

Editorial

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The quadrennial *fib* International Congress is one of the most prestigious international events of the concrete field, attracting participation from dozens of countries in every technical aspect of concrete. PCI is proud to serve as host for the Third International Congress in May, and it's a responsibility we at PCI have taken very seriously as we have planned this event over the past 5 years.

The *fib* Congress will offer an unusually comprehensive wealth of knowledge, as experts from all over the globe gather to discuss, share, and learn. The Congress theme, 'Think Globally, Build Locally', suggests how you can take advantage of this event.

Congress attendees will have every opportunity to 'think globally' with hundreds of

education sessions on a wide range of technical and non-technical topics. Additionally, one of the largest Congress exhibitions ever will showcase the latest in technology and innovation. Finally, the ability to interact with professionals from all over the world, in a business setting as well as during the many social events and receptions, is certain to expand thinking to the global level.

From this global assembly of information, knowledge, and perspectives, Congress attendees will draw ideas and techniques that will enable them to 'build locally', applying them to their own businesses and professions.

The theme 'Think Globally, Build Locally' is also an essential tenet of sustainable design and construction, which represents the next stage in the evolution of design. If we are to make effective use of the world's resources,

we must learn from each other and work together to overcome our challenges.

Concrete structures have inherent advantages with regard to sustainability, which makes it incumbent upon designers and engineers working in concrete to embrace and advance this concept. The Congress will serve as a salient reminder that science and engineering know no national boundaries. Its technical program will include the latest in sustainable design concepts and experience.

I invite you to join us in Washington, DC for several days of learning, camaraderie, enjoyment, and 'thinking globally'. We will gather to share our best with one another, thus advancing the whole of our industry and of society. Finally, I trust that you will long enjoy the memories and friends you make at this wonderful event.