

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

MARK HUGHES IS ICRI'S NEW TECHNICAL DIRECTOR



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When I saw the advertisement for this position, it contained this statement: “It’s a place where you can put your innovative thinking, business skills, and expertise into high gear and work alongside other highly intelligent and motivated people.” I could not have created a phrase that expressed my desires about my workplace more succinctly and at that point I knew I had found people I truly wanted to work with.

My background is a well-rounded mixture of consulting engineering, municipal exposure, and hardcore general contracting that has left me with an intimate insight into the construction industry. While I am certainly not an expert, I have had a variety of experiences with concrete repair and protection, most of which were related to remediating problems with new construction. I look forward to expanding my knowledge of the concrete repair industry.

My desire is to gain as great an understanding as possible of the resources this organization has to offer and to make that information accessible in ways that have not been used by this

group in the past. My overall goal is to increase awareness of the material this group has developed and, through that exposure, grow the membership base. Additional members should provide a greater resource pool to investigate and develop new concepts; they would also share experiences that could be of value to existing members.

I am also extremely excited about the development of new certification courses that will follow the completion of the Concrete Repair Code coming from the American Concrete Institute (ACI) Committee 562. I feel these courses are the future of ICRI and the concrete repair industry and they will offer a level of confidence in concrete repairs that could allow repair and rehabilitation work to be considered over new construction, thus enabling this work to become a more sustainable initiative over building new.

I look forward to working with the wide variety of talented people that comprise this Institute and being exposed to the latest technological improvements in concrete repair. Whether there are new materials, new procedures, new comprehension of chemical reactions, or unique conditions that warrant a different approach to solving a problem, I am honored to be a part of the discovery and information-sharing process.