

PRESS RELEASE

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IOWA READY MIXED CONCRETE ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2017 EXCELLENCE IN CONCRETE AWARDS

AMES, IOWA - The 24rd Annual Excellence in Concrete Awards were announced on November 9, 2017, at a ceremony in Ames, Iowa. The Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association (IRMCA) hosted the awards luncheon during the Iowa Better Concrete Conference.

The Excellence in Concrete Awards recognize outstanding projects from throughout the state. Entries were judged on the following criteria: architectural design, engineering and construction challenges, complexity of project, uniqueness of project, workmanship, finished impression, and diverse application of ready mixed concrete.

The 2017 Excellence in Concrete Award winners are listed below by category.

AGRICULTURAL CATEGORY

Grain Millers Oat Storage Complex, St. Ansgar

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Croell, Inc. St. Ansgar

Owner: Grain Millers, Inc., Eden Prairie, MN

Engineer: Todd & Sargent, Inc. Ames

Planning, design, and engineering took approximately 5 months on the 8 silo, 42ft. diameter bins, with a 21 ft. bubble bin 140 ft. tall complex. The footing was just over 3 ft. thick, taking just over 2,000 CY to fill. The silo slip took around the clock batching using 2 crews, each working 12 hours.

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In 7 days, they batched just shy of 5,000 CY. Throughout this process, there was impressive coordination of material delivery, whether cement, rock, or sand. On the delivery end, we had 7 days of almost 500 loads of concrete with no rejections. This consistency, along with the outstanding work of the haulers and dispatchers, enabled Todd and Sargent to obtain the finish and appearance desired in the is project.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS (<5,000 CY) CATEGORY

Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Waterloo

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Manatt's, Inc., Elk Run Heights

General Contractor: Ryan Companies US, Inc., Cedar Rapids

Concrete Subcontractor: Reitz Construction, Blue Grass

Architect/Designer: INVISION Architecture, Waterloo

Engineer: Saul Engineering, Des Moines

The former John Deere manufacturing building was remodeled into this impressive hotel. The Marriott is the 2nd building of the Cedar Valley Tech Works campus on Westfield Ave. The hotel will have 166 rooms altogether, of which there are several Presidential suites complete with board rooms. It will also have a large banquet room and two restaurants. Reitz construction placed all new concrete on the project. They built the entire floor of the ground level area, the road leading into the hotel, as well as the parking area, sidewalks, and some patios. There is also a swimming pool on one of the upper floors. Reitz used haydite aggregate in the concrete for the deck surrounding the pool.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS (>5,000 CY) CATEGORY

LightEdge Data Center, Altoona

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: CTI Ready Mix, LLC, Grimes

Owner: Edge Business Continuity Center LLC, Des Moines

General Contractor: Ball Team LLC, Urbandale

Concrete Subcontractors: Concrete Technologies, Inc., Grimes

Architects/Designer: Bell/Knott & Associates, Leawood, KS

Engineer: PMA Engineering, Overland Park, KS

LightEdge Data Center provides its customers with guaranteed, continuous computer services. By utilizing concrete to construct a building that will survive tornado force winds, LightEdge provides service that will not be interrupted. Ready mixed concrete was utilized throughout the building.

Cast-in-place foundations support precast wall panels and the concrete roof structure is designed to accommodate extreme wind and snow loads. A serpentine, cast-in-place, architectural wall winds its way around a stunning entrance. Utilizing custom form liners and colored concrete, this wall is an integral part of the structure and creates an unforgettable first impression. The designers recognized the versatility of concrete, both geometrically and structurally. Everyone involved worked seamlessly to produce a project that is truly unique in central Iowa.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL DECORATIVE CATEGORY

LightEdge Data Center, Altoona

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PARKING AREAS/DRIVES (<1,000 CY) CATEGORY

Pizza Ranch, Burlington

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Ideal Ready Mix, Co., Inc., West Burlington

Owner: John Mohr, Sigourney

General Contractor: Bi-State Contracting, Inc., West Burlington

Concrete Subcontractor: Jones Contracting Corp., West Point

Architect/Designer: ISG, Mankato, MN

This project may not sound like the most complex, or require a great degree of engineering, but it does stand out for other reasons. The original design called for asphalt paving. The challenge was there was no architectural consideration given to concrete or contract time. The owner and architect were petitioned to allow the use of concrete (687 CY) for the paved areas. This allowed greater flexibility with schedules that included the challenge of building over the winter months. Once the subbase was in place, concrete was poured every time weather permitted. Hot water and blanketing were utilized when required. Without the contractor working together with the subcontractor and local IRMCA member to get concrete approved, there would have been no way the project could have opened on time.

PARKING AREAS/DRIVES (>1,000 CY) CATEGORY

Hy-Vee Burlington #2 Convenience Store & Car Wash

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Ideal Ready Mix Co., Inc., West Burlington

Owner: Hy-Vee Inc., West Des Moines

General Contractor: Hy-Vee Construction L.C., Des Moines

Concrete Subcontractor: Mike Nelson Concrete Paving Company

Engineer: LT Leon Associates, Inc., Des Moines

This project had a varying mix of complexity and architectural /engineering design consideration. The parking lot concrete was cured with a resin based membrane forming compound and received a medium broom finish. The decorative color band was hand tooled around bollards, acid stained, and sealed. It required 5,000 linear ft. of hand formed curb, with additional complex radius islands. It entailed both light and heavy duty concrete placement as well as winter conditions placement including high early strength concrete mixes and covering with blankets. Multiple mobilizations were required to facilitate the gas station moving into their new building before work could proceed in the employee parking area. Working with multiple trades to coordinate pours around gas equipment and underground fuel storage tanks, along with public protection working in an operating parking lot was especially challenging and noteworthy to the successful outcome of this project.

PUBLIC WORKS – RECREATIONAL CATEGORY

Bee Branch Watershed Mitigation Project, Dubuque

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: BARD Materials, Dubuque

Owner: City of Dubuque

General Contractor: Portzen Construction, Inc. Dubuque

Concrete Subcontractor: Portzen Construction, Inc. and D&D Superior Concrete, Dubuque

Structures: Tricon Construction Group, Dubuque

Bridge Contractor: Jim Schroeder Construction, Inc., Bellevue

Inlet Structure & Overlook: Southside Concrete, Zwingle

Trails: D&D Superior Concrete, Dubuque

Excavating: Tschiggfrie Excavating, Dubuque

Architect: Strand Associates, Inc., Madison, WI

Engineer: IIW Engineering, Dubuque

This project is a multi-faceted approach to address the severe and frequent flooding experienced in downtown areas and impacting businesses and residents within this watershed area. This project features a multi-use trail system, a play area, a bioswale board walk, scenic overlooks, an urban orchard and garden, and an outdoor amphitheater. The recreational trail starting on the lower end of the Bee Branch connects to Dubuque County's Heritage Trail at the city's north end and a 26 mile journey to Dyersville. There are several types of architectural structures associated with this project. From bridges, to waterfalls, to scenic overlooks, it has a character of its own. It is a feature the city of Dubuque can truly be proud of.

PUBLIC WORKS – STRUCTURES CATEGORY

1st Ave Grade Separation Project, Iowa City

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Croell, Inc., Iowa City

Owner/ Engineer: City of Iowa City

General Contractor: Peterson Contractors, Inc., Reinbeck

Architect/Designer: Snyder & Associates, Inc., Ankeny

First Avenue is a major north-south arterial roadway on the east side of Iowa City carrying 14,000 vehicles a day and is also an active pedestrian corridor. It provides access across Iowa Interstate Railway (IAIS) which runs multiple trains with frequent switching and servicing to IAIS customers adjacent to First Ave. This amount of rail traffic caused frequent backups at the pre-existing at grade crossing. After many iterations and concepts, it was determined that lowering First Ave approximately 16.5 feet and raising IAIS 5 feet by means of a steel girder bridge would be the preferred option. Staging was a significant aspect of this project and was paramount to maintaining safe vehicular, pedestrian, and rail traffic. The project included design and construction for the roadway, retaining wall system, steel girder bridge, and aesthetics. Today, the First Avenue corridor is safe, visually appealing, and inclusive of multiple modes of transportation through a defined corridor that provides a safe means of crossing IAIS without delays.

RECREATIONAL TRAILS CATEGORY

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RESIDENTIAL ABOVE-GRADE HOMES CATEGORY

Matt & Ewa Humphrey Residence, Adel

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Liberty Ready Mix, Urbandale

Owners: Matt & Ewa Humphrey, Adel

General Contractor: Newcastle Home Builders, Winterset

Concrete Subcontractor: Stromax Construction, Inc., Winterset

Architect/Designer: Matt Humphrey, Adel

Engineer: Lange Structural Group, Lincoln, NE

ICF Supplier: Fox Blocks by Airlite Plastics Co., Omaha, NE

ICF Decking Supplier: Lite-Form Technologies, LLC, South Sioux City, NE

The Humphrey residence is a unique, one-of-a-kind home that was purposely designed to project a strong industrial look and feel. Insulated concrete forms were used to construct all exterior walls. A 2-story radius wall provides an expansive view. The roof is post-tensioned concrete over a Lite-Deck core. Lite-Deck was also used for the garage floor to allow for insulated, finished living space below. The main level floors are metal decking over steel bar joists with a burnished concrete cap. The floors on the lower level are burnished concrete as well. The concrete floors are a key component of the radiant system that heats and cools the home. The home also includes a 215 ft. safe room.

RESIDENTIAL DECORATIVE CATEGORY

Morio Pool House & Backyard Environment, Solon

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Hawkeye Ready-Mix, Inc., Coralville

Owners: Nick & Kim Morio, Solon

General Contractor: CRH Construction, Solon

Concrete Subcontractor: Power Concrete Construction & Design Center, North Liberty

Architect/Designer: Sundberg Design-Architect, Cedar Rapids

Pool Contractor: Barrington Pools, South Barrington, IL

This project incorporates multiple uses of decorative concrete and ready mix concrete applications. The open air pool house has polished concrete floors colored with a Prosoco Gem-tone bronze colored dye/stain. The floors incorporate radiant tubing and are diamond polished to a 3,000 grit mirror like finish. The covered patio has a Brickform Roman Slate Seamless texture stamp with custom saw cut tile patterns. The two sets of stamped concrete steps lead guests to the lower pool deck areas. The project is comprised of over 450 yards of concrete in the construction of the foundation footings, walls, floors, pool shell, stamped concrete stoops, steps, patio, and pool deck areas. The rectangle design of the pool is nestled into a free form stamped roman slate (Brickform) seamless textured pool deck. This project was a stunning success due to the creativity, skill and efforts of all subcontractors involved. The consistent service and support of the ready mix team contributed to this amazing backyard environment.

STREETS AND INTERSECTIONS CATEGORY

West Point Ave D, West Point

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Ideal Ready Mix Co., Inc., West Burlington

Owner: City of West Point

General Contractor/ Concrete Subcontractor: Jones Contracting Corp., West Point

Engineer: Garden & Associates, Ltd., Oskaloosa

This project included reconstruction of Ave D from 4th Street to 8th Street. Ave D is the main road that runs east/west through the town of West Point. The majority of businesses in town are located on Ave D, which created a challenge in detouring traffic while construction was taking place. During the 1st stage (full width replacement between 7th & 8th Streets), due to power pole obstacles the center 2 lanes were slip-formed, and the remaining curb and gutter sections poured by hand. The 2nd stage (4th St. to 7th St.) consisted of slip-forming 40' wide back to back curb (in 2 passes) along with off street parking and sidewalks along the building fronts. With a steady flow of ready mix and coordination among the subcontractors, the project was completed in mid- June, well before the August 10th annual Sweet Corn Festival deadline.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES CATEGORY

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JUDGES CHOICE AWARD

Hammann House, Bellevue

Ready Mixed Concrete Producer: Bellevue Sand & Gravel Co., Bellevue

Owner: Greg & Carol Hammann, Bellevue

Concrete Subcontractor: Patzner Concrete, Inc., Durango

Greg & Carol Hammann's house sits on the edge of a limestone bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. Limestone was used in the exterior of the house and the landscaping. With the ability to color, mold, and stamp, concrete complemented the limestone. With no architect or engineer involved, Patzner Concrete and the owners designed the project from the back of the house to the street. This is a large project with a lot of square footage and many small pours. Patzner Concrete was able to reproduce the same color, texture and patterns from day one to end of project. A crowded job site shared with the landscaper made this project challenging. They worked together and the landscaper also had Patzner create colored and stamped concrete flag stone for walking paths. The video nomination submission of this project was cutting edge and definitely set it apart! Shot from an overhead drone, it was able to capture the details of this stunningly beautiful project in a unique and captivating way.

For photos of the Excellence in Concrete Award winners or an electronic copy of this press release, visit www.iowareadymix.org

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IRMCA is a state organization representing the ready mixed concrete industry.

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