

From Experience to Impact:

GET INVOLVED IN ASA COMMITTEES

By LaTosha Meadows



Behind every advancement in the shotcrete industry, a group of professionals volunteer their time and expertise to move the industry forward: Our active committee members. The American Shotcrete Association's (ASA) committee work is the driving factor in shaping standards, influencing best practices, and strengthening the future of

shotcrete — and you can be part of that.

The ASA has five active committees representing the diverse needs of our industry, from workforce development and contractor qualifications to specialized markets like pools, skateparks, and underground construction. Each committee tackles meaningful initiatives that benefit contractors, engineers, designers, owners, and the next generation of professionals.

Getting involved is more than volunteering: It's an opportunity to expand your professional network and help define the direction of the shotcrete industry. Check out what each committee is working on — and how you can get involved!

EDUCATION & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mission: To gather and communicate safe practices and quality placement standards in the shotcrete industry.

Safety and quality are foundational to everything we do in shotcrete placement. The Education & Safety Committee plays a vital role in developing resources that help contractors and crews operate safely, consistently, and confidently in the field.

Current Focus Areas:

- Development and maintenance of shotcrete-specific safety resources, including ASA's *Safety Guidelines for Shotcrete*
- Creation of safety presentations and safety oriented articles published in *Shotcrete* magazine
- New tools in development, including toolbox talks, safety videos, student outreach and an ASA Safety Awards programs

How You Can Get Involved: Members contribute expertise and experience to support the development of resources. Volunteers assist with creating or reviewing materials; participate in presentations, webinars, or conference education efforts; and share data, lessons learned, requested images, video content, or case studies from

projects. Education & Safety Committee members also submit articles for *Shotcrete* magazine throughout the year on safety for shotcreters and shotcrete contractors.

MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING COMMITTEE

Mission: To broaden and engage the ASA membership base while supporting ASA committees in their marketing efforts.

The strength of ASA lies in its members. The Membership & Marketing Committee focuses on creating connections and engagement across all career stages. The Committee conducted a member survey last fall and will use the results to refine the Committee's focus.

Current Focus Areas:

- Conducting a membership journey exercise to personalize the ASA member experience and increase retention
- Enhancing the onboarding experience for new members
- Formalizing a structured member recruitment plan
- Developing and launching a mentorship program
- Increasing engagement among young professionals

How You Can Get Involved: This committee ensures that members see real value in their involvement and feel connected to the broader shotcrete community. You can directly impact the efforts of this committee by: Serving on task groups that are working toward the development of the member onboarding and engagement experience, welcoming and engaging with newer members at our conventions or virtual events, and providing suggestions on how ASA should target and attract young shotcrete professionals.

CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

Mission: To develop and maintain ASA's Contractor Qualification (CQ) Program.

The Contractor Qualification Committee is responsible for maintaining the integrity and credibility of the ASA Contractor Qualification Program. Their work in the CQ program recognizes shotcrete contractors who have consistently demonstrated high-quality shotcrete placement in the marketplace. This, in turn, helps build trust in shotcrete with project owners and specifiers.

Current Focus Areas:

- Continual refinement of the CQ program and review of applications

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

- Development of a guide for contractors to use ACI and ASTM standards
- Creating a contractor-focused marketing package to better communicate program value
- Updating FAQs to specifically support ASA Qualified Shotcrete Contractors

How You Can Get Involved: Assist with the development of QC-focused FAQs and documents by sharing your experience in content and attending meetings, in person or online, to provide guidance to help support quality shotcrete placement.

POOL & SKATEPARK COMMITTEE

Mission: To educate and promote the proper use and application of shotcrete in the swimming pool and skatepark markets.

The Pool & Skatepark Committee (previously the Pool & Recreational Shotcrete Committee) addresses the unique technical and quality needs of this specialized market. Their work supports consistency, education, and professionalism across residential and commercial pool construction as well as the under-standardized skatepark industry.

Current Focus Areas:

- Development of future pool and skatepark position statements
- Promotion and awareness of the *ASA Qualified Shotcrete Contractor – Pool* qualification program to the pool industry and self-performing shotcrete pool contractors

How You Can Get Involved: Help build awareness of the new *ASA Qualified Shotcrete Contractor - Pool* program. You could also assist ASA in expanding our network of pool-industry leaders through trade shows, association chapter meetings, and other events. Submit projects to

ASA's **Outstanding Shotcrete Projects Awards program** to be recognized and highlight shotcrete's benefits and creativity! Submit articles to *Shotcrete* magazine throughout the year to provide technical guidance or highlight unique projects in the pool and skatepark shotcrete markets. Consider presenting at **ASA's Shotcrete Convention and Technology Conference** to showcase best practices, demonstrate your expertise, and inspire others.

UNDERGROUND COMMITTEE

Mission: To educate and promote the use and proper application of shotcrete in underground construction and mining industries.

Underground applications demand specialized expertise, safety awareness, and evolving technology. The Underground Committee focuses on advancing education, certification, and collaboration within this highly technical sector.

Current Focus Areas:

- Support the development of a mechanized shotcrete certification plan with ACI C660 – Shotcrete Certification Committee
- Presenting underground best practices through seminars, webinars, conferences, and client presentations
- Documenting experience with Type IL (PLC) cement
- Developing underground-specific safety considerations as an Appendix for ASA's *Safety Guidelines for Shotcrete*
- Collaborating with related industry groups

How You Can Get Involved: Assist in developing the *Safety Guidelines for Shotcrete: Underground Appendix*. Submit articles to *Shotcrete* magazine throughout the year on technical issues and case studies for the underground

shotcrete industry. Submit projects for **ASA's Outstanding Shotcrete Project Awards program** to show how your work is advancing the industry.

GET INVOLVED

ASA committees are always looking for engaged members who want to make a difference. Participation can be as simple as attending meetings, contributing ideas, helping

with projects, or leading initiatives. If you're passionate about advancing safety, education, quality, and growth in shotcrete placement, there's a seat at the table for you.

Take the next step to get involved by joining one of our upcoming online Teams committee meetings this summer. Meeting dates and times will be posted on ASA's online calendar at www.shotcrete.org/calendar.

COMMITTEE IMPACT

ASA committees convened March 1-2 during ASA's annual conference to collaborate on key initiatives and establish priorities for the year ahead. Their work continues to advance industry standards, expand member value, and strengthen shotcrete's impact across markets.

EDUCATION & SAFETY COMMITTEE

The committee is advancing two key initiatives: Safety video content development and a student paper competition program.

- **Safety Videos:** A series of short, practical videos is in development to deliver quick safety tips via social media and for use in toolbox talks. Planned topics include scaffolding, washout, pump safety, hose and pipe safety, line failures, hose inspection, plugs, manlifts/baskets, and concrete burns.
- **Student Paper Competition:** This new program is being designed to increase student engagement and industry awareness, with a targeted launch in 2027.

MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING COMMITTEE

Under the leadership of its new Chairman, Juanjose Armenta-Aguirre, the committee is developing a comprehensive membership journey. Several task groups are focused on:

- Mentorship programs to strengthen engagement and retention
- Outreach to engineers and State and Province Departments of Transportation (DOTs)
- A targeted outreach strategy for ASA members in the pool industry

CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

This committee continues to enhance the Contractor Qualifications (CQ) program through several initiatives, including:

- Develop a guide on shotcrete and concrete testing standards
- Developing awareness messaging to support the CQ program
- Creating a mentorship framework for contractors
- Producing FAQs for Qualified Contractors

POOL & SKATEPARK COMMITTEE

Formerly the Pool & Recreational Shotcrete Committee, this group has been renamed to better reflect these key shotcrete markets. Current efforts include developing a position statement and expanding outreach for the Pool Contractor Certification program.

UNDERGROUND COMMITTEE

The committee is working on an underground-specific appendix to supplement ASA's Safety Guidelines. Additional efforts include developing technical articles and collaborating with industry partners to increase awareness and adoption of shotcrete in underground applications.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Each committee hosts online Microsoft Teams meetings that are open to all. Sustaining, Corporate, and Individual members may log in to the American Shotcrete Association **MyASA** to view upcoming meetings and add them to your schedule. Not a member? You are still invited to attend and learn more about ASA's efforts to advance and expand the use of quality shotcrete in concrete construction. We have a great group of members who are passionate about shotcrete, and may just inspire you to join in on these efforts!

