

CARY KOPCZYNSKI NAMED ONE OF THE TOP 25 NEWSMAKERS FOR 2007 BY McGRAW-HILL CONSTRUCTION'S *ENGINEERING NEWS- RECORD*

More Than 1,400 Construction Industry Leaders Attend Award of Excellence and Top 25 Newsmakers Awards Dinner in New York

New York, NY – Cary Kopczynski received one of the Top 25 Newsmakers Awards from *Engineering News-Record (ENR)* – McGraw-Hill Construction's prestigious news magazine, which is part of the McGraw-Hill Companies (NYSE:MHP). The 43RD annual awards dinner was held April 3 at the New York Marriott Marquis. It was attended by more than 1,400 construction industry leaders.



Cary Kopczynski (center), president of Cary Kopczynski & Company, is congratulated by **James H. McGraw, IV**, group publisher for McGraw-Hill Construction, and **Jan Tuchman**, editor-in-chief of *Engineering News-Record (ENR)* magazine, after receiving his 2007 ENR Newsmaker Award.

Cary Kopczynski, President of Cary Kopczynski & Company, was recognized for pioneering the use of high-strength rebar to reduce congestion and maintain seismic confinement. Reinforcing-steel congestion has long been the bane of builders of tall, high-strength reinforced-concrete buildings in seismic zones. For Escala, a 31-story residential building in Seattle, Kopczynski decided to specify 100-ksi rebar instead of 60-ksi rebar for use as seismic confinement in columns that use 14,000-psi concrete. The high-strength rebar reduces the amount of rebar and the congestion. That makes the beam-column connection faster to construct.

The decision was bold. Currently, 100-ksi rebar is not in building codes for use as seismic confinement. But Kopczynski, as a member of the American Concrete Institute's building code committee, knew that was likely to change. A proposal was in the works that would add 100-ksi rebar to the code. Armed with the research that formed the basis for the code change, he took his idea to the city of Seattle, and finally gained approval. Kopczynski is the first structural engineer in North America, and likely the world, to use 100-ksi rebar for column confinement. It enables new possibilities of cast-in-place concrete construction methods. Escala is currently under construction and is scheduled to open in June 2009.

ENR's top honor, the Award of Excellence, was presented to Clyde N. Baker, Jr., P.E., senior principal engineer at STS-AECOM. Baker was selected for his work in *crafting super-efficient foundations for supertall buildings*.

Recipients of The Award of Excellence and Top 25 Newsmakers were selected from a large pool of nominees who were judged by *ENR* editors to have made the most important contributions to the industry in the preceding year. *ENR* magazine is considered the leader in reporting news, events, trends and analysis in the construction industry.

“Our Top 25 Newsmakers represent individuals who had the vision, fortitude, desire, and in some cases, courage, to make a significant difference in the construction industry” said Janice L. Tuchman, editor-in-chief of *ENR*. “They best represent the ‘can do’ spirit of the industry, and their success is admired by their peers.”

For a complete listing and information about all 25 Top Newsmakers, please visit www.enr.com. To receive an electronic copy of this release, or a .jpeg of the winner, put the winner’s name in the subject of your email, and send a note to Pete Lecours: pete@brainiumevents.com

About Engineering News-Record

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