

structuralgroup

To: SBIR Program, Environmental Protection Agency

RE: SBIR Proposal for Onsite-Assembled Reusable Concrete Form

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Ehsani's proposal on development of a reusable plastic strip that can be used to build cylindrical forms for casting concrete columns.

I am a person with 45 years experience in the concrete and concrete repair field and have extensive construction experience. My firm self performs field work with over 3000 employees working in the USA and Middle East. We are always looking for innovation to allow for faster better cheaper methods to bring value to our customers. When Professor Ehsani shared his column form system with me last year I shared my excitement for this innovative and unique way to cast columns for both new and existing construction. We see this as a way to greatly improve form finish and speed of setting and removing formwork. What I also see in this column formwork innovation is the efficiency of shipping, storage and reuse.

We have used sonotube (cardboard)technology and find Sonotube difficult to use, hard to strip and store. We do extensive repair work involving enlarging existing columns where the preformed sonotubes can not be used . Using the new concept of wrapping a preformed snap together spiral can be used around an existing column eliminating costly form panels and associated hardware.

Professor Ehsani's invention is truly innovative and when commercialized will be a significant game changer to our industry.



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