

Media Contact:

Alex Morales
312-360-3219
amorales@pci.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PCI Announces 2017 Big Beam Contest Results

CHICAGO—August 31, 2017—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. Sergio Breña, Chair) organized the Big Beam Contest (sponsored by SIKA Corp., 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 [Kraken Again]; Lacey, Wash.

Faculty advisor: Jill Walsh, PhD, PE
PCI producer: Concrete Technology Corporation; Tacoma, Wash. (Austin Maue)
Student team: Cameron Reece, William Miller, Paul Rumbles, Jarad Roschi, Joel Rogers, Clarinda Marion, David Rowland
Points: 61.75
Award: \$2000, plus other prizes

Second place: Oregon State University; Corvallis, Oregon

Faculty advisor: Keith Kaufmann, PhD, PE
PCI producer: Knife River Prestress; Harrisburg, Ore. (Dusty Andrews)
Student team: Madhav Parikh, Thomas Fruin, Kolton Mahr, Spenser Maunu, Makenzie Ellett, Andy Truong
Points: 61.25
Award: \$1750

Third place: Missouri University of Science and Technology; Rolla, Missouri

Faculty advisor: John Myers, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Coreslab Structures, Inc; Marshall, Missouri (Scott Fitzgerald)

Student team: Eli Hernandez, Hayder Alghazali

Points: 58.50

Award: \$1500

Fourth place: Iowa State University; Ames, Iowa

Faculty advisor: An Chen, PhD

PCI producer: Forterra; Iowa Falls, Iowa (Jeff Butler)

Student team: Nathan Ryan, Chris Levandowski, Jacob Eull, Conner Schaeffer

Points: 57.25

Award: \$1250

Fifth place: Red River College [Team Danger Zone]; Winnipeg, Manitoba

Faculty advisor: Robin Hutchinson, PhD, P.Eng.

PCI producer: Lafarge Canada, Inc; Winnipeg, Manitoba (Ifan Lim)

Student team: Justine Helbren, Dylan DesJarlais, Kristen Cartman, Kevin Jury

Points: 56.25

Award: \$1250

Sixth place (tie): Northern Arizona University; Flagstaff, Arizona

Faculty advisor: Robin Tuchscherer, PhD, PE

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

Rossi) *Student team: Mohammed Alradhi, Qusai Al Ghalbi, Kacy Aoki, Rick Wilson*

Points: 54.50

Award: \$1000

Sixth place (tie): 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: Gbenga Olaolorun, Evan Pape

Points: 54.50

Award: \$1000

Eighth 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: Muhammad Bajwa, Colton Moore, Corey Schlosser

Points: 54.00

Award: \$1000

Ninth place: University of South Florida [Team 1]; Tampa, Florida

Faculty advisor: Rajan Sen, PhD

PCI producer: Standard Concrete Products; Tampa, Florida (Ryan Cartwright)

Student team: Asad Elmagarhe, Walid Elsiwi, Kai Zhu, Poe Poe Hlaing, Jaydeep Ghopade

Points: 53.25
Award: \$1000

Tenth place: University of Missouri Kansas City; Kansas City, Missouri

Faculty advisor: Ganesh Thiagarajan, PhD

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

Student team: Phanindra Kumar Kosaraju, Akash Ashok Iwalekar, Scott Jackson, Aaron Lee

Points: 52.00
Award: \$1000

Eleventh place: University of Washington [Project Atlas]; Seattle, Washington

Faculty advisor: John Stanton, PhD

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

Student team: Bowei Liang, Jordan Miyahara, Rayna Mumbower, Gun Woo Park, Rui Xue, Jon Zhdanov

Points: 51.25
Award: \$500

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

Faculty advisor: Farhad Reza, PhD, PE

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

Student team: Alex Fiebiger, Abdul Nabiev

Points: 50.25
Award: \$500

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

Faculty advisor: Clay Naito, PhD, PE

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

Student team: Alia Amer, Yixin Chen, Safwan Waheed

Points: 49.25
Award: \$500

Fourteenth place: University of South Florida [Team 2]; Tampa, Florida

Faculty advisor: Rajan Sen, PhD

PCI producer: Standard Concrete Products; Tampa, Florida (Ryan Cartwright)

Student team: Sarah Mobley, Hani Freij, Juan Rivera, Ajay Gulati

Points: 47.75
Award: \$500

Fifteenth place (tie): Lehigh University [Team 2]; Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Faculty advisor: Clay Naito, PhD, PE

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

Student team: Christian Consalvo, Meridith Meyer

Points: 46.50
Award: \$500

Fifteenth place (tie): University of Minnesota Duluth [Team 2]; Duluth, Minnesota

Faculty advisor: Ben Dymond, PhD

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

Student team: Matthew McDermott, Bryce Hansen

Points: 46.50

Award: \$500

Seventeenth place: California State University, Sacramento; Sacramento, California

Faculty advisors: Eric Matsumoto, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Clark Pacific; Woodland, California (Chase Wells)

Student team: Jonathan Mougharbel, Meagan Yoeono, Tashley Covington, Robert Denison, Mingshen Chen, Kyle Lundblom

Points: 46.25

Award: \$250

Eighteenth place: Western University [Team 2]; London, Ontario, Canada

Faculty advisor: Aiham Adawi, PhD, P.Eng.

PCI producer: Prestressed Systems, Inc.; Windsor, Ontario (Anil Mehta)

Student team: Paige Newman, Andrea Hamilton, Kenny You, Maria Garcia, Sara Hanbali, Asif Rajani, Connor Zarglis, Sara Sago

Points: 45.75

Award: \$250

Nineteenth place (tie): The University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Charlotte, North Carolina

Faculty advisor: Brett Tempest, PhD

PCI producer: Prestress of the Carolinas; Pineville, North Carolina (Dana Pearson)

Student team: Islam Elsayed, Gregory Loflin, Luis Paredes, Jeffrey Poe, Edward Powers, Caitlin Purvis, Houston Sims, Edgar Torres

Points: 45.50

Award: \$250

Nineteenth Place (tie): Western University [Team 1]; London, Ontario, Canada

Faculty advisor: Aiham Adawi, PhD, P.Eng.

PCI producer: Prestressed Systems, Inc.; Windsor, Ontario (Anil Mehta)

Student team: Ethan Barrant, Tyler Barrant, Tamer Ellaw, Brigitte McMillan, Brianna Hall, Mohamed ElGendy, Zhi Nan Wu, Houtan Mesbahi, Holly Liu

Points: 45.50

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.

Oregon State University; Corvallis, Oregon

Faculty advisor: Keith Kaufmann, PhD, PE

PCI producer: Knife River Prestress; Harrisburg, Ore. (Dusty Andrews)

Student team: Madhav Parikh, Thomas Fruin, Kolton Mahr,

Spenser Maunu, Makenzie Ellett, Andy Truong

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.

Western University [Team 1]; London, Ontario, Canada

Faculty advisor: Aiham Adawi, PhD, P.Eng.

PCI producer: Prestressed Systems, Inc.; Windsor, Ontario (Anil Mehta)

Student team: Ethan Barrand, Tyler Barrand, Tamer Ellaw, Brigette McMillan,

Brianna Hall, Mohamed ElGendy, Zhi Nan Wu, Houtan Mesbahi, Holly Liu

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 Alex Morales at amorales@pci.org.