

READY MIX NEWS

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ATLANTIC CONSTRUCTION & TRANSPORTATION JOURNAL

DAL'S AWARD WINNING CANOE



"Aigéan Carraig" (Irish Gaelic for "Ocean Rock") made her maiden voyage and underwent a successful float test on April 23 at Kearney Lake in Bedford, N.S. Members of the 2005 team on hand for the launch, all engineering students, are: (L to R) Andrew Horne, fourth Mechanical, N.S.; Scott Wetton, second Industrial, ON; Denise McKay, fourth Mechanical, N.S.; Doug Beaton, fourth Civil, NL; Chris Davis, third Civil, N.B.; Anthony Dickson, fourth Civil, N.S.; Johanna Hoyt, second Civil, N.S.; and Sabine Strohan, second Civil, N.S. Go Dal, Go!

READY MIXED SUPPLIERS NO LONGER PROVIDING MIX PROPORTIONS

By Patricia Williams

The Canadian Construction Association (CCA) and the Canadian Ready Mixed Concrete Association (CRMCA) have drafted a model concrete mix data submission form designed to address concerns over non-disclosure of detailed mix proportions.

The two-page form, developed with the input of formwork and concrete finishing contractors, is intended to provide the information contractors require to handle concrete products without revealing detailed proportions.

"It's almost like a checklist," says Eric Lee, the CCA's senior director of industry practices and secretary to the general contractors' council. "It lists the information, in terms of performance, that contractors need to know to place the concrete."

A copy of the model form is to be posted on the association's Web site for feedback. The

initiative was undertaken by the two associations in the wake of a decision by a number of ready mixed concrete suppliers in various provinces to stop disclosing proprietary mix proportions.

Melvin Fiander, past president of the CRMCA and vice president of operations at Quality Concrete in Dartmouth, N.S., says the producers' decision was a "byproduct" of the industry's move towards performance-based specifications.

"People have been honing in on the fact the concrete industry doesn't want to give out mix proportions any longer," he says. "But there has been a change in the way we've been doing business."

"As we move into a performance world, suppliers start becoming protective of their intellectual property."

Described as a living document, the model form is being recommended for use by both

associations. However, adoption is voluntary. At the moment, a task force of the Ontario General Contractors Association (OGCA) and the Ready Mixed Concrete Association of Ontario is reviewing the form. The task force was set up a year ago to a draft best practices guide for concrete construction.

"There may be some things in there we will adopt for our document, which is still being revised," says OGCA President Clive Thurston. "But our guide will go much further."

That document is to be unveiled during a seminar at the upcoming Construct Canada conference.

Patricia Williams is a staff writer with Daily Commercial News, the only daily newspaper in Canada serving the construction industry. This article is reprinted with the permission of Daily Commercial News, copyright 2005, with thanks and appreciation to the publisher and author from the APRMCA.

APRMCA ANNOUNCES 2005 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Atlantic Provinces Ready Mixed Concrete Association (APRMCA) is pleased to announce the results of its fifth Memorial Scholarship awards. Two \$1,000 entrance scholarships were awarded in August to Samantha Fiander of Bedford, N.S. and Alex Dawe of Bay Roberts, NL. APRMCA extends sincere best wishes for academic success to each of the recipients.

Samantha Fiander was sponsored by Quality Concrete, Dartmouth, N.S. She graduated last June from C.P. Allen High School in Bedford, N.S. Samantha maintained a solid academic standing while being involved in numerous

school and community organizations. She volunteered through her church and as a ringette coach. Samantha played ringette and girl's hockey and was a member of her school band. She is especially proud to be a recipient of this scholarship, named in memory of her grandfather Laurie B. Stevens. Samantha is enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts program at Acadia University, Wolfville, N.S.

Alex Dawe was sponsored by Dawe's Concrete Products Ltd., Bay Roberts, NL. He is a 2005 graduate of Ascension Collegiate in Bay Roberts. Alex performed extremely well academically while main-

taining a very busy extracurricular schedule. He has earned his first-degree black belt in Kempo Karate. He is a competitive swimmer, was on several provincial championship teams and is an aquatic instructor with National Lifesaving certifications. He also participated in school drama and improv. He was a 2005 gold medal winner in the Skills Canada competition and went on to represent his province at the national competition. He volunteered as an entertainer at school fundraisers, as a karate teacher and on a local environmental clean-up committee. Alex is now attending Memorial University of

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APRMCA Briefs

APRMCA's year-to-date roster has 48 producer member companies operating 122 certified ready mix plants in 99 different communities around Atlantic Canada. We welcome four new producer members who joined in 2005. **A & P Concrete Products Ltd.**, Ste.-Marie-de-Kent, NB, is owned and operated by John Cormier, his brother and parents; **James Concrete Ltd.**, Rivière Verte, N-B, is a family business run by John, Gilberte and Louise Martin. **Midway Concrete Ltd.**, Bloomfield, NB is owned & operated by Chris Wheaton who will be familiar to many. We also welcome **RSM Municipal Inc.**, Goose Bay, NL under Rod King, Operations Manager. They purchased the facilities of former member, Glenn Corporation Ltd. Applications have been received from three other companies whose memberships are pending completion of the plant certification process. **Bay St. George Ready Mix Ltd.** is the new name on the Pinsent Concrete plant, Stephenville, NL after it was purchased this summer by **Atlantic Ready Mix**, Corner Brook, NL. **Béton Brunswick Ltée./New Concrete Products Ltd.** erected and certified a plant in Prince William, NB. **Fortis Concrete Inc.** erected and certified a plant in Gander, NL. **Lafarge Construction Materials** purchased & certified a plant in Grand Falls, NB. This has been an interesting year as ready mix companies in various areas expanded, opened new facilities and/or changed hands.

APRMCA's associate membership stands at 80, including a total of three new members in 2005. We welcome one new associate member since last spring: **K&D Pratt Group Inc.**, contact Graham MacKay, Specialist & Karen Vallis, Marketing Coordinator, have outlets in Dartmouth, NS, St. John's, NL & Saint John, NB.

APRMCA regrets the loss of several member companies who decided not to renew their membership for various reasons. We want to emphasize, however, our sincere appreciation for the support we receive from all producer and associate members through their membership, sponsorship and attendance at industry events.

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