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# T.B. PENICK & SONS, INC.

1905 *Centennial* 2005

INNOVATIVE CONCRETE SYSTEMS

## T.B. Penick & Sons Innovative Concrete Systems

Your Concrete Resource

January 2006

**Dear Christina,**

First off, we would like to thank you for specifying T.B. Penick ICS architectural concrete systems. Our projects have allowed us to continue to pursue research and development and innovate.

Our newsletter takes on a new format with hopes to provide valuable knowledge to the architectural community concerning methods, innovations and possibilities in concrete.

Look forward to technical information regarding proper placement of concrete, project profiles and case studies, and information on hands-on technical training specifically geared for the architectural community.

With 100 years experience, concrete is what we know. We are here to provide you with samples, specification writing, complimentary budgeting, design assistance, and expert project installations.

Christina Palpal-Iatoc, Business Development

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### *ICS Completes National City Library*



When Carrier Johnson set out to find a flooring finish to complement their design for this new library, their original choice was terrazzo. Terrazzo turned out to be too expensive for the budget. Their criterion for the project was to find a finish with "durability in a civic presence."

Durability was a main concern. The library is

designed to last 50 years or more. T.B. Penick suggested HD Lithocrete® as a cost alternative to terrazzo. The designers were ecstatic. Their alternative had turned out to be even better suited for their project than terrazzo. HD Lithocrete® was “a look that went along with the concept of the building.” They also found it was advantageous to be able to customize the materials they used.

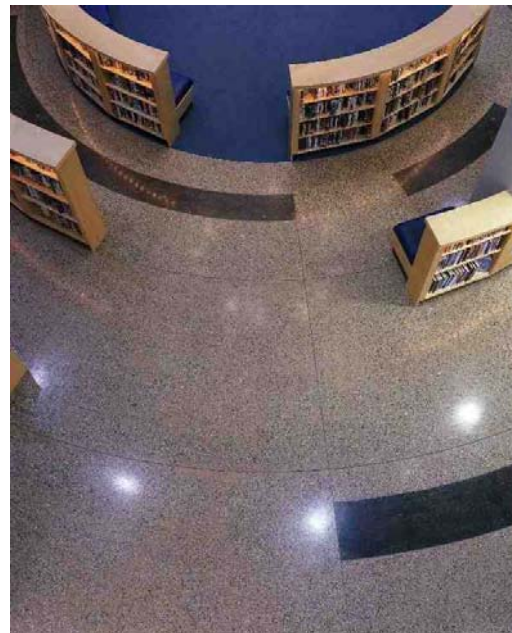
With decorative Lithocrete® bands on the exterior flatwork of the building, and HD Lithocrete® on the inside, the architects were able to take the same flooring they used on the exterior and continue their design within the interior of the library. The designers chose a mixture of Indonesian green rock, tumbled beach glass, pyrite, and abalone shells. The cementitious nature of the material also allowed for the use of T.B. Penick's Reactive Coloration System to create decorative bands on the interior pattern without having to create separate pours. The result is a monolithic, structurally sound and durable surface that should serve its purpose well.

[Winner 2005 AGC Build San Diego, Design-Build award.](#)

### *Featured System: Lithocrete*

Lithocrete® is a patented multi-step system with no known equal. 90% of what you don't see in Lithocrete's installation is the major part of the Lithocrete® process, and what sets it apart from other paving options. Proper subgrade preparation, formwork, reinforcement, joint control, finishing and sealing, are all crucial to the installation of superior concrete paving.

Contractors will continuously propose unsuccessful products and methods that do not have the same appearance, durability, and quality as Lithocrete®. When these alternates are tried, the Owner of General Contractor ultimately ends up spending excessive money and lost time on a paving that requires replacement within the same year of installation, or live with an undesirable finish.



There is no comparison between a Lithocrete® project and other paving projects. Many owners and contractors have recognized the true value and longevity of Lithocrete®. Lithocrete® has been specified and installed on millions of square feet of architectural paving, both public and private. T.B. Penick is determined to keep Lithocrete® competitive while maintaining true value quality standards. Our quality-based ethics continue to provide us with many repeat clients who are rewarded project after project with defect free construction.

Please contact us for a project reference list.

### *Birdbaths on Concrete Slabs*



Owners, architects, and engineers have

a variety of perception and expectations regarding birdbaths on concrete slabs. Birdbaths are small ponds or puddles of water that appear on a level or sloped concrete surface after a rain or washing the slabs (see photo). Many specifications attempt to eliminate birdbaths and often require a final water washing of the slab to check for birdbaths. The specifications require these birdbaths to be corrected by grinding or patching the slab surface.

Owners, architects, and engineers sometimes believe that birdbaths are a result of poor construction practices and can be eliminated. ACI 117-90, "Standard Specifications for Tolerances for Concrete Construction and Materials" doesn't address the issue.

Eliminating birdbaths would require zero tolerances. The adjacent figure shows a birdbath at the valley of a slab surface profile under a 10-ft straightedge. The tolerances shown are from ACI 117 and would indicate the maximum depth of the birdbath.

Expecting or requiring no birdbaths on level or sloped slabs is not compatible with ACI 117 tolerances. Specifying a relatively large permissible gap under a straightedge (low [F.sub.F]) results in numerous deep birdbaths. Specifying a small gap under a straightedge (high [F.sub.F]) results in a few shallow birdbaths.

Concrete contractors are responsible for meeting the flatness requirements of Division 3 in the specifications. Birdbaths are an unavoidable consequence of a flatness tolerance. ASCC contractors will meet the flatness requirements but will not be responsible for corrective action to eliminate birdbaths.

[Provided by the American Society of Concrete Contractors](#)

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