

# News release



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## Construction Innovation Forum honors four construction innovations with 2014 NOVA award

**International, November 11, 2014** – Four construction innovations from around the world have earned prestigious NOVA Awards from the Construction Innovation Forum (CIF) for outstanding innovation in construction.

The coveted NOVA Awards recognize construction techniques and methods that reduce construction costs and improve quality, productivity, energy efficiency and safety.

“The NOVA Awards honor top innovations in construction from around the world,” said Dr. Rasha Stino, Chair of the NOVA Awards and Vice Chair of CIF. “Our NOVA winners are making significant contributions to safety, efficiency, quality and environmental stewardship. NOVA Awards are hard-won, and the judging process is rigorous. A team of investigators, composed of leading engineers and architects, researches the nominated innovations. An independent panel of expert jurors reviews the nominations and investigators’ reports, meeting twice to select finalists and winners. We feel privileged to recognize these exceptional individuals who turned their dreams into innovations that are improving the construction industry every day.”

The 2014 NOVA Winners:

**KONE, Inc. UltraRope™ – KONE Corporation**, based in Finland, is a global leader in the elevator and escalator industry. The KONE UltraRope™ is an alternative to conventional steel ropes. Designed with a carbon fiber core and a high-friction coating, the UltraRope™ was introduced to the market in June 2013. The UltraRope™ is 50 percent lighter, stronger, more durable and easier to incorporate into tight spaces than conventional steel ropes. There are no restrictions on elevator height or design as there are with steel cables. When used in a 500-meter-high elevator, the UltraRope™ yields about 15 percent in energy savings; and when used in an 800-meter-high elevator, the UltraRope™ yields up to 40 percent in energy savings. Because the UltraRope™ is not prone to rusting and wear, it has twice the lifespan of conventional steel. The UltraRope™ includes a rope condition monitoring system for safety. The advantages of UltraRope™ over steel rope make it a valuable component of today’s high-rise and mega-tower construction.

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**The ILLUMAGEAR Halo Light™** – Launched by ILLUMAGEAR in Seattle, Washington, in early 2014, The Halo Light™ is a Personal Active Safety System that attaches securely to any standard hardhat without invalidating ANSI ratings. Weighing only 9 ounces, the Halo Light™ is lightweight as well as durable. The Halo Light™ has four modes which include: Halo, which provides 360 degrees of full brightness, permitting workers to see and be seen in all directions; High-Alert, which pulses the light in a 360-degree spin; Task, which maximizes brightness to the front third of the halo, flooding the worker's task area with light; and Dim, which generates a low-power, 360-degree light for working close to others. The Halo Light™ has been showcased at CONEXPO 2014 and won eight product awards this year, including the Core77 Design Award for Professional Equipment and the ARTBA Roadway Work Zone Safety Awareness Award for Innovations in Technology.

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**Intelligent Compaction** – Intelligent Compaction (IC) is an advanced roller-based technology. Using real-time compaction control during road construction, IC ensures utmost quality control with complete documentation. More efficient and consistent compaction is possible for soils subgrade, granular sub-base and asphalt pavements from the ground up, improving pavement quality and extending pavement life. IC consists of an accelerometer-based measurement system, high-precision positioning system, infrared temperature sensors and an onboard computer that displays a real-time color-coded map of roller passes, asphalt surface temperatures and intelligent compaction measurement values. FHWA's first efforts began in 2005, followed by a Transportation Pooled Fund Project with 12 states to understand the technology behind IC. In 2013, FHWA selected IC under the Every Day Counts initiative, with the principal goal of accelerating implementation of IC nationwide. Using Veda, the IC data management tool, these efforts have advanced IC's standardization and widespread adoption. IC improves compaction quality, consistency and uniformity in a way that no other technology can. It can potentially resolve workmanship issues that account for 80 percent of premature pavement failures. IC is an important innovation leading to long-lasting pavements.

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**Taizhou Bridge** – The Taizhou Three-Pylon Suspension Bridge in China is a breakthrough in bridge construction and the world's first long-span, double-span suspension bridge – 2,940-meters (or 9,650 feet) long. The two spans are each 1,080 meters (or 3,540 feet) long. Completed in 2012, the bridge links the cities of Taizhou and Yangzhou, north of the Yangtze River, with Zhenjiang and Changzhou south of the river. Minimizing environmental impact on the river was a key project goal. A suspension bridge with three pylons and two main spans was the most environmentally friendly design because it used fewer bridge piers in the water. The design required a balance of flexibility and rigidity to withstand changing and imbalanced loads. The bridge was planned, designed and constructed by Jiangsu Provincial Yangtze River Highway Bridge Construction Commanding Department; Jiangsu Provincial Communications Planning and Design Institute Co., Ltd.; AECOM Asia Company Limited; and the Second Navigational Engineering Bureau and the Second Highway Engineering Bureau of China

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## **CIF NOVA Awards**

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Communications Construction Company. Taizhou Bridge received the 2014 Outstanding Structure Award from the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering, as well as two awards from the Institution of Structural Engineers in 2013: The Structural Award in the "Highway or Railway Bridge Structures" Category and the Supreme Award, the ultimate accolade for structural engineering excellence.

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### **About the CIF NOVA Awards**

Formed in 1987, the Construction Innovation Forum (CIF) is an international, non-profit organization that encourages and recognizes construction innovations. In 1989, CIF created the NOVA Award to recognize and advance innovation in all areas of the construction industry around the world.

A jury of internationally recognized experts selects NOVA winners following a comprehensive investigation process. To date, more than 700 nominations for the NOVA Award have been received from more than 20 countries. Worldwide, 106 innovations from 16 countries have received the coveted award.

The 2014 winners were announced November 11 at the Construction Users Roundtable (CURT) Awards of Excellence Gala in Houston, TX. Based in Cincinnati, CURT represents more than 100 of the nation's top construction purchasers, the majority of which are Fortune 500 companies.

The Construction Innovation Forum has issued its annual call for 2015 NOVA Award nominations. Nomination forms may be downloaded from [www.cif.org](http://www.cif.org) and must be sent to CIF by March 31, 2015. For further information, contact CIF at (419) 725-3119, send an email to [rashastino@cif.org](mailto:rashastino@cif.org), or visit [www.cif.org](http://www.cif.org).

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