



# eNewsletter

Fall 2012

November 1, 2012

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## OPCA Board

- President  
Mike Hoffman
- Vice President  
Vacant
- Secretary/Treasurer  
Julie Stewart
- Trustee  
Tim Gahm
- Trustee at Large  
Evyian Terry
- Associate Trustee  
Frank Palas
- Past President  
Ed Ciersewski

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## Roland Lindsay Presented Precast Industry's Highest Honor

Roland Lindsay, one of the early leaders of the National Precast Concrete Association, was honored at the NPCA 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in New Orleans with the Robert E. Yoakum Award.

Founder of the Lindsay Precast Companies, Roland and his wife Linda were at the very first NPCA Convention held in Dayton, Ohio in 1965. They were among the small group of precasters and suppliers that helped launch NPCA and have been heavily involved with the association ever since. Roland chaired NPCA in 1988 and two of his executives have also chaired the association – Tim Gesaman in 1999, and Randy Lindsay-Brisbin in 2008.



Roland Lindsay (Left) and Darryl Cloud (Right)

Lindsay started his precast company in the early 1960s and has grown it into a series of five NPCA-certified plants in four states with a combined 350 employees and a

diverse suite of more than 200 products. Included among those products are high-strength concrete vaults and vault doors used by banks across the country. Lindsay has even shipped product overseas to Russia, China, South America and Europe.

Lindsay was honored at an NPCA event held Oct. 6 at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans.

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## 2013 OPCA Conference Dates Set

The annual conference is tentatively scheduled for March 11-12, 2013. The association is in the process of finalizing the details now. The location will be the Embassy Suites Columbus. This is the same hotel where we held the 2012 conference.

Conference registrations will be sent out in January, but get the dates on your calendar now. The conference is a great

place opportunity for precasters in Ohio to network with each other.

Got to [www.ohioprecast.org](http://www.ohioprecast.org) to see more information as the date approaches.

**Other Local Shows of Interest:**  
**Michigan Onsite: 1/10-12, 2013**  
**Precast Show: 1/11-13, 2013**  
**Ohio Onsite: 1/15-16, 2013**  
**Pumper Show: 2/25-28, 2013**  
**Ohio Stormwater: 5/8-10, 2013**

# OPCA Leadership Changes

Several personnel changes have occurred in the leadership of the Ohio Precast Concrete Association. As of August 1, 2012, **Michael Overbay** is no longer serving in the position of Executive director. The co-directors will be **Sam Lines** and **Frank Palas**; both are employees of member

company Concrete Sealants, Inc.

**Jason Garrett** resigned as the President of the OPCA on October 9th. Jason is leaving the precast industry. To fill this position, the OPCA Board has selected **Michael Hoffman**, Lindsay Concrete to fill the remainder of

Jason's term. Mike brings a lot of experience to the association. He is a past President, and he has served as chairman on several committees with the National Precast Concrete Association. Most recently, Mike was elected to a three year term on the Board of Directors for the NPCA.

**"Management is efficiency in climbing the ladder of success; leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall."**

*~Stephen Covey*

## Tech Talk...How do I do that?

By Sam Lines

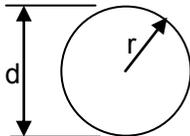
The OPCA newsletter will be offering an ongoing feature called Tech Talk...How do I do that? The feature will focus on one or two technical problems that a precaster may face on any given day. Some examples would be calculating volumes of geometric shapes, calculating the center of gravity of a shape, etc.

I write a web blog called *Best Practices in Precast* where I often discuss best practices. Some of the articles in this feature may, at times, overflow to my blog. The blog address is: [precastanswers.blogspot.com](http://precastanswers.blogspot.com).

This edition will feature some common geometric calculations.

### Circle:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \pi \cdot r^2 \\ \text{Perimeter} &= \pi \cdot d \\ (\pi &= 3.1415) \end{aligned}$$



To calculate the volume of a round shape which has a wall thickness, calculate the area of the outside circle, and then subtract the area of the inside circle. An example is a 48" diameter manhole. For this example, I will assume a 5" wall thickness.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Outside Area} &= 3.1415 \cdot (24" + 5")^2 \\ &= 2,642 \text{ in}^2 \\ \text{Inside Area} &= 3.1415 \cdot (24")^2 \\ &= 1,809.5 \text{ in}^2 \\ \text{Net Area} &= 2,642 - 1,809.5 \\ &= 823.5 \text{ in}^2 \end{aligned}$$

To convert  $\text{in}^2$  to  $\text{ft}^2$ , divide by 144.

$$823.5 \text{ in}^2 / 144 = 5.72 \text{ ft}^2$$

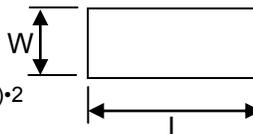
Multiply the net area ( $\text{ft}^2$ ) by the height to calculate the volume. For a 4' tall manhole section, the result would be:

$$5.72 \text{ ft}^2 \cdot 4' = 22.88 \text{ ft}^3$$

So the volume of concrete for this manhole section would be 22.88 cubic feet.

### Rectangle:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= L \cdot W \\ \text{Perimeter} &= (L + W) \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$$



To calculate the volume of a **cube**, multiply the Area by the height. To calculate the volume of a concrete box subtract the volume of the inner cube from the outside cube.

For this example, I will assume an outside length (L) of 60", an outside width (W) of 40", and an outside height of 30". The box will have an open top, a 5" floor, and 5" walls.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Outside volume} &= 60" \cdot 40" \cdot 30" \\ &= 72,000 \text{ in}^3 \\ \text{Inside volume} &= 50" \cdot 30" \cdot 25" \\ &= 37,500 \text{ in}^3 \\ \text{Net volume} &= 72,000 - 37,500 \\ &= 34,500 \text{ in}^3 \end{aligned}$$

To convert  $\text{in}^3$  to  $\text{ft}^3$ , divide by 1,728.

$$34,500 \text{ in}^3 / 1,728 = 19.97 \text{ ft}^3$$

So the volume of concrete for this box section would be 19.97 cubic feet.

Calculating the areas of circles and squares and converting the answer into volumes is important in the precast industry to estimate the quantity of concrete required to manufacture products.

**"Measure twice  
and cut once"**

# When OSHA Comes Calling

You are out of town on business, maybe attending the OPCA Annual Conference, and you get a phone call. It is your plant foreman telling you that an area safety officer with OSHA has arrived to perform a programmed inspection. Are you prepared?

The Boy Scout motto is “Be Prepared”, and this is a great motto for how to run a business also. Planning and developing procedures for handling events that do not occur often is just good practice. An OSHA inspection is one such event. There are a few simple steps that you can do to become better prepared.

## Develop a Plan

There should be a written plan, detailing who to call with phone numbers, when an OSHA Area Officer shows up. This plan should also provide detailed information to instruct your staff on what to ask for to verify that this person is who they say they

are. Asking the officer for a photo identification is an appropriate response if they do not preemptively provide it upon arrival. This plan should also indicate the safety chain of command. In other words: who is notified if the primary safety coordinator is not in the plant.



## Train Others

It is important that at least one other person in your organization is aware of the location of the safety files. The inspector will ask to see your safety plans and the OSHA 300A reports for the previous three years at the opening conference. If the files are not easily accessible, the officer may perceive that the system is not functional, and it will be a springboard to further investigation.

## Provide the Minimum

If the officer asks a question, you do not need to tell them your life's story. Provide concise answers that directly address their question. If they pause, it is a trick to get the auditee to spill their guts. Don't fall for this, and it is also a good idea to train your employees to follow the same policy. Also, if the officer is there to perform a specific inspection as a result of a complaint, anything they see on their way to the object of the complaint is fair game for a potential citation. So it is preferable to take a route that provides the least access to other areas of the operation.

“If you fail to plan, then you plan to fail.” This wise statement is true in so many instances, especially for an unannounced OSHA inspection. Being prepared is the first step in protecting your company from unnecessary scrutiny. Don't hesitate! Develop your plan today.

## Ohio Based Jet, Inc. Receives Award

Jet Inc., a manufacturer of wastewater treatment equipment and a 2012 recipient of the President's “E” Award for exports, recently hosted a visit by Under Secretary of



Commerce Francisco Sánchez and several of his staff at Jet's global headquarters in Highland Heights, Ohio. The visit included a review of Jet's wastewater

treatment technology, a tour of the manufacturing facility, and a discussion of recent Jet initiatives for expanding their export market.

Congratulations to OPCA member company Jet on their award!

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**OUR PURPOSE**

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association (OPCA) is a group of producer members and associated industries cooperating together as an association. The intent being to bring pertinent issues and information that impact the Precast Concrete Industry, to the attention of government agencies which participate in the origination of these issues.

The OPCA is interested in assisting these agencies by providing expert advice and counsel in the development of regulations involving the industry and the general public.

The OPCA producer and associate members whose products and services range from the construction of buildings and highways to the manufacture of precast concrete products for the treatment of commercial and residential waste water. The OPCA member products and services affect the lives of nearly every Ohioan on a daily basis.

Some specific areas of interest being pursued by the OPCA are as follows:

The introduction of new sewage guidelines relating to the specific construction and operation of home waste water treatment products (septic tanks, aerators, etc.) by the Ohio department of health and the Ohio EPA.

The introduction of programs and policies relating to the testing of materials and products being used on Ohio Department of Transportation projects.

The development of quality control procedures and inspections services training by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association will be expanding its' scope of interest as membership roles grow and diversify. The need for input, regarding issues and regulations which effect the large segment of the public which it serves, comes to the forefront.

# OPCA Member Companies

**PRODUCER MEMBERS**

- E.C. Babbert, Inc.
- Everly Concrete Products, Inc.
- Hanson Pipe and Precast
- J.K. Precast, LLC
- Lindsay Concrete Products
- Mack Industries
- Norwalk Concrete Industries
- Poland Concrete Products, Inc.
- Premier Precast Products
- Quaker City Septic Tanks, LLC
- Scioto Valley Precast
- Sickels Septic Tanks, Inc.

Spoerr Precast Concrete, Inc.

Stiger Precast, Inc.

United Precast, Inc.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

- A-lok Products, Inc.
- A.L. Patterson, Inc.
- Blackthorn, LLC
- Champion Pump Company
- Concrete Results, Inc.
- Concrete Sealants, Inc.
- East Jordan Iron Works
- Engineered Wire Products, Inc.
- Euclid Chemical

Hamilton Kent, LLC

Infiltrator Systems, Inc.

Jet, Inc.

Mixer Systems, Inc.

Ohio Electric Control, Inc.

Polylok, Inc. / Zabel Environmental

Premiere Concrete Admixtures, LLC

Sika Corporation

Spillman Company

St. Mary's Cement

Tuf-Tite, Inc.

W.P. Hilts & Company