



Verti-Crete News

"The Evolution of Precasting"

Special Interest Articles:

- Minnesota Thumbs Up
- New Licensees With Verti-Crete
- VC Introduces New Adjustable Bottom Gasket

Individual Highlights:

Minnesota	1
New Licensees	2
New Product	4
VC Producers	4

Verti-Crete, LLC
(801) 571-2028

www.verti-crete.com

Two-Sided Sound Wall Gets Two Thumbs Up In Minnesota

When reviewing bids for a new sound wall system, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MN/DOT) did a double take. Not only were they impressed with the proposal made by Crest Precast Concrete, but the company had suggested double-sided textured walls—something never attempted by the state before.

The concept was especially appealing since the new wall system would run through upscale Rochester, a neighborhood community whose residents were adamant that the appearance of this new wall "mattered." The wall would surround a \$232 million 6-lane highway improvement project that would change the face of the city for visitors and residents.

Prior to design, MN/DOT requested multiple meetings with

Crest, the City Manager, and the local Chamber of Commerce, to focus on the aesthetics of the project. The result: 225,000 square feet of sound wall made double-sided and in double time to thrill both residents and MN/DOT alike.

First impressions were of first concern
Textured concrete walls had been a front-running material



for MN/DOT before, but it was the wall backs that gave the organization pause. The non-textured side was the side facing neighborhoods and businesses. Communities had complained in the past about the unattractive

additions. The hilly terrain of Rochester accentuated this concern since a different side of the wall is seen depending on the viewer's elevation.

Crest proposed construction of concrete walls with textures on both sides using vertically poured forms from Verti-Crete. In conjunction with Verti-Crete, Crest developed a custom texture for the molds that mimicked

the split-block pattern common in local construction. Not only did the pattern complement Rochester architecture, the stone texture itself is reminiscent of the limestone bluffs and native material of the area. The walls were

double-stained in earth tones post-construction, to match the environment.

Continued on Page 3...

Verti-Crete Welcomes Five New Licensees:

Kerrville and Houston, Texas - Idaho Falls - Lac La Biche and Saskatoon, Canada

Verti-Crete is very proud to welcome the addition of five new licensees.

In Kerrville, Texas, our new licensee is C&M Precast. Owner Bob Barker said, "Rather than trying to design and market our own system, we decided to go with Verti-Crete. We wanted something top of the line and a leader in the industry." C&M has been in the precast industry since 1978 and last year the company did \$2 million. Barker said he sees Verti-Crete being the biggest part of their success in the next few years. "We felt it was a great opportunity to bring this into our product line. We like the diversification we have now, and see this opening up new markets for us that nobody in our area can do." Barker added, "We already had a customer choose us over another because of Verti-Crete's quality and attention to detail. We're really pleased to offer the Verti-Crete system." For more information contact Bob Barker of C&M Precast at (830) 367-5988.

From Houston, Texas, Delta Pre-Cast has now joined the team as a Verti-Crete producer. Jose Oyoque and Garson Silvers found Verti-Crete when they were unhappy with another supplier. Their combined experience in architectural pre-cast, masonry, and stucco has prepared them for success with Verti-Crete. Silvers said, "After trying other wall systems we found Verti-Crete was better and more versatile." Silvers explained, "With Verti-Crete's system we're in a wide-open

market—this is the future. For more information contact Garson Silvers with Delta Pre-Cast at (832) 228-0884.

In Idaho Falls, Idaho, our new licensee is Wilson Concrete Products. Owner Robert Wilson has experience in a variety of things from manholes and septic tanks to parking bumpers. He is excited to do something different—above ground this time. Wilson said, "I liked the appearance of the panels and am ready to take on any market, commercial or residential." For more information contact Robert Wilson with Wilson Concrete Products at (208) 521-2764.

In Lac La Biche, Alberta, Canada, our new licensee is Lac La Biche Garage, Ltd. Owner Leon Rudiger said he's glad he found Verti-Crete. He said, "I was looking for something in this industry for the last ten years and happened to find Verti-Crete online." Rudiger comes from a construction background and said he enjoys the ease of installation and look of the finished product. For more information contact Leon Rudiger at Lac La Biche Garage, Ltd. at (780) 623-3222.

From Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Canada, we welcome new licensee, Pre-Con Limited, owned and operated by Ellery Siermachesky. Pre-Con now proudly uses Verti-Crete's mold

and form system to add decorative concrete walls and columns to his product offering. Siermachesky has 19 years experience in the precast industry doing everything from holding tanks to aggregate planters and signs. When asked what drew him to Verti-Crete he said, "I liked the look of Verti-Crete compared to other precast systems, and my customers sound interested and excited when I tell them about our new product line." For more information contact Ellery Siermachesky with Pre-Con Limited, at (306) 931-9229.

We're very excited to have these five new licensees and wish them all the best.



Continued from "Two Sided Sound Wall..." on page 1

Built for the long haul
The durability of the walls was a winning factor for Crest as well. Most sound walls in the region are created of wood, a material that is pleasing to the eye, but far inferior to concrete in sound abatement, maintenance, and longevity. The new concrete installation is impervious to UV damage, can withstand the heavy winter salting of Minnesota roads, and is less likely to sustain serious damage from road traffic.

Vertical system saved labor—and saved the day
As a rare design-build project, the Rochester plan had to impress MN/DOT with an overall aesthetic concept and an equally attractive construction process. Crest also faced a tactical challenge given the nine-month timeframe. "We'd previously completed five sound walls poured flat, and were comfortable with flat bed pouring methods, but this was the first project of this scope we'd proposed to pour vertical. It could have

been risky," said Steve Mader, Crest president. Fortunately, the process and results gave Mader reason to look to vertical pourings for more future projects.

"Because the walls are poured back to back, we save a huge amount of space in the plant. And labor was much less for this project than we would have used if we were pouring flat. We saved 25% in labor—setting up, casting, and stripping—which is even more savings than we had estimated," Mader noted.

The Verti-Crete system used consists of a patented, battery-style mold design. Concrete is poured from the top into a series of two-sided molds arranged back to back. According to Verti-Crete Vice President of Business Development, Mike Sharp, as many as 10 panels can be produced in the space otherwise occupied by a single casting bed lying horizontally. "With the Panel Stacker System, you can precast a wall with an

"A" quality molded design on both sides. The double-sided finish is what customers want, but it's the system's efficient use of both labor and space that makes satisfying that demand feasible."

Molds that made the grade
"I was really nervous Verti-Crete could supply liners that could last throughout this project," said Mader. "MN/DOT managers were also concerned we wouldn't get the [texture] relief we were looking for through the duration of the project." However, Mader was pleased to find that the molds withstood 300 pours per cavity. In his estimation, other types of molds give quality relief for only about 120 uses.

"We poured two 4-foot panels in one mold and six 6-foot panels in another as a gang mold. The project called for 3,000 panels and 800 posts and caps. We never had to replace a mold, and they're still at about 90% of new." Sharp of Verti-Crete gives credit to the company's use of unique, high-grade polyurethane and proprietary design for the molds' durability.

Footing designs gave flexibility on hilly terrain
Once the textured panels were poured at Crest's plant, they were transported to the construction site. Because of the grade change elevations, the footing designs required careful engineering. "We used embedded posts for about 75% of the project," explains Mader. "The 20' walls used columns embedded in caissons and 10' walls were surface-mounted to footings using an anchor bolt and plate design."

Crest completed construction in the summer of 2005—on schedule and on budget. While that left MN/DOT and Crest officials happy at project completion, it is Rochester residents who are very pleased thanks to their community's new double-sided addition.

Further information
Crest Precast Concrete is located in La Crescent, Minnesota and also runs a plant in Barneveld, Wisconsin. In addition to sound wall systems, Crest specializes in precast buildings, utility vaults, and architectural installations. The company serves its home state as well as Illinois, Iowa, and the Dakotas.

For more information contact Crest at 1-800-658-9045 and at www.crestprecastconcrete.com



The new concrete installation is impervious to UV damage, can withstand the heavy winter salting of Minnesota roads, and is less likely to sustain serious damage from road traffic



Mail
PO Box 2347
Sandy, UT 84091
USA

Physical Location
16500 S. 500 W.
Bluffdale, UT 84065
USA

PHONE:
(801) 571-2028

FAX:
(801) 606-7786

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.verti-crete.com
sales@verti-crete.com

New Adjustable Bottom Gaskets Available

The latest and greatest at Verti-Crete is a new molded adjustable bottom gasket. This will fit the contour of the stone pattern at the height you specify in the mold. You can now make any wall or column at the height you desire with no cutting involved. You'll love the flexibility of these new gaskets and the new opportunities you'll have to offer walls and columns at any height the customer wants.



About Verti-Crete...

Verti-Crete, LLC is the leading producer of vertically poured precast wall and post systems. Our patent-pending system design outperforms traditional cast methods by dramatically improving product quality and functionality while actually reducing production and installation costs.

Verti-Crete's mold and

form systems produce beautiful, seamless, double-sided commercial grade walls and posts. Made from pre-cast concrete, they have the look and feel of real stone. Produce more square feet in less space and less time.

Standard privacy wall systems come in 4', 6', 8' or 10' high by 12' long. Commercial sound wall

systems, including pre-stress enabled, can be designed to your specifications.

For more information on how you can license and purchase your Verti-Crete system, please contact us at 801-571-2028 or visit us at www.verti-crete.com

Verti-Crete Licensees

Afco Precast Corp.
Middle Island, NY
(631) 924-7400
peter.kaplan@oldcastleprecast.com

American Precast
Phoenix, AZ
(480) 988-3899
preber@cox.net

Atlantic Pipe Corporation
San Juan, Puerto Rico
(787) 788-5400
igarcia@atlanticpipe.com

C&M Precast
Kerrville, TX
(830) 367-5988
bob@candmprecast.com

Color Country Precast
St. George, UT
(435) 673-6790
mike@colorcountryprecast.com

Crest Precast
La Crescent, MN
(507) 895-2342
info@crestprecastconcrete.com

Delta Pre-Cast
Houston, TX
(832) 228-0884
garsonsilvers@sbcglobal.net

EAM Manufacturing
Colorado Springs, CO
(719) 634-2828
dschanel@aol.com

Great Wall Systems
Denver, CO
(303) 991-6600
cboortz@asrcompanies.com

Hawk Construction
Dallas, TX
(972) 547-6652
jpwhawk@airmail.net

Lubbock Concrete Service
Lubbock, TX
(806) 797-1059

Marzano & Sons
June Lake, CA
(760) 648-7455
mrm@schat.com

McCann Concrete Products
St. Louis, MO
(618) 377-3888
mark.melvin@sbcglobal.net

Norwalk Concrete Industries
Norwalk, OH
(419) 668-8167
imalcolm@nciprecast.com

O Well Precast
Salt Lake City, UT
(801) 571-5041
dave@owellprecast.com

Progressive Precast
Lincoln, NE
(402) 434-5652
igran@hamptonlots.com

Segmental Designs
Tampa, FL
(813) 973-4425
lfalls@acpff.com

Stone-Cast, LLC
Topeka, KS
(785) 862-2474
dqgary@wolfconstructioncompany.com

Teknafab
Vancouver, WA
(800) 377-3877
sales@verti-cretenw.com

Tektoniks Corporation
Walla Walla, WA
(509) 529-8424
shawn@tektonikscorp.com

Wiki Wiki Walls
Waianae, HI
(808) 782-4547
wartena@yahoo.com

Wally Walls
Casper, WY
(307) 259-1770
mvcacr@iuno.com

Wilson Concrete Products
Idaho Falls, ID
(208) 521-2764

International

Carlow Pre-Cast Tanks
Dublin, Ireland
011 353 1 8015889
engineer@carlowprecasttanks.com

Lac La Biche Garage, Ltd.
Lac La Biche, Canada
(780) 623-3222
louisjr@telus.net

Magest Algeria
Hydra, Alger-Algeria
(213) (0) 21 69 2336
salesalg@magest.com

Pre-Con Limited
Saskatoon, Canada
(306) 931-9229
ellery@preconltd.ca

Ruggiero
Potenza, Italy
pasquale.ruggiero@virgilio.it