources, precast design assistance and resources and university support.

About PCI

Founded in 1954, the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI) is the technical institute and trade association for the precast/prestressed concrete structures industry. As a technical institute, PCI develops, maintains, and disseminates the Body of Knowledge for the design, fabrication, and erection of precast concrete structures and systems by:

- Conducting research and development projects in concert with universities and research laboratories nationwide

- Publishing a broad array of technical resources including design manuals, state-of-the-art reports, periodicals, and more
- Certifying companies and individuals involved in the manufacture and erection of precast/prestressed concrete products
- Educating precast personnel and industry stakeholders on the proper specification, design, fabrication, erection, and use of precast/prestressed concrete
- Representing the industry in code advocacy activities

PCI also serves as the industry trade association, advancing members' interests by:

- Promoting the use of structural and architectural precast concrete for a variety of applications in partnership with 11 regional affiliates across the United States
- Publishing safety manuals and materials
- Providing education and training materials
- Representing the industry through regulatory and legislative advocacy
- Offering meetings and networking opportunities, awards programs, and much more

PCI members include precast concrete manufacturers, companies that provide products and services to the industry, precast concrete erectors, and individual members, such as architects, consultants, contractors, developers, educators, engineers, and students.

To learn more, visit www.pci.org or email Sherrie Nauden at snauden@pci.org.