

THE AGGREGATE

ACI Intermountain Chapter Newsletter

"concrete news you can use"

November 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Safety

The other day one of the carpenters that I work with was drilling a 9/16" hole with a spade bit in a sheet of 3/4" plywood. The drill has an auxiliary handle in addition to the regular handle. After drilling the hole she was lifting the drill bit out of the plywood and the spade bit caught her Levi's at the knee level as it was still spinning, this caused her to grip the handle and the drill trigger even harder. Usually the spinning bit will fold the cloth and the skin together causing the cloth and skin to rip, fortunately for her the Levis ripped from the ankle to the belt without taking the skin with it.

She got away with a bruise and some scratches on



her hip where the spade bit finally quit spinning. Although she was doing some things right (using both handles, both feet on the ground for good footing,) her mistake was letting the spade bit come in contact with her Levi's. As you can see from the picture, she is a very lucky lady.

A few months ago, six out of seven cement finishers were not so lucky. The finishers were pouring some large mat footings. They had been doing this once or twice a week for months. The finishers wear rubber boots that are 18" high and they duct tape the tops of the boots to keep the concrete out. For months they have been pouring mat footings that are 12" to 18" deep. The concrete stays below the top of the boot because they walk on top of the rebar mat that is chaired up three inches. The new mat footing pour was 24" deep. The finishers were okay for the first 18" but the last six inches of concrete came over the top of their boots and saturated their pants with wet cement causing concrete burns. One finisher that didn't get any burns had duct taped from the top of his boots to the top of his knees. He tried to convince the others to do the same, but they wouldn't listen to him.

It is easy to become complacent about cement burns when you work with it every day and don't get burned. I think it's because when the cement splatters on you and then it dries it doesn't burn. It's when the cement stays wet or gets in to a cut or scratch that it can do the damage.

NOVEMBER CHAPTER LUNCHEON

Topic:
“Admixtures 101”

Speaker:
Grace Construction Products

By the way, the six finishers that got burned started to complain about burning around noon. We washed them with vinegar and scrubbed the burns. (Oww!!) It took a couple of weeks to heal up. They are a lot more careful and so am I.

Some concrete safety suggestions are:

1. Wear protective gloves
2. Wear eye protection
3. Wear protective boots and duct tape the top of the boot
4. Wash concrete off skin
5. When cement saturates clothing, change clothes
6. If concrete burns occur wash with vinegar
7. Rub petroleum jelly on areas of skin that are exposed to cement

Happy Thanksgiving

Ray Nelson
Chapter President

E-MAIL LIST UPDATES

We are always working to update our e-mail lists.

The addresses on our e-mail list are not shared with other companies. We only use them to send out reminders of upcoming events such as certification registration deadlines, luncheon meetings, award program information, etc.

Send e-mail address updates to:
kristin@aciintermountain.com

Thank you!

Concrete admixtures improve the durability and working properties of concrete used in commercial, institutional, and residential construction, as well as additives used in the cement processing to improve energy efficiency and enhance the characteristics of finish cement. Grace Construction products (W.R.Grace), one of the world’s leading specialty chemical and materials companies will present an informative presentation on “Admixtures 101” – a basic presentation on today’s chemical admixtures used in concrete to improve concrete durability and workability. This presentation is a must for architects, engineers, general contractors, finishers, and anyone else who wants to learn more about admixture performance chemicals and how they can best be utilized on your next project.

We will meet on Tuesday, November 14, at Cabela’s in Lehi, Utah. Lunch is available at the cafeteria on the second level, just outside the conference room. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming luncheons:

December 13
January 10

Construction Practices
Governor’s Economic Report



CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

A NEW WEBSITE!!

There is still time to register for the Laboratory Testing Technician and Strength Testing Technician certification programs to be held on November 29 & 30, 2006.

Registration forms are due on November 10, 2006. Forms can be obtained at the website, www.aciintermountain.com or by calling Kristin Beckstead at 801-250-3444.

The schedule for the Field Testing Technician Certification program has been set for the next year.

January 2-5, 2007
March 15-16, 2007
May 9-10, 2007
August 16-17, 2007
October 4-5, 2007
January 3-4, 2008

Registration forms are due at least two weeks before the program. Study materials are mailed out **after** the registration form and payment are received.

Concrete Construction Inspector Certification examinations are given on an as-needed basis. Call to order materials and schedule an exam date.

The Flatwork Finisher Certification program will be scheduled in the near future. Please call if you need these certifications for the updated schedule.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available to students through the ACI International Office. Visit their website at www.concrete.org to find out what is available.

After much hard work, trial and error, the ACI Intermountain Chapter has *its own website!* The website contains the most current information available about all Chapter activities including:

- ★ Certification program specifications, program dates, registration forms
- ★ Calendars for 2006 & 2007
- ★ A gallery of pictures from the last three Excellence in Concrete Award Winning Projects
- ★ The 2007 Scholarship Golf Tournament
- ★ Membership Information
- ★ Awards Information
- ★ Library Catalog
- ★ List of current Board members and their contact information
- ★ Scholarship Applications
- ★ And more....

Come check it out! We look forward to hearing your comments and suggestions.



2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

November 14 Chapter Luncheon Meeting
"Admixtures 101" WR Grace
November 29-30 Strength Testing Technician Certification
November 29-30 Laboratory Testing Technician, Grade I

DECEMBER

December 12 Chapter Luncheon Meeting
"Construction Practices"