

Featured Article



GARDEN STATE PRECAST COMPLETES FIFTEEN YEARS IN BUSINESS

Company Founded By Experienced Industry Representatives

When one thinks about the precast structure industry in New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, the name Garden State Precast immediately comes to mind. This well-known established firm has grown quickly and dramatically since its inception. Yet this entity is still a very young firm that recently completely 15 years in business. However there is more to this milestone when factoring in the vast experience of the three founders of the company.



Pictured left to right are Gene O'Malley, Kirby O'Malley and Dan Morris, the company's founders.

At the end of 1999, industry veterans Kirby O'Malley, his brother Gene O'Malley and Dan Morris partnered together to purchase an existing facility in Farmingdale, NJ from Duncan Thecker Precast. Together these men boast approximately 140 years of construction

industry experience! Kirby O'Malley, the President of Garden State Precast, is a graduate of West Virginia Institute of Technology where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial engineering. He began his career with InterPace in 1970 as a project engineer. He later worked for CSR Hydro Conduit before advancing to Duncan Thecker Precast as Vice President of Operations.

Dan Morris, Vice President of the firm, attended Newark College of Engineering and also began his career with InterPace Corporation in 1966 as a Production Control Manager in East Brunswick, NJ. Dan has worked for the Cretex Companies, Hydro Conduit and Kerr Concrete Pipe. Eventually, Dan held the position of sales manager for Duncan Thecker Precast.



Bill Morris, Paul Heidt and Mike Vergona are pictured at the Garden State Precast facility.



Circular structures are lowered into place for the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst project.

Gene O'Malley attended Morris Harvey College and, like his current partners, began his career with InterPace Corporation in East Brunswick in 1970 as a Quality Control Technician. Gene's experience also included a stint with Cretex Corporation before an eighteen-year career with New Jersey Concrete Pipe Company where he served as General Manager.

By 1997, these three men were all part of the Duncan Thecker Precast team, and within two years were able to purchase the business from its founder. Morris and the O'Malley brothers immediately mapped out their plan for advancing the business. They continued to foster the relationships with the existing Duncan Thecker customer base while also initiating training of employees and focusing on production of quality structures. Such attention to detail and producing quality items allowed for the firm to be one of the first in New Jersey to receive certification of its products by the National Precast Concrete Association. This certification enabled the company's structures to gain approval by the NJDOT as well as by other agencies in the tri-state area. Today, Garden State Precast is an approved supplier of not only the NJDOT, but also the Delaware DOT, New York DOT, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, PENNDOT, PSE & G and the New York City Department of Design and Construction.



A pedestal foundation structure is transported to a project.

Garden State Precast structures have been used on many major construction projects in the area. One of the firm's early projects involved the manufacturing of a 70 ton precast diversion structure for placement along the Passaic River on JH Reid's Route 21 project. Originally the specifications for this job required the use of a cast in place structure. However, Garden State was able to offer the precast item as an alternative.

Utility and Transportation Contractor, JUNE 2015

On other projects, the company constructed unique precast structures for Montana Construction and Northeast Remsco Construction on their Bergen County Utilities Authority Overpeck projects. These structures measured 120 inches and 144 inches in diameter, respectively and were ten feet tall. These monolithic structures were some of the first of their kind manufactured in the United States.

Following the devastation caused by Superstorm Sandy in 2012, the Garden State Precast team was enlisted to furnish 35 poured-in-place boxes for Union Paving & Construction. These structures would serve as replacements for the damaged pump stations on Route 35. Additional materials were supplied to George Harms Construction and Agate Construction for the ten mile rehabilitation of this highway. Construction on Route 35 proved very challenging due to the high water table.

Recently, Garden State serviced all contractors involved with the widening of the Garden State Parkway including Northeast Remsco, George Harms Construction, Midlantic Construction and Earle Asphalt.



A concrete box culvert is lowered into place.

The firm has also expanded its array of products with the production of electrical boxes that are approved by PSE & G. These items are available in various sizes and have been utilized for duct banks on projects for the NJ Department of Transportation and other public and private owners. Garden State Precast is also now a supplier of Advanced Drainage Systems (ADS) products. Products are available for sanitary sewer, storm drainage, electrical, retaining wall and highway projects. Garden State produces manholes, lift stations, catch basins, utility vaults, electrical junction boxes, box culverts, headwalls, water control structures, and water filtration systems. The company also partnered with Romtec Utilities for pump station projects on the East Coast. On a recent project for a new wastewater lift station for the Lakehurst portion of the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst near Trenton, Garden State Precast supplied the precast concrete wet well and valve vault. Garden State Precast had the reputation and ability to manufacture the components for pump and lift station systems. These items included a specific type of barrel joint, a monolithic base slab, custom guide brackets, lifting clutches, precast hatches, a precast crane-mount, and precast pump discharge elbows.

While the three founders are all still active with the firm, there are other key employees who have contributed to the success of the

business. Paul Heidt serves as the engineering manager for the company and was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the National Precast Concrete Association. Mike Vergona is the plant manager at the 20 ½ acre headquarters in Farmingdale, NJ, while Bill Morris coordinates production scheduling and plant operations. Garden State Precast employs 75 people, many of whom are members of the Construction & General Laborers Union Local 172. To better serve its clients, the firm also operates Garden State Trucking which allows for swift delivery via its fleet of vehicles.

Garden State Precast has been an active member of UTCA since its inception. The firm has a working relationship with several other members of the association including True & Associates, Leading Edge, Wiss & Company, as well as with George Pallas and Shawn Farrell of Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman. With solid and dependable products, a wide variety of experienced construction industry representatives, and a superior reputation, Garden State Precast will certainly thrive in the years to come.



Pictured are poured-in-place boxes for pump stations following Superstorm Sandy.



12" Pipe Freeze on DI Water Line



24" X 16" Line Stop on CS Sewer Line

PRO TAPPING & PIPE FREEZING

620 Gravelly Hollow Road ★ Medford, New Jersey 08055

(856) 983-5442

Fax (856) 985-8621

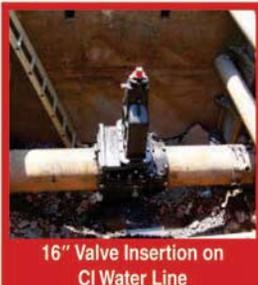
www.protapping.com

info@protapping.com

- ★ Hot Taps: ¾" - 36"
- ★ Wet Taps: ¾" - 36"
- ★ Line Stops: ¾" - 36"
- ★ Pipe Freezes: ½" - 24"
- ★ CI/DI EZ Valve Insertions: 4" - 24"

- ★ Valve Insertions for Copper Pipe: ½" - 2"
- ★ Ultrasonic Pipe/Tank Wall Thickness Testing
- ★ Specialty Valves & Fittings
- ★ 24 Hour Service
- ★ SBE Certified

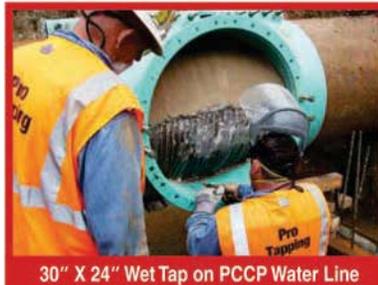
CALL FOR ADDITIONAL PRESSURE TAPPING AND RELATED SERVICES



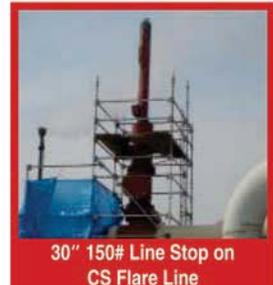
16" Valve Insertion on CI Water Line



16" X 16" Wet Tap on DI Water Line



30" X 24" Wet Tap on PCCP Water Line



30" 150# Line Stop on CS Flare Line

© Copyright 2015