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**CONCRETE INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT (CIM) PROGRAM
ANNOUNCES GRADUATION OF 14 STUDENTS FROM
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Silver Spring, Md. (July 27, 2010) – The Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program – a business intensive curriculum that awards students with a four-year Bachelor of Science degree in Concrete Industry Management – is proud to announce the graduation of 14 students from California State University, Chico on May 21.

The students – Todd Louis Burton, Frank Ross Corzine, Chad Golden, Ryan Hooker, Jeffrey Allen Kelly, Cody Tyler Lee, Alexander Josue Llamas, Daniel Duenas Lopez, Travis Michael Marman, Carl Dean Martindale, Alexxandria McAvoy, Gregory Hirose Mecurio, Scott Paul Renfree, Daniel Michael Runnue, Rocky William Torgrimson and Chad Zandstra – graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Concrete Industry Management.

According to Douglas K. Guerrero, Chairman of the Chico State CIM Patrons, many of the graduates have secured positions in CIM Patron companies such as Teichert Materials, California Portland Cement, Knife River Corporation, Structural Group and other industry companies. “We are extremely proud of these graduating students,” said Guerrero. “The accomplishments of our program at Chico State wouldn’t be possible without the dedicated leadership of Dr. Tanya Komas, the Administration and other faculty members at the university.”

The graduates are qualified for a wide variety of professional careers in the concrete industry, and are fully prepared as technical managers, skilled in concrete technology and business. Having participated in research, testing ground breaking new technology for pavement preservation and concrete moisture mitigation, the students have obtained first-hand knowledge of the industry. Special projects include creating a memorial for the 9/11 firefighters lost in the World Trade Center attack, as well as carrying out historic concrete evaluations at Pointe du Hoc located in Normandy, France.

The CIM Program

Recognizing the need for people with enhanced technical, communication and management skills, the CIM program was developed in 1996. The individuals graduating from this program will have the skill set necessary to meet the growing demands of the progressively changing concrete industry of the 21st century. It is a business intensive program, providing solid management skills that can be used in any industry, but has been developed specifically for the concrete industry. The program gives students many advantages including entering the concrete work force with exposure to the industry early in their careers, unlike others coming in with generic business degrees.

The goal of the program is to produce broadly educated, articulate graduates grounded in basic business management, who are knowledgeable of concrete technology and techniques and are able to manage people and systems as well as promote products or services related to the concrete industry. It entails a broad range of courses, from English and history to science and mathematics. A series of required business courses such as finance, marketing, management and business law are also taken throughout the length of the program. The concrete-specific courses teach the fundamentals of concrete, properties and testing, concrete construction and more. All of these courses provide much more than what is simply in the text – they emphasize problem solving, quality assurance and customer satisfaction. They utilize practical case studies and an internship to make sure the student obtains real-world experience essential to starting a successful career. Additional opportunities for growth include on-campus socials and other organized events providing industry networking and professional development.

About CIM

Receiving tremendous support from the concrete industry, the CIM program was the first of its kind in United States – a four-year Bachelor of Science degree in Concrete Industry Management. The need for such a program was recognized in 1994 and was put into action by the concrete industry. The end-result was a partnership between the concrete industry and Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) to develop the CIM program, implementing it with its first two students in 1996. Available at MTSU, Arizona State University, California State University, Chico, the New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Texas State University, the program has been successful for both the industry and the graduates. To learn more about the program, visit www.concretedegree.com.

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