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PCI Sustainability Council Chair to Speak at DBIA National Convention

Washington, D.C. — PCI (Prestressed/Precast Concrete Institute) Sustainability Council Chair Jim Lewis, RA, LEED AP, of Gate Precast Co. will speak at the 2009 Design-Build Conference and Expo in Washington, D.C., in November. The presentation, titled "Design Build Team Passes the Test at Catholic University," is a case study of a LEED project with pre-insulated architectural precast concrete. Opus Hall is a new resident life facility on the campus of Catholic University of America in Washington.

Jim will be joined by Beth Buffington, AIA, of Little Diversified Architectural Consulting in Arlington, Va., the lead architect on the project. Both Beth and Jim are LEED Accredited Professionals. Carl Petchik, vice president of facilities operations for Catholic University of America, will also join the presentation to discuss the project from the client's point of view. The three will discuss the design-build process and how it contributed to meeting the

integrated, sustainable design goals to comply with the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED new-construction guidelines.

In commenting about the presentation, Lewis notes, "It is a great opportunity to speak to this influential group. The design-build community has a keen interest in accelerated construction techniques, making precast a logical material choice. As LEED projects continue to grow, it's also important to understand how the design-build process and LEED project-management practices are compatible."

Buffington added, "I am excited about having the opportunity to once again collaborate with Carl and Jim. Carl provided the vision and leadership that led to what we believe is a very successful project. Jim educated our firm about the design possibilities that we could achieve with precast concrete that helped realize that vision. Opus Hall is a good example of how the collaborative process is essential in meeting project and sustainability goals."

The 2009 Design-Build Conference will be held at the Gaylord National Convention Center in Washington, D.C., November 5–7. Go to www.designbuildexpo.com for more information. For more information on PCI and achieving your sustainable design goals with precast concrete visit www.pci.org or contact Brian Miller, P.E., LEED AP, PCI managing director of business development, at (312) 360-3216, or bmiller@pci.org

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About PCI

The Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI), founded in 1954, is the foremost developer of standards and methods for designing, fabricating, and constructing precast concrete structures. PCI also operates the world's leading

certification program for firms and individuals in the precast concrete structures industry.

PCI publishes a broad array of periodicals, technical manuals, reports, and other informational documents, including an award-winning technical journal. It also conducts educational seminars, technical conferences, conventions, exhibitions, and awards programs.

Institute members include firms comprising the precast concrete structures industry as well as architects, consultants, contractors, developers, educators, engineers, materials suppliers, service providers, and students.

PCI has 11 regional affiliates across the United States, and maintains relationships with other organizations, both national and worldwide, having interest in precast concrete.