The 2½-day spring meeting of the National Concrete Consortium (NC²), hosted by the Colorado DOT, brought together the expertise and experience of 210 attendees from: FHWA, 35 DOTs (71 individuals), the Illinois Tollway, academia, and industry, in an excellent event focused on improving concrete performance and structural concrete applications. Maria Masten, Concrete Materials Engineer from the Minnesota Department of Transportation, is the current chairperson. The meeting agenda and all technical presentations are available on the NCC website (link).

The general session consisted of 22 topics presented by representatives from four state agencies, three from FHWA, seven from academia, one from the Bureau of Reclamation, and four from the industry sector.

Meeting presentation highlights include:

- **Updates:**
  - Federal Highway Administration
  - PEM
  - State reports
  - National Concrete Pavement Technology Center

- **Hot Topics in Bridges:**
  - Drilled shafts and mass concrete, state of practice
  - State experience with mass concrete
  - Accelerated bridge construction

- **Materials:**
  - Slag
  - Minimum cement content in concrete specification and mixture proportioning
  - Formation factor – how do we implement

- **Rapid Repairs and Early Loading:**
  - Early loading pavement research at MnROAD and NRRA
  - MnDOT’s FRC roundabout and joint activation of 5” FRC whitetopping
  - I-70 bridge emergency reconstruction
• Fibers for Use in Concrete:
  o Fiber reinforced concrete for pavement overlays
  o Fiber reinforced concrete for bridge decks
  o Update on Caltrans pilot projects using SRAs and fibers in bridges

• Other Topics:
  o History, performance and use of a mobile mixer
  o How the prominent types of deicers affect scaling
  o SAM testing – tips, tricks, updates, case studies
  o Strategies for concrete pavement preservation – project update
  o Preview of Bureau of Reclamation Laboratory tour

• Election of new executive board members. New/reelected members are highlighted in yellow. Thanks to outgoing board members: Lieska Halsey, Mike Byers and Al Innis. Special thanks to Maria Masten for her six years of leadership as chair.

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<th>Name</th>
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Future meetings:
• The fall 2019 NC² meeting will be held in Kalispell, Montana on September 10-12.
• The spring 2020 meeting will be held in Alabama.
• The fall 2020 meeting will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota

Discussion Items from the Pooled Fund State DOT representatives meeting:
• CP Tech Center Updates:
  o Listserv survey:
    ▪ Seventeen questions have been asked via the listserv since the fall meeting. The individuals asking the questions summarize the responses and those summaries are posted on the NCC webpage.
o TTCC TPF-5(313) Pooled Fund update:
  ▪ 2019 is the last year for commitments to the existing pooled fund.
  ▪ Pooled fund projects need to be renewed every five years. The new solicitation number is 1492 and is online to accept commitments (link).
  ▪ There will be an overlap between the existing pooled fund and the next one to allow all of the funding to be utilized. The existing funding will be used for training and can be used in 2020 in order to schedule the training.
  ▪ If there is funding left after the training has been scheduled/held, the state representatives will decide on the next course of action.

o Assessment of national research needs
  ▪ 17 states have responded with 25 topics

• Open Discussion:
  o Indiana DOT (Tommy Nantung) has a research project on opening to traffic and is soliciting participation for a pooled fund on the implementation of this technology. A brochure with additional information was distributed. Contact Tommy Nantung for details.
  
  o Caltrans’ specification has both strength and time requirements for opening. Dulce Feldman will send out a listserv question regarding whether any other states have both time and strength requirements.
  
  o AASHTO 253 and 254 (dowel bar) seems to have stalled. Brett Trautman will review comments and try to determine the next steps. TTCC reps may need to help push it forward; Brett will lead the initiative.
  
  o FHWA is looking at which states are using a 56-day strength for acceptance criteria and whether a 28-day partial payment is being considered.
  
  o Training opportunities: videos, webinars, etc.
    ▪ Along with workshops and webinars being scheduled, many states have ongoing training that could be utilized by other states.
    ▪ Request for a video/animation of different types of pavement and how they perform, as well as repair techniques for different seasons. A full cycle of new pavement, how it deteriorates, and patching/repairs.
    ▪ MnDOT has narrated videos of best practices:
      o https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9ATfzR1XOg
      o https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LViacVRVYVE&t=108s
    ▪ Tyler Ley has several YouTube videos online.
    ▪ Jeff Uhlmeyer indicated Washington DOT has micro-tutorials for repair of systems - both concrete and asphalt.
    ▪ North Carolina also has short 5-minute videos on the structure side.
    ▪ More states may want to consider videotaping the testing so that, when senior personnel retire, a record of “how and why” is left for new personnel.
    ▪ A reminder to make sure that the videos are updated with specs changes and that they show best practices (i.e. current PCCP is being used).
    ▪ CP Tech will look at getting a list of available training videos and linking to them on the NCC website.
- Who is involved in AASHTO, ASTM, and ACI? A listserv question will be sent out to get current involvement. Very helpful for others to know who could help champion issues for various committees.

- Discussion occurred regarding which states stabilize their subgrades as a normal statewide operation. John Staton would like states to send him their states’ practices.

- Discussion as to whether having the state reps meeting at the beginning of the NCC conference or the end resulted in no clear decision. The executive committee will discuss for the next meeting.