## TACTALK

## MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION SUMMARY



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CRI had a productive 2009 Spring Convention in Minneapolis, MN, the "City of Lakes." One highlight for me was the tour and dinner at the Mill City Museum on Friday night. The museum provided a great opportunity to learn about the rich history of Minneapolis as the long-time supplier of flour to the world. The technical committee meetings

were well attended and, as usual, much was accomplished at the convention. The ICRI Technical Committees are hard at work with the following activities:

- Revising or reapproving six of the 13 existing ICRI guidelines;
- Finalizing two new guidelines that should be ready for publication later this year;
- Working on five new guidelines that are in various stages of progress;
- Working on several guideline specifications; and
- Working on several material data sheet protocols.

The first new guideline is produced by the Evaluation Committee and is titled "Nondestructive Evaluation Methods for Condition Assessment, Repair, and Performance Monitoring of Concrete Structures." This guideline provides a roadmap of which nondestructive evaluation methods may be applicable for various conditions that are commonly encountered in prerepair investigations, quality control during repairs, and performance monitoring after completion of repairs. This

guideline will be simple to use and a practical reference for nondestructive evaluation techniques.

The second upcoming new guideline is titled "Guidelines and Recommendations for Safety in the Concrete Repair Industry," and was developed by the Environmental Health and Safety Committee. The guideline is an illustrative document that can be a quick reference for field forces performing repairs, as it covers many safety issues found on concrete repair projects. In addition, the guideline can serve as a resource for safety training and a field reference.

The theme of the spring convention was "Repair in Extreme Environments." A total of 13 excellent presentations were delivered and by all accounts the technical sessions received high marks. These presentations covered many different project types, repair methodologies, and special materials. Through their presentations, the speakers illustrated the vast expertise and ingenuity that ICRI members have. Thank you to all the speakers for their excellent presentations. In addition, recognition goes to Peter Golter and Kelly Page for their great job in organizing the technical sessions.

Finally, the TAC held its second special meeting dedicated to strategic planning. The committee confirmed and prioritized near- and long-term goals and started working on implementation strategies. Our goal is to submit the TAC Strategic Plan to the ICRI Executive Committee this fall.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments regarding ICRI Technical Committees. You can reach me at KMichols@wje.com or (847) 272-7400.