

THE MNPA MINUTE

BECAUSE IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW

NEW PCI ARCHITECTURAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The new PCI Architectural Certification Program is the first of its kind, backed by the reputation and expertise of the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI). After more than 50 years, with feedback from both precast concrete producers and design professionals, PCI has enhanced its certification program to better serve the design and construction communities. These new and improved certification criteria differentiate PCI producers in the marketplace and more accurately categorize their products in better alignment with the markets they serve.

These changes will affect how architects and engineers specify and use the program. The PCI Architectural Certification Program will now include four new categories of certification, AA, AB, AC, and AD, and will also include the architectural trim category (AT) requirements, which remain unchanged. This five-category platform enables architects and other industry specifiers to define a category of certification that aligns with their specific project requirements. Specifiers will select the appropriate A category based on requirements such as:

- Color and Finish
- Embedded Material and Veneer
- Panel Geometry
- Technology: 3-D/BIM Precast Concrete Submittals
- Production Capability
- Production and Erection Tolerances
- Key Feature Evaluation during Plant Audit Cycle
- Minimum Quality Personnel Level
- Post Occupancy Evaluation
- PCI-Certified Erector

These new specification categories provide value to all construction industry

stakeholders by enabling PCI-certified producers to provide the most appropriate products to best meet the specific demands and requirements of each project, resulting in:

- Reduced project risk
- Better assurance of desired product quality
- Cost-effectiveness
- Project schedule adherence
- Improved long-term performance

As part of the certification process, each producer must manufacture three mockup panels to demonstrate their ability to meet specific category criteria for color consistency, finish quality, and forming capabilities. The required mock-up pieces for each category are shown.

