Second Announcement and Call for Participation

Second International Workshop on Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer (GFRP) Bar for Concrete Structures (IW-GFRPCS2)

January 18-19, 2019, Rosen PLAZA Hotel, Orlando, FL, USA
(Following 2019 FTBA Construction Conference)

Organisers:

- **Chair**: **Antonio Nanni**, Inaugural Senior Scholar Professor and Chair Dept. of Civil, Arch. & Environ. Engineering, University of Miami, FL, USA
- **Co-Chair: Brahim Benmokrane**, Professor of Civil Engineering and Tier-1 Canada Research Chair, and NSERC/Industry Research Chair, Director CRUSMAC, University of Sherbrooke, QC, CANADA
- **Co-Chair: Steven Nolan**, Senior Structures Design Engineer, FDOT Structures Design Office, Tallahassee, FL, USA

Introduction:

The deterioration of concrete infrastructure owing to corrosion of reinforcement steel is one of the major challenges facing the construction industry today. Worldwide, governments and industrial firms are looking for infrastructure systems that are stronger, last longer, are more resistant to corrosion and cost less to build and maintain. As a result, in the last decade, there has been a rapid increase in using **innovative noncorrosive glass fiber-reinforced polymers (GFRP)** reinforcing bars for concrete structures due to enhanced properties and cost-effectiveness. The GFRP bars have been used extensively in different applications such as bridges, parking garages, water tanks, tunnels and marine structures in which the corrosion of steel reinforcement has typically led to significant deterioration and rehabilitation needs. Many significant developments from the manufacturer, researchers and Design Codes along with numerous successful installations have led to a much higher comfort level and exponential use with designers and owners. After years of investigation and implementations, public agencies and regulatory authorities in North America have now included GFRP as **a premium corrosion resistant reinforcing material** in their design specifications. Currently, Canadian Highway Bridge Design Code and the *AASHTO* LRFD Bridge Design Guide Specifications contain provisions for the design of concrete bridge members reinforced with FRP bars. As a result, over 400 bridges across USA and Canada have been designed and constructed using GFRP bars.

The present workshop is the second of its kind focusing on GFRP bar for concrete structures (IW-GFRPCS2). The first workshop was held in Sherbrooke, QC, Canada in July 2017 attracting more than 125 participants. This second workshop **will be held on Friday January 18 afternoon and on Saturday January 19 morning** at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, FL, following the ***2019 FTBA Construction Conference*** which you are also invited to attend.

Objectives of the Workshop:

This workshop will provide a unique opportunity for end-users, contractors, consultants, engineers firms, GFRP bar manufacturers, and researchers to **exchange up-to-date knowledge** on the use of GFRP bars in concrete structures including **challenges and opportunities**. The workshop will consist of presentations by government authorities such as the Florida Department of Transportation, Texas Department of Transportation, Ministry of Transportation of Ontario, and the Ministry of Transportation of Quebec, consultants, GFRP manufacturers, researchers and open discussions.

Topics to be presented and discussed are:

1. End-User Perspective & Experience
2. Contractor Perspective & Experience
3. GFRP Bar Industry Overview & Future
4. Usage Expansion of GFRP bars
5. ACI, AASHTO, and CSA, Codes, Standards, and Specifications Perspective
6. Ongoing technical issues/initiatives/gaps.

Call for Participation:

Structure owners, contractors, GFRP manufacturers, researchers/practitioners who would like to attend the Workshop should register at the following link: **https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-international-workshop-on-gfrp-bars-for-concrete-structures-tickets-52089923363**

The Workshop charges a nominal registration fee, to cover the cost of dinner, breakfast, coffee breaks and minor expenses.

Those wishing to submit an Abstract for a relevant project case study should submit at the following link: **https://iw-gfrpcs2registration.azurewebsites.net/**

Sponsors:

Florida Department Transportation
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