



CONTACT: Brenda L. Romano

4047 Naco Perrin
San Antonio, TX 78217
P: (210) 918-1100
F: (210) 918-1199
www.cif.org

CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION FORUM ANNOUNCES 2011 NOVA AWARDS FOR INNOVATION

International, November, 2011 -- The Construction Innovation Forum (CIF) has selected four innovations to receive its prestigious NOVA Award for outstanding innovation in construction. The 2011 winners were announced in Chandler, Arizona, at the Annual Construction Users Roundtable (CURT) Awards Dinner held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011.

The Construction Innovation Forum (CIF) is an international, non-profit organization formed in 1987 to encourage and recognize construction innovations. CIF identifies innovative techniques and methods that have been proven to improve quality, productivity and safety, and reduce construction costs. CIF is the only organization in existence that works to raise awareness of innovations that are proven to be effective, and the only one that encourages others to develop, implement, and require innovative processes across all segments of the construction industry.

The NOVA Award is CIF's most distinguished honor. A jury of internationally recognized experts selects NOVA winners following a thorough investigation process. To date, nominations for the NOVA Award have been received from more than 20 countries. Worldwide, ninety-three innovations involving 14 countries have received the coveted award.

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The 2011 NOVA Award Winners:

BRICK PAVING MACHINE

The Brick Paving Machine mechanizes the laying of brick pavements so that brick masons and the laborers supplying them work more ergonomically and productively to build brick pavements more quickly with less expense. The innovator of the Tiger Stone Brick Paving Machine is Henk van Kuijk, owner of the Dutch industrial company, Vanku BV.

CONCRETE OPTIMIZER

Concrete Optimizer is comprised of on-vehicle hardware and software that provides instant and accurate measurement of the material properties in a concrete mixing drum during transit, measures vital information from inside the drum and relays this information to the concrete mixing plant operator, dispatch system operator, and QA/lab technician. The Concrete Optimizer System was invented by Mr. Berthold Berman, CTO of the SensoCrete Company in Quebec, Canada.

HYBRID UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY (HUPS)

The Hybrid Uninterruptible Power System (HUPS) Turbine integrates functions that have traditionally required two separate pieces of equipment to provide an energy-efficient Uninterruptible Power Supply that can provide power during long duration blackout events. The system was designed by Capstone Turbine Corporation© of Chatsworth, California. BHP Energy of Walbridge, Ohio, a Capstone business partner and subsidiary of GEM Incorporated took the integration effort a step further when it applied the HUPS turbine as an integral piece of a Combined Cooling Heating and Power (CCHP) product.

HUEY P. LONG BRIDGE LONG BRIDGE ASSEMBLY

An innovative erection procedure was designed to widen the historic Huey P. Long Bridge in New Orleans, Louisiana. The one-of-a-kind erection method allowed complete spans of the widening trusses to be built on barges along the banks of the river. The whole system of trusses and stabilizing frames for both sides of the existing structure were then floated into position under the existing bridge and lifted at the four corners by strand-jacks supported on the top of the widened pier trusses. The unique solution was designed by HNTB, Inc., along with Massman Construction, Inc., both of Kansas City, Missouri. The project was constructed by a Joint Venture of Massman Construction, Traylor Bros. and IHI.

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The NOVA Awards Dinner was held in conjunction with the Construction Users Round Table (CURT) national conference. This is recognized as one of the construction industry's premier gatherings. Over 500 domestic and international members of the construction industry, including contractors, architectural and engineering firms, and labor and media representatives were in attendance at the 2011 Conference. Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, CURT represents over 100 of the nation's top construction purchasers, the majority of whom are Fortune 500 companies.

The 2011 NOVA Awards were sponsored by Rudolph/Libbe Companies, GEM Inc., Construction Users Round Table, Cianbro, and DTE Energy.

The Construction Innovation Forum has issued its annual call for NOVA Award nominations. Nomination forms may be downloaded from www.cif.org and sent to CIF by the deadline of March 1, 2012. For further information, contact CIF at (419) 725-3275, or visit www.cif.org.