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NRMCA, Build With Strength Announce Winners of 2023 Concrete Innovations Awards

*Annual awards program celebrates excellence
in concrete manufacturing, research, design and construction.*

Las Vegas, NV – March 15, 2023 – Build With Strength, an initiative of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA), recently celebrated industry innovators at the 2023 Concrete Innovation Awards at the Keep Memory Alive Events Center in Las Vegas. Winners were selected from a panel of five judges for their commitment to improving the resilience, performance and sustainability of concrete.

Category winners include Innovative Person or Team, Innovative Product or Service, Innovative Project and Innovative Company. All nominees are members of NRMCA or an Association member was involved in developing the innovation.

The winner for Innovative Person or Team Award is:

- Abhishek Kumar, founder and CEO of Nanogence, Inc. – Nanogence manufactures tailored catalysts that reduce cementitious demand in concrete over 20% by enhancing the product binding process while curtailing carbon footprint by 20%. Mr. Kumar has been working with NRMCA member Ernst Concrete to bring Nanogence to the U.S. market.

Three winners were selected for the Innovative Product or Service Award:

- Concrete.ai was recognized for its groundbreaking mix optimization software. The AI-powered software uses the concrete producer's own rich data and its active decision-making tool engages users to see all predicted properties, apply constraints and set performance, cost and embodied carbon goals.
- Urban Mining Industries was acknowledged for its innovative product, Pozzotive, a ground glass pozzolan that has a 5% carbon footprint of cement and recycles waste glass. NRMCA member O&G Industries partnered with Urban Mining Industries to open a Pozzotive plant in Connecticut.

- SmartMix by Giatec Scientific, Inc., was honored for its AI-based concrete mix management, analysis and reporting software that enables producers to optimize concrete mixes in real time and reduce cost and carbon footprint. Giatec is an NRMCA member.

Five winners were selected for the Innovative Project Award:

- Boston University's Center for Computing & Data Sciences is housed in the campus' most sustainable, energy efficient building which was built with ECOPact low-carbon concrete developed by NRMCA member Holcim.
- Casa Adelante by Mar Structural Design's nine-story senior housing development was designed for residents to shelter in place during an earthquake. Mar Structural Design collaborated with NRMCA member Central Concrete Supply to create this building.
- Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's new western headquarters in Black Rock State Park was recognized for achieving LEED Platinum and Net Zero energy standards. O&G Industries, an NRMCA member, supplied the concrete on the project.
- Remy Wines' new winemaking facility was honored for having the world's first carbon-neutral concrete floor in its new 5,000-square foot facility in Oregon's Willamette Valley. NRMCA member Wilsonville Concrete Products supplied the carbon negative concrete for this project.
- The Seattle Aquarium's Ocean Pavilion features a 360,000-gallon coral reef ecosystem that is home to more than 120 species. NRMCA member Stoneway Concrete worked with Turner Construction to develop self-consolidating concrete mixes.

Two winners were acknowledged with the Innovative Company Award:

- Carbon Upcycling is a waste and carbon utilization company transforming carbon emissions, local industrial byproducts and natural materials into enhanced supplementary cementing materials to decarbonize the cement and concrete industries. Carbon Upcycling is an NRMCA member.
- Cemstone Product Company, an NRMCA member, used six million gallons of recycled water and recycled 1,400 tons of concrete aggregates in 2022. It is a leader in NRMCA safety, environmental and quality award programs and participates in NRMCA's Environmental Product Declaration program.

Build With Strength and NRMCA congratulates and thanks all the winners for their dedication to advancing the concrete industry.

“The concrete industry is making great strides to improve the way it makes concrete so that it can provide strong, resilient structures at lower carbon footprint,” said Lionel Lemay, NRMCA executive vice president, structures and sustainability.

More detail about the nominees and winners, including images, can be viewed at www.concreteinnovations.com.

About Build With Strength: Build With Strength is an initiative of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association that seeks to educate the building and design communities and

policymakers on the benefits of ready mixed concrete and encourage its use as the building material of choice for buildings. To learn more, visit: www.buildwithstrength.com.

About National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA): NRMCA is celebrating 90 years of representing producers of ready mixed concrete and the companies that provide materials, equipment and support to the industry. It conducts education, training, promotion, research, engineering, safety, environmental, technological, lobbying and regulatory programs. To learn more, visit: www.nrmca.org