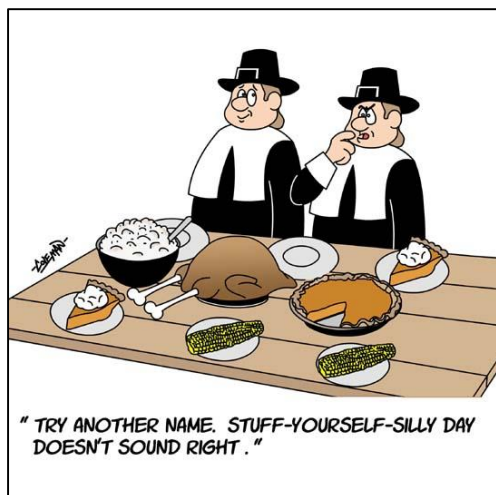


Director's Notes

November is a time when things quiet down in the plants and we get to celebrate accomplishments of the year. Thanksgiving is a purely American tradition; it is a time to celebrate the year, by being with friends and family and to be grateful. I am always grateful for the support of the EIG family.



I wish you all a happy Thanksgiving.



Fall Business Meeting

Nearly 40 EIG members attended the EIG Meeting in Chicago at the beginning of November and it was a great opportunity to network and reconnect. The minutes have been distributed and EIG welcomes any feedback.

Publication on Coated Reinforcing Steel

An article authored by Dr. David titled "Current Status of Coated Reinforcing Steel" was presented in the November 2014 issue of Structure Magazine. This article covers Epoxy-coated, Galvanized, Dual-coated and Vinyl-coated reinforcing and may be downloaded at: <http://tinyurl.com/od9wy65>

IDOT Training

The IDOT training will occur on January 19, 2014 in Springfield, IL from 9 am until 4 pm. More details will be presented in December when EIG secures a block of hotel rooms.

ASTM Meeting, New Orleans

Work was conducted at the ASTM meeting resolving negatives relating to ASTM A775. During the meeting, significant discussion was held regarding inclusion of ASTM D3963 in the ASTM A775 specification. The negative proposed by David Gustafson was voted non-persuasive at the Sub-committee level and the document will be balloted in the Main Committee.



A task group was also established to discuss alternate tests for abuse resistance of epoxy-coated reinforcing steel. The task group includes several coating suppliers, Dr. Darwin and Dr. O'Reilly from Kansas University, and several powder suppliers. Please let EIG know if you wish to participate.

Votes were also taken regarding modifications of keywords to remove the words "corrosion resistance" from the A767 specification. The specification for continuously galvanized reinforcing steel was also presented and discussed. Both documents will be resubmitted at the Sub-committee level.

CRSI Fly-In

The Legislative Fly-In will occur on April 14 and 15, 2015. Please consider supporting this event to meet your representatives and lobby for a robust long-term transportation bill.

Chicago Reserve President Supports Infrastructure Investment

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago President Charles Evans said the best time for infrastructure investment is when borrowing costs are low and unemployment high and that economists agree such spending can boost incomes. Evans cited a University of Chicago Booth School of Business survey of 44 economists in which 82 percent agreed with a statement saying the federal government has an opportunity to increase average incomes by spending more on roads, railways, bridges and airports. The rest of the respondents were uncertain or had no opinion.



The regional Fed bank president also pointed to data from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute showing

highway congestion adds \$27 billion in costs per year to the shipping industry. He said this has led some large companies to create “just-in-case warehouses” on the edge of congested cities to ensure deliveries can be made. <http://tinyurl.com/njzt5az>



- Stronger steel is manufactured using more carbon, leading to brittleness
- MMFX has the lowest installed cost for corrosion resistant rebar
- Canada has not used epoxy recently
- ECR design life is only 35 years and galvanized is 64 years

Many of these statements are inaccurate or misleading, and methods to correct the information are being reviewed.

Basalt Operations

A basalt fiber plant is being built in Michigan and it is almost operational. This product is being made in Calumet, MI and it just won a sustainability award. Please let EIG know if you are able to obtain samples or see additional literature on this product. <http://tinyurl.com/jwqrzck>



NSSGA

How much are you paying for roads?

The National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association has presented a 1-page document on how much federal tax car drivers are paying for passenger vehicles. It also shows how much a 12-cent change in the gas tax will increase this amount.

Current Tax

Hybrid @ 40 mpg → \$53 per year
Sedan @ 22 mpg → \$96 per year
SUV @ 16 mpg → \$132 per year

Additional Tax at 12 c/gallon

Hybrid @ 40 mpg → \$35 per year
Sedan @ 22 mpg → \$63 per year
SUV @ 16 mpg → \$87 per year

Competitor News

On November 20, 2014, EIG heard a talk by Jeff Girard from MMFX. This presentation was made to about 20 people from the Wisconsin Chapter of ACI. During the talk, several statements were made, including:

- MMFX is a manufacturer of reinforcing steel
- MMFX is accepted by FHWA

Quote

Progress lies not in enhancing what is, but in advancing toward what will be.

Kahlil Gibran

Date	Event
December 4 – 5	Accelerated Bridge Conference, Miami, FL
December 11	ASTM D Committee, New Orleans, LA
January 5 – 6	UNM 51st Paving and Transportation Conference, Albuquerque, NM
January 11 – 15	TRB Washington, DC
January 19	IDOT Training, Springfield, IL
February 3 – 6	World of Concrete, Las Vegas, NV
March 9 – 13	CRSI Technical Meeting, Tempe, AZ
April 12 – 16	ACI, Kansas City, MO
April 14 – 15	Legislative Fly-In, Washington, DC
April 19 – 23	AASHTO Subcommittee on Bridges, Saratoga Springs, NY