



BCCA Welcomes New Chair

The BC Construction Association is looking forward to a year of strong leadership with its recently elected Chair, Anibal Valente, Vice-President of PCL Constructors Westcoast Inc. Forward thinking and with a wealth of experience in the industry, Valente brings a solid balance of innovation and common sense to the Association.

“Our economy has taken a hit this past year and that has certainly impacted the industry” states Valente. “Increased activity in the public construction arena will require more work on the part of BCCA to ensure fair and equitable standards for tendering procedures and contracts. At the same time we must continue to promote and advocate for increased training opportunities. Our future depends on building a new generation of skilled workers and professional contractors.”

Anibal joined PCL in 1979 as a site engineer in Vancouver. In 1986 he was appointed project manager and in 1990

was appointed manager, Special Projects. Five years later, he was promoted to district manager for PCL’s Saskatchewan operations. In 2000, he was promoted to vice president and district manager. In 2001 he returned to Vancouver, as vice president and district manager, to oversee BC operations. In 2008, Sean Brock was appointed to district manager, assuming the region’s day-to-day business, allowing Anibal to take on the broader role of strategic planning and of overseeing major projects.

Anibal has a Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of British Columbia. In addition to Anibal’s corporate responsibilities, he devotes time to many industry and community organizations. Currently he is a board member on the Vancouver Board of Trade, Vancouver Regional Construction Association, and the Canadian Construction Association.

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Stay On Top of Environmental Requirements

Environmental requirements are starting to appear in public construction contracts. A recent contract with the Ministry of Transportation included an entire section devoted to the protection of the environment. Are you ready for contracts with environmental terms? I bet you're not. Unlike the decision for all new government owned buildings to be LEED gold certified, these provisions apply to the builder, not the building. Although there is a lot of talk and ever increasing awareness of environmental concerns we're only just ankle deep when it comes to addressing these concerns. The provisions seen to date are the shallow end of the pool but the sea levels are rising.

Environmental requirements seen so far are still fairly modest. Provisions relating to idle times are the first to be presented, but the expectation is they will become more stringent. Wading further into the waters, British Columbia's Cap and Trade system is soon to hit our shores. Your carbon footprint could mean increased overhead or a new revenue stream; knowing what your carbon footprint is may even be required to bid on public projects. Now is the time to make the move toward a greener business. Energy prices are on the rise; the economy is slowing, and making your dollar go further is as important as ever. Greening your business and reducing cost often go hand in hand.

Tackling emissions will reduce your footprint and in doing so you'll save some money. The modest idle reduction requirements from the Ministry of Transportation will not only cut the emissions from the project but cut the fuel bill. A class 8 diesel engine built after 1995 consumes 4 litres of fuel for every hour it idles.

If fuel prices are about a dollar a litre that's 4 dollars an hour per engine running. How long will one piece of heavy equipment idle over the course of a project? Idle reduction will help you save more by doing less.

In anticipation of new requirements and regulations BCCA has been working hard to develop information, resources and tools for members. To provide these resources BCCA has partnered with the Fraser Basin Council. The Fraser Basin Council operates several programs relating to vehicle emissions in BC. Their Green Fleets BC, Idle Free BC and E3 Fleet rating system provide fleet operator with a wealth of information and tools to reduce their emissions. Through this partnership BCCA is offering tools and resources to meet new and coming requirements. BCCA and the Fraser Basin Council have industry specific carbon calculators to help you calculate your emissions and develop your Carbon Footprint. Let us help you green your operation before you find yourself treading water or in over your head.

BCCA and Green Fleets will provide information and support on a range of options and issues for those needing some help meeting contract requirements and for those ready to make the move toward more sustainable and less expensive operations of their vehicles and their equipment. Check out the "Green Initiative" section on the BCCA website to access our new tools like the emission carbon calculator.



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mission of the BCCA is to provide leadership and excellence in the
resentation of and service to British Columbia's construction industry