

CONCRETE Monthly

News from the cement and concrete industries

Count on Concrete

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INDUSTRY NEWS

Pennsy Supply gets students involved in concrete with area competition

Students from Dauphin County (Pennsylvania) Technical School won the Pennsy Concrete Challenge for the third consecutive year with concrete samples that best withstood rigorous strength and durability testing and showcased their newly acquired knowledge on the properties and versatility of concrete.

This year's competition, held at Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) Wildwood Campus in Harrisburg, Penn. included three area high schools and technology schools: Cedar Cliff High School, Cumberland Valley High School and Dauphin County Technical School.

Pennsy Supply Inc., a south-central Pennsylvania's supplier of aggregate, concrete and asphalt, and the Civil Technology Program at HACC teamed up to create the program, which includes a classroom curriculum, culminating in a one-day competition to teach high school

Milan Lipensky, quality assurance manager for Pennsy Supply, approached the Civil Technology Program at HACC with the idea for the Concrete Challenge in 2004.

Under the supervision of Associate Professor Janka Ovcharovichova, two of HACC's civil technology students took on the Challenge as part of a required project for graduation. The HACC students visited the schools participating in the inaugural competition, prepared contest rules in accordance with the American Concrete Institute, created the classroom curriculum packages and served as judges for the one-day competition.

This year's competition was judged by Ovcharovichova; Tim Kindt, Pennsy Supply; Don Ford, Admixtures Inc.; Ken Crank, Pennsylvania Aggregate and Concrete Association; and HACC civil technology students Daneen Hutton and Keith Goddard.

Prior to the one-day competition, students study all components of concrete, including plain and enhanced with admixtures; support the work with computations; and mix several batches of concrete. On the day of competition, students' sample concrete cylinders are "broken" to measure strength and durability requirements.

Based in Harrisburg, Pennsy Supply (oldeastlemidatlantic.com) is a part of the



Posing with students of Dauphin County Technical School are Michael Zorek, instructor (second row right) and Milan Lipensky, Pennsy Supply quality assurance manager.

Mid-Atlantic Group of Oldcastle Materials Inc., which includes Slusser Brothers in West Hazleton, Penn., Tilcon-Delaware in Dover, Del. and Pioneer Concrete in Wilmington, Del. Serving the region for more than 80 years, Pennsy operates 13 quarries producing

crushed stone, sand and high-calcium limestone, and 12 manufacturing plants, which turn aggregate into blacktop and concrete. With more than 500 employees, the company has earned local, regional and national recognition for its community

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Pennsy's Crohn's & Colitis fundraiser

Pennsy Supply employees, family and friends took to the roads on May 5, in memory of Leroy Kratzer, a 16-year Pennsy employee who died in May 2006. An unconventional convoy of more than 80 motorcycles, a fire truck, a Pennsy Supply mixer truck and various cars, vintage cars and trucks made their way from the Pennsy Supply Training Facility in Annville to the Carsonville Hotel in support of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation. Kratzer's widow, Tracy, and a number of employees suffer from the diseases.