

April 25, 2018



FEATURE ARTICLE

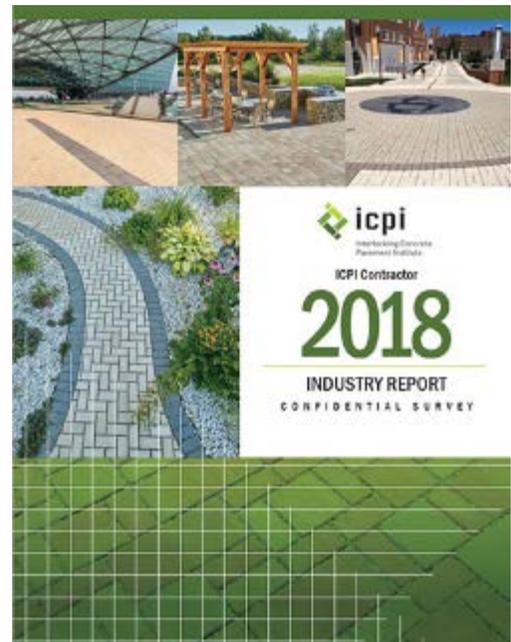
Concrete Paver Contractor Sales Show 8% Increase

Gross sales for concrete paver contractors in the United States and Canada increased by 7.7% during 2017, while four of every five contractors reported difficulty in recruiting and hiring quality employees, according to a new survey report released by the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI).

Other key findings of the report include:

- The residential market remains strong representing 69.5% of sales, while commercial/government projects are surging with 30.5% of sales (an increase of 6.5% from the previous year).
- 90.1% of contractors provided worksite safety training to their employees.
- A 5.0% median wage/salary increase occurred in 2017, while a similar 5.0% median rise is forecasted for 2018.

[More.](#)



ICPI NEWS

ICPI Seeks Proposals for Presentations at the Innovative Technology Forum

Each year at its summer membership meeting, the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI) hosts the Innovative Technology Forum. ICPI is seeking proposals for presenters who might offer the segmental concrete pavement industry innovative ways to save time and money. This can include manufacturing and construction technologies. This Forum will be held from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. PDST on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at the Parq Hotel in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. [More.](#)

ICPI Teams with Land8 Landscape Architects Network to Make PaveShare.org Curriculum

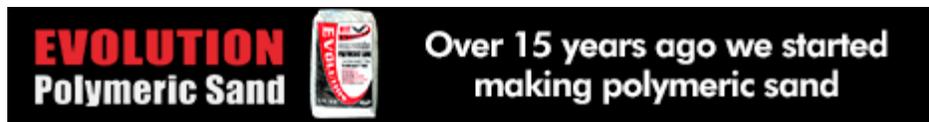
Free to Students and Educators in the U.S. and Canada



The Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI) announced that the PaveShare.org open-education curriculum for landscape architecture students and educators is now available through the Land8 Landscape Architects Network.



PaveShare.org, a free ICPI resource, links to self-guided presentations with interactive animations and a studio project library on segmental concrete pavement design and construction. [More](#).



Registration is Open for the 2018 ICPI Summer Meeting



Members are encouraged to join us September 10-13 at the Parq Vancouver – JW Marriot and DOUGLAS Hotels for the 2018 ICPI Summer Meeting. Registration is now open and includes entry to all committee meetings, the General Session Luncheon, Innovative Technology Forum, Board of Directors Meeting, ICPI Foundations Meetings, Member Networking Reception and the Social Event. Members, spouses and children are all welcome.

Click [here](#) to register for the Summer Meeting and to view the preliminary agenda. Please be sure to complete your meeting registration to receive your room request form.

Download the *Interlock Design* Magazine App

ICPI is pleased to inform readers on the transition of the *Interlock Design* magazine to LLM Publications. One of the benefits of the change is that there is now a new mobile application for the magazine. You can access the app on either Apple or Android products.

To download the application, visit the app store on your phone or tablet and search for ICPI Interlock Design.



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Did You Know? Contractor Resources are Available in the ICPI Contractor Tool Kit

Check out of the materials available to contractors on the ICPI Contractor Tool Kit page. ICPI supplies technical, educational and marketing resources for contractors in the concrete paver industry for general contractors, Certified Installers and ICPI Member Contractors. Check out all the materials available at <https://www.icpi.org/ICPIContractorToolKit>



MEMBER NEWS

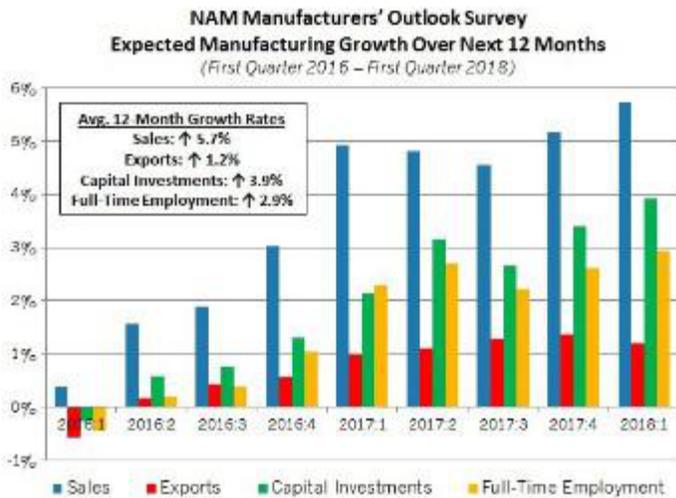
Willow Creek Paving Stones Enhances Pavers with New Proprietary Process

Willow Creek Infusion™ technology is an advanced manufacturing process that provides vibrant color, enhanced color longevity, heightened durability and additional stain-resistant properties to concrete pavers. In addition, the process minimizes absorption rates considerably. The Select Series of pavers that incorporates Infusion™ technology includes Slatestone™, Slatestone Grande™, Dekrastone™ and Eurostone™. [More.](#)



GOVERNMENT/ECONOMIC INDICATORS

NAM's Expected Manufacturing Growth Over Next 12 Months



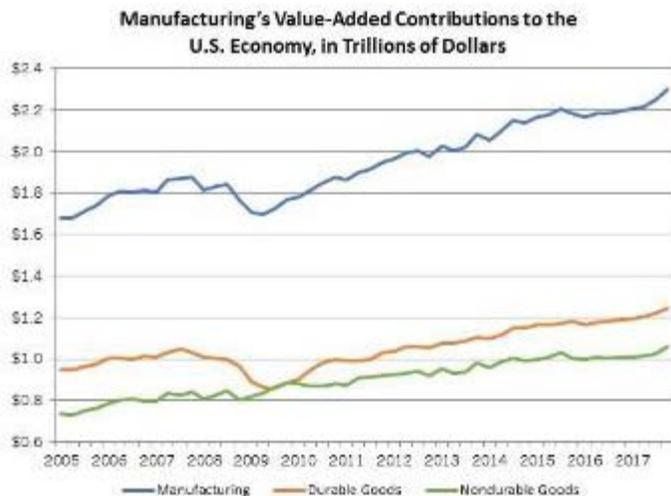
In the latest [Manufacturers' Outlook Survey](#), 93.5 percent of respondents feel positive about their own company's outlook, the second-highest reading in the survey's 20-year history following the all-time high of 94.6 percent in December. Optimism has been at historically high levels over the past five quarters, averaging 92.1 percent. Sentiment is sharply higher than two years ago, with an average of 64.3 percent in 2016. Manufacturers continue to be upbeat following Washington's passage of the comprehensive tax cuts package. [More.](#)

Construction Job Openings Higher Year-Over-Year

According to the BLS Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) and NAHB analysis, the number of open construction sector jobs came in at 196,000 in February. The post-recession high count of open, unfilled construction jobs was 255,000 in July of last year. The number of open construction sector jobs was 169,000 a year ago. [More.](#)



Manufacturing's Value-Added Contributions to the U.S. Economy



Real GDP grew 2.9 percent at the annual rate in the fourth quarter, boosted by strength in consumer and business spending but weighed down by inventory spending and net exports. According to [new data](#) from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, manufacturing added 0.60 percentage points to top-line growth in the fourth quarter. Manufacturing value-added output rose to \$2.300 trillion in the fourth quarter, a new all-time high. Adjusting for inflation, a new all-time high also occurred for real value-added output in manufacturing, which increased to \$1.984 trillion in the fourth quarter and is in chained 2009 dollars (to adjust for inflation). Overall, manufacturing accounted for 11.6 percent of real GDP in the fourth quarter, up from 11.5 percent in the prior report. [More.](#)



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INDUSTRY BUZZ

Webinar: Construction & Maintenance of Permeable Pavement – Updated & Expanded



Permeable pavements can be built to last...if you build them right. We can design permeable pavements for a long service life, but if they are not built in accordance with the design or maintained correctly for the type of pavement, they may not last. [More.](#)

ASLA Survey Shows Demand for Sustainable Landscapes

In 2018, people want sustainable backyard designs, shared outdoor spaces, places in the yard to do yoga and phone charging stations, according to the [American Society of Landscape Architects' \(ASLA\) 2018 Residential Landscape Architecture Trends Survey](#). [More.](#)

Pave the Way: Using Pavers to Side Step a Common Pitfall

Because people and animals love shortcuts, it can feel like an uphill battle trying to get them to go down the right path. By installing a paved path, you can better control where people walk. Depending on the paving stones and complexity of your path, you may even be able to do it yourself. If the desire line is a literal uphill path, a contractor may be a better decision. Here are the general phases of a stepping stone path project. [More.](#)



Four Ways to Strengthen Coastal Communities' Resilience Before the Next Storm

In urban areas, features such as rain gardens and permeable pavement help capture rain from frequent small precipitation events. By slowing the water that runs off buildings and pavement, these measures help moderate flooding, improve water quality and recharge groundwater. While these features get overwhelmed by larger, rarer events, every single element helps reduce the flood risk to someone downstream. [More.](#)

Tampa Bay Area County Planners Want Road Projects to Mitigate Major Storm Damage

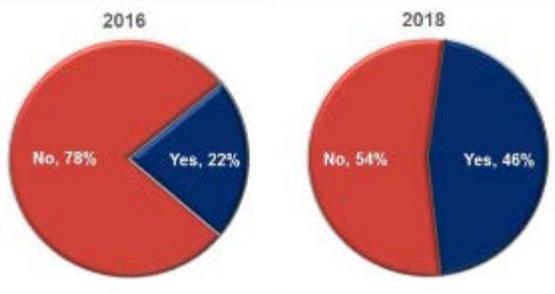
Mitigations strategies include vegetative barriers to protect against storm surge, permeable pavement, drainage improvements and man-made barriers. Costs range anywhere from a low of about \$100,000 to a high of more than \$3 million if the county did nothing and the section of road needed to be replaced. [More.](#)

Permeable Pavements Go Mainstream

Permeable products have gone mainstream as cities struggle to manage stormwater and create aesthetically pleasing spaces. As more project designers and owners understand the value of permeable products, the industry has responded by providing a variety of types and designs. The products are available in a mixture of colors and sizes, so there will likely be one that fits a specific project. [More](#).

Builders' Use of Aerial Drones Takes Off

Have Single-family Builders Used Drones in Their Construction Businesses?



About [two years ago](#), NAHB reported that 22 percent of single-family builders had used aerial drones (or unmanned aircraft systems, as the [Department of Defense](#) calls them) at least once in their construction businesses. But the times they are a-changing. When we revisited the issue in March of this year, we saw that the percentage of builders using drones had soared to 46 percent. [More](#).



ICPI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
May 3-4	Advanced Residential Paver Technician Course – Ewing Irrigation	Phoenix, AZ
May 22-23	Concrete Paver Installer Course – SiteOne Landscape Supply	Encinitas, CA
May 22-23	Concrete Paver Installer Course – Ewing Irrigation	Panama City Beach, FL
June 19-20	Concrete Paver Installer Course – Ewing Irrigation	Fort Myers, FL
June 26	San Jose Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavement Workshop	San Jose, CA
June 28	Costa Mesa Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavement Workshop	Costa Mesa, CA
September 10-13	2018 ICPI Summer Meeting	Vancouver, BC
October 16-19	2018 International Conference on Concrete Block Pavement	Seoul, Korea
October 16-17	Concrete Paver Installer Course – HNA	Louisville, KY
October 16-17	Concrete Paver Installer Course (Spanish) – HNA	Louisville, KY
October 16-17	Advanced Residential Paver Technician Course – HNA	Louisville, KY
October 16-17	Commercial Paver Technician Course – HNA	Louisville, KY
October 17	PICP Specialist Course – HNA	Louisville, KY
October 17-19	2018 Hardscape North America Trade Show	Louisville, KY
January 22-23	Concrete Paver Installer Course – World of Concrete	Las Vegas, NV
March 3-6	ICPI 25th Annual Meeting (2019)	Charleston, SC

To check out more ICPI Events, click [here](#).

Date	Webinar Topic/Speaker	Time
May 29	ICPI Launches PICP Life-Cycle Software (Members Only) – David Smith, ICPI Technical Director and Robert Bowers, P. Eng., ICPI Director of Engineering	1 pm EST

To check out more ICPI Webinars, click [here](#).

TRENDING ARTICLES

Missed last week's issue?

Don't be left behind. Click [here](#) to see what you missed.

About Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute

ICPI is the trade association representing the growing industry of segmental concrete pavement systems in the United States and Canada. The association's membership includes producers, contractors, suppliers, design professionals, and distributors. ICPI is the authority for concrete pavers, which are universally recognized as the best value for pavement systems. The association delivers education and technical guidance leading to awareness, acceptance and use of segmental concrete pavement systems in the United States and Canada. For more information, visit www.icpi.org.

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