ICRI technical committees had a productive 2010 Spring Convention in beautiful Myrtle Beach, SC, located on the 60 mi (96 km) long stretch of uninterrupted Atlantic Coast beach known as The Grand Strand. The Grande Dunes Resort was comfortable and after a cool and cloudy Wednesday, Thursday and Friday were beautiful sunny days. While the beach and golf were tempting, technical committee meetings were well attended and, as usual, much was accomplished. The 13 ICRI technical committees are focused and busy with the following activities:

- Revising or reapproving six of the 16 existing ICRI guidelines;
- Working on 12 new guidelines that are in various stages of progress;
- Working on several guideline specifications;
- Working on several materials safety data sheet protocols; and
- Working on several white papers.

Our two new technical committees, ICRI Committee 150, ICRI Notes on ACI 562 Code Requirements, and Committee 160, Sustainability, held their inaugural meetings in Myrtle Beach. Both meetings were well attended with enthusiastic members ready to begin work on their new initiatives. Prior to the Myrtle Beach convention, a Sustainability Committee Task Group completed drafting of a chapter titled, “Sustainable Concrete Repairs” that will be published by the U.S. Green Concrete Council (USGCC) in their upcoming book titled, The Sustainable Concrete Guide: Applications. Contributors to this document included Stephan Trepanier, Carla Ramos, Fred Goodwin, Tanya Komas, and David Whitmore. They set a new record by completing a document prior to the committee having its first meeting at an ICRI convention!

ICRI and the Post-Tensioning Institute (PTI) are continuing their collaboration to develop a document on evaluation and repair of unbonded post-tensioned concrete structures that is based on a combination of the two existing ICRI post-tensioned guidelines with added information. This new joint document is anticipated to be available in late 2010. This collaboration between ICRI and PTI will produce a useful document that will be beneficial to members of both organizations.

The technical theme of the convention was “Aesthetics in Concrete Repair.” A total of 13 excellent presentations were delivered, and by all accounts these technical sessions received high marks. The presentations covered many different aspects of aesthetics-related topics including testing, polishing, color-matching, texture, and decorative finishes. In addition, Scott Greenhaus introduced ICRI’s new Safety Guideline, a document that every ICRI member can benefit from. Handouts from or copies of the presentations can be obtained from the ICRI Web site under the “EVENTS” tab. Thank you to all the speakers for their excellent presentations. Many thanks to Peter Golter and Kelly Page for their great job in organizing the technical sessions.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments. You can reach me at kmichols@wje.com or (847) 272-7400.