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○ DEC | ○ 2011

Canadian Concrete Masonry Producers Association
Region 6 of the National Concrete Masonry Association



CCMPA

Updates

ADDRESSING ISSUES AND CONCERNS OF THE CANADIAN CONCRETE MASONRY PRODUCERS

A monthly email will be forwarded to keep members informed of activities and important issues that are occurring. If you have some industry information you wish to share with CCMPA members, please forward it to the CCMPA Office by the 15th of every month.

What is CCMPA doing for you ?

Upcoming Events

Christmas Luncheon—Friday, December 16th, 2011—Alfredo’s Ristorante—655 Dixon Road, Toronto

Members Meeting—Wednesday, February 1st, 2012—360 Superior Blvd (CMCA Office)

ICON Expo/NCMA Annual Meeting—Tuesday, February 28th, 2012—Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando Florida

Western Canadian Meeting—Thursday, June 21st, 2012—Banff, Alberta

Annual General Meeting & Golf 2012

The 2012 AGM & golf tournament will return to White Oaks Resort and Spa and Peninsula Lakes Golf Course. The date for the event is Thursday, September 6th, 2012. Please save the date. Further information will be distributed in the new year.

Golf 2011 Update

Wounded Warriors “Hand Up” Program will receive a cheque for **\$5,671.00** from CCMPA for the Raffle ticket sales, live auction and hole sponsorships. We wish to thank all those who supported this great cause. Specific details regarding the recipient will be forthcoming.



WESTERN CANADIAN MEETING—BANFF 2012

The CCMPA Western Canadian Meeting is scheduled to take place on June 21st and 22nd, 2012 in stunning Banff, Alberta, at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel.

We have started planning for this event and we encourage members to attend and make it a family vacation at the same time. This meeting has been a great success in the past with over 25 members in attendance.

Please make your room reservation based on the flyer sent out.

For more details, contact M. de Souza at information@ccmpa.ca



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Gary Sturgeon B.Eng., M.Sc., P.Eng.

Equivalent Web Thickness Changes to ASTM Masonry Standards

The National Concrete Masonry Association is spearheading a revolutionary change to the required configurations for concrete block units under ASTM C90, *Standard Specification for Concrete Masonry Units*.

The proposed change effectively advocates three substantive changes to the minimum web requirements under ASTM C90:

1. Revises the minimum web thickness to 0.75" for concrete masonry units of all thicknesses;
2. Converts the minimum equivalent web thickness now used in the standard, to a minimum web area connecting the face shells of the unit; and,
3. Effectively reduces the minimum web cross-sectional area from those currently required.

To provide context, in its simplest form, this change will permit the web configuration of the standard CMU to be reduced to one full height web measuring 0.75" in thickness (although other configurations would also be permitted).

The change to ASTM C90 has required companion changes to ASTM C140, *Standard Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Concrete Masonry Units and Related Units*, including:

1. measuring web thickness to higher accuracy;
2. replacing the procedures for measuring and calculating the equivalent web thickness with a new procedure for determining the minimum web area.

The proposed changes to both ASTM C90 and ASTM C140 were balloted in the fall of this year, and were approved at the recent ASTM meetings in early December.

To ensure use of units complying with these new requirements, the challenge yet will be to gain approval by the Masonry Standards Joint Committee (MSJC), responsible for the development of

the masonry design code in the U.S., *TMS 402/ACI 530/ASCE 5*. Under the MSJC, the engineered design provisions will require modification, and the use of the empirical design provisions will need to be excluded for CMU having an equivalent web thickness less than those cited in past editions of ASTM C90.

Resulting benefits from this change include:

1. reduced CMU weights (with increase in mason productivity);
2. increased CMU wall thermal resistance (fewer thermal bridges, and more cell volume for fill insulation);
3. larger cell areas for placement of reinforcement in CMU walls; and, flexibility to allow alternative CMU configurations.

The effects of these changes to the Canadian masonry environment include:

1. in the short-term:
 - a. with the elimination of equivalent web thickness measurement and calculation procedures from the next edition of ASTM C140 (and with these relied upon by the existing A165.1 standard to determine "minimum equivalent web thickness"), need for appropriate reference by A165.1 to an earlier edition of ASTM C140.
2. in the long-term:
 - a. consideration for inclusion in CSA A165.1, *Concrete Block Masonry Units*;
 - b. consideration for inclusion in CSA S304, *Masonry Design*, with appropriate recognition in engineered design and exemption under (or substantial modification to) empirical design.

Member Announcements

Your President, Board of Directors, and the Staff of CCMPA wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



The World Center for Concrete Technology is holding a training course for Vibrapac series of block machines March 12-16, 2012 in Alpena, Michigan. The class will cover machine changeovers, mechanical and electrical functions of the Vibrapac series machines in the WCTT's fully operational block plant facility. This is a hands-on course that involves placing an attachment in the machine and recommended adjustments for this process. Hands-on mold repair and electrical troubleshooting on the machine is another highlight of the class. The tuition for this class is US\$1050 and includes books and lunches. For more information contact Barb at 989.358.7359 or visit www.wctt.net.

Hess Machinery in Hamilton, Ontario would like to thank Steve Chudyk for his years with Hess Machinery and involvement in making it the success that it has. Steve retired in October to spend more time with his family and enjoy his hobbies. Steve's responsibilities have been assigned to Axel Green as manager of production facility in Ontario. For more information, visit www.hessmachinery.com or 905-575-4440.