

Meet Our Experts

CRSI Members have priority access to our technical experts when situations arise. . .

Engineering Staff



Amy Trygestad, PE, FACI

Vice President of Engineering

Amy's responsibilities as Vice President of Engineering include overseeing the Engineering Department and the development of all technical publications and standards. In her prior CRSI position as Director of Codes and Standards, she identified opportunities, developed strategies, and created code change proposals, and revised to current standards. She also assisted in the development of new CRSI standards documents to advance building requirements that are favorable to the steel reinforced concrete industry.

Amy was the president and principal engineer of Chase Engineering as well as a consulting principal engineer with CTLGroup before joining the Institute. She participated in the Portland Cement Association Program dealing with Buildings and Special Structures for the Central US. Amy served as the concrete industry representative on the Editorial Board for STRUCTURE, the official magazine of the three national structural engineering organizations in the United States—NCSEA, CASE (ACEC), and SEI (ASCE). She holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Minnesota.



David A. Fanella, PhD, PE, SE, FACI, FASCE, FSEI

Senior Director of Engineering

Dave's proficiency and expertise in reinforced concrete design is well regarded in the design community. His role at CRSI is to facilitate the development and output of technical information produced by the Institute as well as directing and providing assistance to our technical department and member committees. He was the recipient of the Alfred E. Lindau Award from the American Concrete Institute in 2014.

Dave has authored numerous publications on reinforced concrete design, including his latest titled *Reinforced Concrete Structures - Analysis and Design, Second Edition*, which is based on the provisions of ACI 318-14. Prior to joining CRSI, Dave was Principal at a consulting structural engineering firm in Chicago, IL. He is a member of a number of ACI Committees and serves as an Associate Member on the ASCE 7 Committee. He is also past president of the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois.



Nathan Westin, PE

Technical Director

Nathan is responsible for providing technical expertise in the design and construction of reinforced concrete structures. Nathan assists in the development of technical publications by the Institute and is staff liaison for CRSI technical committees, as well as a member of several ACI and ASTM code committees.

Prior to joining CRSI, Nathan worked as an engineering consultant where he oversaw multiple projects regarding the performance of structural products, systems and materials. Nathan also worked in manufacturing on R&D projects for anchor systems and designed structural anchor connections. Additionally, Nathan has experience as a project engineer on a multi-billion-dollar mixed use project where he supervised the construction of engineering works. Nathan has a BS and MS in Civil Engineering from University of Illinois at Chicago.

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Region Managers



Kevin Bott, PE

Western Region Manager

Kevin joined CRSI as Western Region Manager after 13 years of experience as a structural engineer in Tampa, FL. His design experience spans an assortment of structures, including football stadiums, hospitals, theme parks and entertainment structures, and parking garages.

He recently worked as a forensic engineer for litigated claims, which mainly involved water intrusion and the building envelope. Kevin also executed storm damage assessments and repair protocols for buildings damaged by hurricanes. Kevin primarily utilizes his expertise in his promotion of reinforced concrete on the west coast. However, he also works closely with Pacific Northwest Manager, Paul Dye, to offer support throughout the entire Western region.



Paul Dye

Pacific Northwest Manager

Paul brings more than 37 years of experience in combined roles in the reinforcing steel industry to CRSI. With extensive experience in the Pacific Northwest and a dedication to promoting, sustaining and enhancing the reinforcing steel industry, Paul maintains an extensive understanding of operations, sales, estimating, detailing, and fabrication within the industry.

The last 15 years Paul was Vice President and COO of (CRSI member company) Precision Rebar & Accessories, Inc., Vancouver, WA. Previously he was Regional Manager for Graham Steel in Vancouver, and worked as a project manager for Western Coating in Ogden, UT. He started his reinforcing steel career with Graham Steel in Kirkland, WA, where he advanced his experiences and extensive working knowledge of the many aspects the industry provides.



Rob Kinchler, PE

Greater Southwestern Region Manager

Rob joined CRSI in early 2016 and promotes the benefits of reinforced concrete construction to the marketplace. Rob is a structural engineer with years of experience designing industrial and commercial projects. Rob's background includes developing conceptual budgets and utilizing subcontractor relationships to more accurately determine up front project costs.

Rob received his MS in structural engineering from Auburn University in 1991. Prior to working with CRSI, Rob worked with AISC as a regional engineer. He was responsible for putting together conceptual budgets for projects using steel, developing design fabricate build teams, giving technical presentations, and promoting the use of steel. Before that, he worked with Raytheon Engineers and Constructors and Burns & McDonnell EAC designing concrete and steel structures for power plants, paper mills, and other industrial facilities..



Brett Lord

Southeast Region Manager

Brett brings extensive knowledge of concrete and the concrete construction industries. In his role as Region Manager, Brett promotes the use of steel reinforced concrete in construction within the Southeastern United States and serves as an industry resource on both regional and national levels.

Immediately prior to joining CRSI, he was the Director of Technical Services at McCarthy Improvement Company. In addition to various technical roles in the ready-mix concrete industry, he has also worked in the autoclaved aerated concrete and lightweight aggregate industries. In the late 1980s Brett served in the United States Army as a Sergeant (E-5) Infantryman, 25th Infantry Division. Brett is a graduate of the University of Arizona with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Sciences.



Tim Connor, Jr.

Northeast Region Manager

Tim Conner, Jr. joined the CRSI team as Northeast Region Manager in early 2022. Tim is very familiar with the industry and the Institute, coming most recently from Harris Rebar, but he also previously spent several years at Whitacre Engineering (both member companies). He brings a wealth of industry knowledge and can extoll the benefits of membership.

Tim worked in rebar fabrication for over a decade that enabled him to learn the business from the fabricator and supply chain viewpoints. Prior to that he spent several years working in the architectural world understanding design and construction. Tim is a great advocate for the concrete reinforcing industry who understands value in hard work and perseverance.