Russell honored by transportation council

Eugene R. Russell Sr., professor of civil engineering, has been selected to receive the 2008 Council of University Transportation Center Award for Distinguished Contributions to University Transportation Education and Research.

The award has been given annually since 1998 to identify individuals who have had a long history of significant and outstanding contributions to university transportation education and research, resulting in a lasting contribution to transportation. Russell received the award Jan. 10, 2009, in Washington, D.C.

Russell has spent more than 40 years researching safety issues for all aspects of transportation. His research has included analyzing rail-highway-grade crossing warning systems, hazardous materials transportation, highway illumination and auto headlights, traffic signs and roundabout design and operation, and the impact of railroad abandonment on rural communities.

The Council of University Transportation Centers was established in 1979 by the major transportation research centers and institutes in the United States. The organization promotes continued dialogue among its member institutions and provides a forum for the centers to interact collectively with government and industry. Its membership represents more than 60 of the nation’s leading university-based transportation research and education programs.

Peterman and Esmaeily win PCI George D. Nasser Award

The team of Kyle H. Larson, graduate research assistant; Robert J. Peterman, professor; and Asad Esmaeily, assoc. professor, has been cited for the paper “Bond Characteristics of Self-Consolidating Concrete for Prestressed Bridge Girders,” which appeared in the July–August 2008 issue of the PCI Journal. The paper was awarded the George D. Nasser Award, named for the editor emeritus and long-time chief editor of the PCI Journal, which recognizes the Journal paper that is “most worthy of special consideration for its merit on the design, research, production, or construction of precast/prestressed concrete structures.”

The group’s work presented the results of an extensive experimental program conducted to determine the material and bond characteristics of a proposed self-consolidating concrete mixture for bridge girders. Fifteen full-scale, pretensioned specimens were tested to evaluate the transfer and development lengths of their strands. The specimens included both single-strand and multiple-strand beams, and specimens designed to evaluate the so called “top-strand” effect. The results showed that the mixture met the American Concrete Institute and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) transfer-length requirements.
t is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the 2009 newsletter. As some of you may know, I assumed the responsibility of the interim department head in July 2008. Since then, I have been busy learning my job duties and figuring out ways to survive the anticipated budget cuts due to the economic situation we are all experiencing right now. Despite the myriad budget-cut scenarios we are facing, I want to assure all of you that I will do everything possible to keep our civil engineering department as strong as it has been for the past 100+ years. Our faculty and staff will do their best to prepare the future generations of K-State civil engineers. And, you can continue to count on the quality you have always expected from our civil engineering graduates.

As you read through this newsletter, you will find that our faculty, staff, and students continue to strive for excellence in whatever they do. Since the last newsletter, we have the following news:

- Our 100-year celebration culminated with our centennial banquet in April 2008.
- We held the 2007 and 2008 Civil Engineering Awards Banquet (sponsored by BHC RHODES).
- We experienced a change in department leadership from Jim Koelliker to Jacob Najjar.
- Kyle Riding was hired as a new CE faculty member.
- Gene Russell received the 2008 Council of University Transportation Center Award for Distinguished Contributions to University Transportation Education and Research.
- Bob Peterman and Asad Esmaeily won the PCI George D. Nasser Award.
- Various awards and recognitions were bestowed on many of our CE faculty members, staff, and graduate and undergraduate students.

After almost nine months on the job, I have to say that our department is very blessed to have such dedicated alumni who continue to provide financial support to enhance our efforts. In tough times, like the ones we are facing now, your financial contributions become even more critical to ensure the continued success of this department. We are grateful for all of your generous contributions, and I hope we can count on your generosity to maintain the high quality of our graduates. It is always good to hear from you.

My best wishes for you all.

Yacoub “Jacob” Najjar
Professor and Interim Department Head

Civil engineering retreat fall 2008.

CE Department Heads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lowell Conrad</td>
<td>1908 to 1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reed Morse</td>
<td>1947 to 1963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Blackburn</td>
<td>1963 to 1972</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Snell</td>
<td>1972 to 1992</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stuart Swartz</td>
<td>1992 to 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakshmi Reddi</td>
<td>2000 to 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Koelliker (Interim)</td>
<td>2007 to 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yacoub Najjar (Interim)</td>
<td>2008 to present</td>
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Chi Epsilon Civil Engineering Honor Society

Efforts from the Kansas State University chapter of Chi Epsilon led to completion of a playground at one of the park sites near Tuttle Creek Lake. Tuttle Creek Park personnel had recently finished constructing a playground on site. They had a large woodchip pile delivered about 60 yards from the playground and needed assistance having the woodchips transported to the playground and spread about. The K-State chapter brought many volunteers with trucks and tools and completed the task in a few hours.

Chi Epsilon was also a key role player in hosting the 2008 Civil Engineering Awards banquet at K-State. While the chapter honor member led the banquet, many Chi Epsilon members received scholarships and recognition.

Steel bridge competes on national level

The American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) National Student Steel Bridge Competition is the premier intercollegiate steel bridge competition, where civil engineering students design, fabricate, and construct a scale-model steel bridge. The bridge is then judged on a variety of qualities including stiffness, lightness, aesthetics, economy, efficiency, and time required to assemble. In 2008, K-State civil engineering’s steel bridge team placed second out of 13 teams in its regional competition in Fayetteville, Ark., and, for the fourth year in a row, competed in the national competition held last year in Gainsville, Fla. The team placed 14th in the nation out of 43 teams.

The team of more than 40 members is working hard and looking for another successful year.

Concrete canoe team targets higher performance goals

For more than 20 years, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has hosted the National Concrete Canoe Competition. Teams from across the nation construct a canoe and compete against each other in regional conferences. Winners from the regional conferences advance to the national conference.

The students are responsible for designing, mixing, and testing all of their concrete, as well as the design and construction of the mold. At the conference, teams are judged based on a technical paper, an oral presentation, an aesthetic display, and the outcome of five canoe races.

Last year, the Kansas State University concrete canoe had an excellent performance, placing third overall at the competition held in Fayetteville, Ark. The team now is working hard to rank higher in Carbondale, Ill., and secure its place in the national competition.
El-Aasar receives Professional Progress Award

Moni El-Aasar (MSCE ’88, PhD ’91) has been named recipient of the 2009 Professional Progress Award for the department of civil engineering. He will be honored at the Seaton Society Celebration, May 2, 2009.

El-Aasar joined BG Consultants, Inc., Manhattan, Kan., in 1990. There he utilized his previous design experience combined with his research in providing innovative infrastructure designs and cost-efficient solutions for the rehabilitation and renovation of bridges and structures. In 1993, El-Aasar advanced to head the bridge design and inspection department in the company and served as project manager on structural design projects. Since that time, he has designed more than a thousand Interstate, state highway, county road, and city street bridges across the state of Kansas. In 1997, he became a partner and vice president of the company.

Some of his key project designs include the first continuous inverted-T, prestressed concrete bridge in the state of Kansas; erection of the free-standing Titan II and Redstone Gemini rockets, and the design of the Apollo 13 Exhibit, at the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson, Kan.; and the orangutan exhibit at the Topeka Zoo. His work also includes development of structural plans for several fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) bridge decks in the states of Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, New York, Colorado, and West Virginia. El-Aasar is involved with research projects with the Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas State University, the University of Nebraska and the University of Maryland. These include development of fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) bridge decks, and the development of crash-worthy handrails for them. Also, his research has involved development of an innovative and cost-efficient infrastructure for personal rapid transit systems and their elevated guideways. El-Aasar is married and has one daughter in grade school.

2008 student awards

Undergraduate and graduate civil engineering students at K-State were recognized and awarded during the 2008 annual banquet. These awards included Outstanding Junior Award, ASCE Award, Rosebraugh Award, Outstanding Civil Engineering Sophomore Award, and Outstanding Civil Engineering Freshman Award for undergraduate students.

The graduate awards included Outstanding Civil Engineering M.S. Award, Outstanding Civil Engineering Ph.D. Award, and a number of scholarships.

Undergraduate:

Stephen Austin
Outstanding Junior Award, fall 2008, presented by Kansas Section of ASCE, American Public Works Association Scholarship

Jacob Ferrell
ASCE Award, presented by the Wichita Branch of ASCE

Steven Frank
Outstanding Junior Award, spring 2008, presented by Kansas Section of ASCE

Steve Hammerschmidt
Rosebraugh Award, spring 2008; Outstanding Senior Award, fall 2008, presented by Kansas Section of ASCE

Joseph Norris
Outstanding Civil Engg. Sophomore Award

Jay Roth
Outstanding Civil Engg. Freshman Award

Graduate:

Ahmed Abd El Fattah
Outstanding Civil Engg. M.S. Award

Daba Gedafa
Manhattan/Konza Rotary Club Scholarship

Brian Geiger
Institute of Transportation Engineers Scholarship

Chandra Manandhar
Membership, Transportation Research Board Committee on Management of Quality Assurance

Mbakisya Onyango
Outstanding Civil Engg. Ph.D. Award

Farhana Rahman
Initiated into the K-State Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi
New faculty profile

Kyle Riding was born in Baltimore, Md., and raised in Fresno, Calif. He obtained a B.S. in civil and environmental engineering from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, in 2002. After attending BYU, he began graduate school at the University of Texas at Austin, with an emphasis in civil engineering materials in the structural engineering group. He received an M.S. in engineering in 2004 and a Ph.D. in 2007 from the University of Texas at Austin. During his graduate studies there, he worked as a graduate research assistant at the Concrete Durability Center, working on developing tools to help prevent mass concrete cracking. This work received a Top Research Innovations and Findings Award from the Texas Department of Transportation in 2005. After graduation, he worked for one year as a postdoctoral researcher at the Laboratory of Materials of Construction at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology at Lausanne to determine the mechanism of cement early-age strength enhancement by certain proprietary chemical admixtures.

Riding’s research now focuses on how to build more durable, constructible, and cost-effective concrete infrastructure by better linking material properties with their in-place performance. This includes better understanding of the interaction with structures and the environment, and developing tools to select compatible materials and construction techniques. He is actively involved in the American Concrete Institute, and is a voting member of the properties of concrete at early ages committee and an associate member of the durability of concrete committee.

Riding is married to the former Marci Ebert and they have two daughters.

Faculty news

Technical chair post

Steve Starrett, CE assoc. professor, has been selected as the technical chair for the 2009 EWRI World Environmental and Water Resources Congress. The congress will feature nearly 800 presentations in fields including watershed management, flood frequency analysis, drinking water and wastewater treatment, civil infrastructure frontiers, security of infrastructure, asset management, groundwater, urban development, evapotranspiration calculation methods, sustainable design, and climate change.

Starrett conducted three, two-hour engineering ethics workshops sponsored by the American Academy of Water Resource Engineers during the 2008 EWRI Congress in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Publishing success


Above: CE 101 Introduction to Civil Engineering course had 64 students enrolled in fall 2008. Assoc. Professor Steve Starrett, front left, organized various lectures from faculty, students, and guests to communicate about civil engineering topics. Jeremy Lin, P.E., front right, Lintech Engineering, LLC, offered an excellent presentation on what a civil engineer actually does.
The civil engineering department is actively engaged in the K-State/Kabul University Partnership, funded by the World Bank through the Strengthening Higher Education Program. Kabul University’s civil engineering department head, as well as the chancellor, dean of the engineering school, and a number of faculty members attended a 10-day leadership workshop at K-State, sponsored by the partnership project. Asad Esmaeily, CE assoc. professor and department coordinator of the project, led the team of delegates to visit civil engineering laboratories, including CISL, and to observe various educational activities including the senior design project and a number of research activities.

Currently two faculty members from the civil engineering department at Kabul University are continuing their higher education towards M.S. degrees at K-State. Esmaeily, who serves as their major professor and advisor, expects to facilitate bringing more qualified civil engineering faculty members as well as recent graduates from Kabul University during his next trip to Kabul in summer 2009.

To elevate civil engineering education at Kabul University to a world-class, ABET-accredited level, the K-State civil engineering department has played a key role in implementa-
A mechanics of materials laboratory technician (left), and Golestami (right), a new faculty member at Kabul University, examine homemade concrete samples tested by the new universal testing machine. Besides teaching needs, Mechanics of Materials laboratory is one of the main components of a research institute to be established at Kabul University.

Asad Esmaeily, CE department coordinator of the partnership, explains the details of a large-scale structural testing facility at CISL for the Afghan delegates.
Director’s message

K-State’s designation as a Tier II UTC has given us the opportunity to consolidate many existing programs under a single organizational umbrella and to initiate many new and exciting research, education, and technology transfer programs. As we enter our second year of operation, I am very excited about the center’s future. We have developed a diverse, multidisciplinary research program that draws on expertise from across the university to address the transportation problems facing rural America. The UTC program has given us the resources to attract and retain top-notch undergraduate and graduate students to our transportation education and research programs. In addition, the UTC has given us a much needed framework for consolidating many of our existing technology transfer programs under a single “one-stop shopping” umbrella for transportation conferences and training programs. I extend my sincere appreciation to all our partners for the K-State UTC’s successes and look forward to working with them in an exciting and challenging new year.

Robert W. “Bobb” Stokes
Director

Geiger named K-State UTC Student of the Year

Brian Geiger was selected to receive the 2008 K-State UTC Student of the Year award for his desire to improve the community around him through his work in the transportation field. Geiger has been active in numerous campus student groups and his demonstrated leadership skills should serve him well in his future endeavors. Congratulations, Brian.

UTC awards scholarships for spring 2009

The K-State UTC is pleased to announce the following recipients of UTC Scholarships for spring 2009.

Stephen Austin
St. Marys, Kan.

Brian Geiger
Overland Park, Kan.

Trevor Heitman
Palmer, Kan.

Kyle Merklein
Phillipsburg, Kan.

Brandon Bortz
Preston, Kan.

Steven Hammerschmidt
Hays, Kan.

Brett Louk
Garden City, Kan.

Wilson Smith
Independence, Mo.

UTC awards graduate research assistantships for spring 2009

The K-State UTC is pleased to announce the following recipients of UTC GRA awards for spring 2009.

Shahin Nayyeriamiri
Iran

Mbaki Onyango
Tanzania

Parangiri Rajaram
India

Visit our Website at www.transport.k-state.edu for complete details on our research program, conferences, and training courses.
Faculty/staff recognition

Faculty

Sunanda Dissanayake
- Outstanding Teaching Award, 2007
- Outstanding Research Award, 2008
- CE Graduate Council Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award, 2008
- Tenured and promoted to assoc. professor, 2008

Asad Esmaeily
- Outstanding University & Professional Service Award, 2007
- CE Graduate Council Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award, 2007
- Outstanding Colleague Award, 2008
- Outstanding Teaching Award, 2008
- PCI George D. Nasser Award, 2008
- Tenured and promoted to assoc. professor, 2008

Mustaque Hossain
- Chi Epsilon UG Teaching Excellence Award, 2007
- ASCE Advisor of the Year Award, 2007
- Outstanding Research Award, 2008
- Chi Epsilon Student Advocate of the Year Award, 2008

Hani Melhem
- Outstanding University & Professional Service Award, 2007
- Chi Epsilon Student Advocate of the Year Award, 2007
- Elected Chair of Executive Committee of ASCE Technical Council on Computing and Information Technology, 2007
- Martin Eby Professorship in Engineering, 2007
- ASCE Advisor of the Year Award, 2008
- Appointed director of undergraduate program, 2008
- College of Engineering Charles H. Scholer Faculty Award, 2008
- Elected to ASCE Fellow, 2009

Yacoub Najjar
- Outstanding Colleague Award, 2007
- Appointed interim department head, 2008

Dunja Peric
- Tenured and promoted to assoc. professor, 2007
- Making a Difference Award, 2008

Bob Peterman
- Outstanding Research Award, 2007
- PCI Charles C. Zollman Award, 2007
- Martin Eby Professorship in Engineering, 2007
- Chi Epsilon UG Teaching Excellence Award, 2008
- College of Engineering Myers-Alford Memorial Teaching Award, 2008
- PCI George D. Nasser Award, 2008
- Promoted to professor, 2008

Hayder Rasheed
- ASCE Outstanding Faculty Award, 2008
- Appointed director of graduate program, 2008

Steve Starrett
- Selected as technical chair for the 2009 EWRI World Environmental and Water Resources Congress where there will be nearly 800 presentations in fields ranging from watershed management, flood frequency analysis, drinking water and wastewater treatment, civil infrastructure frontiers, security of infrastructure, asset management, groundwater, urban development, evapotranspiration calculation methods, and sustainable design to climate change.
- Conducted three, two-hour engineering ethics workshops sponsored by the American Academy of Water Resource Engineers during the 2008 EWRI Congress in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Bob Stokes
- ASCE Outstanding Faculty Award, 2007
- Elected ASCE Region 7 Director, 2007
- Outstanding University & Professional Service Award, 2008
- Became a Life Member of the Missouri Valley Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, 2008
- College of Engineering Larry E. and Laurel Erickson Public Service Award, 2008
- Appointed Director of the University Transportation Center, 2008
- Elected to ASCE Fellow, 2008

Staff

Danita Deters
- College of Engineering Above & Beyond Award, 2008

Peggy Selvidge
- Outstanding Staff Award, 2007
- College of Engineering Above & Beyond Award, 2008

Debi Wahl
- Outstanding Staff Award, 2008

Transportation conference

The 91st Annual Kansas Transportation Engineering Conference will be held April 14 and 15, 2009, at the Kansas State University Student Union. The conference is sponsored by K-State's University Transportation Center, Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas County Highway Association, Kansas Chapter of the American Public Works Association, Kansas Association for Uniform Traffic Control, Federal Highway Administration, and Mid America Transportation Center.
The Civil Engineering Professional Academy recognizes individuals and businesses that partner with the department of civil engineering in order to impact civil engineering education and to personally interact with the department leadership, faculty, and students. Membership is extended through invitation from the CE department head and the dean of engineering. Individual members in the academy make annual contributions of $250; those making annual contributions of $500 or more are recognized as executive members by the academy and as colleagues by the College of Engineering Seaton Society. Corporate members contribute $2,500 or more annually, and those who make one-time contributions of $25k or more are continually recognized as permanent founders of the academy.

**Corporate Members**

- Bartlett & West, Inc.
- BHC Rhodes
- ConocoPhillips
- ExxonMobile Foundation
- Memorial Health System
- Sprint Foundation
- Uhl Engineering, Inc.
- Wildcat Construction Co., Inc.

**Individual Members**

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- Walt Bellairs
- Steve & Deloris Berland
- Bill & Genene Brungardt
- Mike & Connie Butler
- Randy & Jacquie Coonrod
- Ruth Coonrod
- Carl & Donna Coonrod
- Max & Linda DaMetz
- Les Doty
- Larry Emig
- Philip Frazier
- Mike Gard
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- Bill & Susan Stannard
- Jim & Marty Tadman
- Bob & Bernita Thorn
- Leland Tice
- Bob & Betty Tointon
- Rick Weninger
- Don Wiruth & Treva Fairbanks Wiruth
- Robert & Sheryl Wiruth
- Jerry Wooten

**Distance Learning**

The civil engineering department offers graduate-level courses leading to a master of science degree in civil engineering to off-campus students—no matter where they live. All courses needed for the degree will be offered on line or by other multimedia delivery methods. Students only need to travel to K-State once, at the end of their program, for an oral examination conducted by their graduate committee. A master's degree can also be counted as a year of credit toward earning your professional engineering license. For information on earning your license, go to the Kansas Board of Technical Professions on line at http://www.kansas.gov/ksbtp/.

**Fall 2009 CE courses:**

- CE 654  Design of Groundwater Flow Systems
- CE 704  Responsibility in Engineering: Leadership and Diversity
- CE 732  Advanced Structural Analysis I
- CE 745  Structural Dynamics
- CE 751  Hydraulics of Open Channels
- CE 762  Water Treatment Processes
- CE 775  Traffic Engineering
- CE 786  Land Development for Civil Engineers and Planners
- CE 802  Advanced Mechanics of Materials
- CE 816  Selected Topics in Civil Engineering: Sustainable Transportation and Asset Management

**Summer 2009 CE courses:**

- CE 703  Responsibility in Engineering: Codes and Professionalism
- CE 704  Responsibility in Engineering: Leadership and Diversity
- CE 790  Problems in Civil Engineering: Engineering Ethics (Case Studies)

**Division of Continuing Education**

131 College Court Building
Manhattan, KS 66506-6001
E-mail: info@dce.ksu.edu
Phone: 1-877-528-6105
Web: http://www.dce.ksu.edu/engineering/degrees/civil/

**NOTE:** CE 745 (Structural Dynamics, Esmaeily) and CE 732 (Advanced Structural Analysis I, Rasheed) were awarded a Distance Education Development Grant in 2008–2009 for online development of the interactive courses.
Dear Alumni and Corporate Friends

Please support the department of civil engineering at Kansas State University through your financial contributions and/or comments and recommendations on our newsletter, and educational, research, and service activities. We are grateful for this partnership and hope you will consider supporting your alma mater.

Yes, I wish to demonstrate my support for the students, faculty, and CE department programs with the following gift:

- $500
- $250
- $100
- $50
- other $ ____________

☐ I have enclosed my check in the above amount made payable to “The K-State Foundation” and have noted on the memo line, “Civil Engineering Enhancement Fund.”

☐ I authorize the K-State Foundation to collect my gift to civil engineering in the amount above through the credit card checked below.
  - Visa
  - MasterCard
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Signature _____________________________________________________

Name _______________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________

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I understand this gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. 0700706/I20700

Mail to:
KSU Foundation
Civil Engineering Enhancement Fund
2323 Anderson, Suite 500
Manhattan, KS 66502-2911

Or visit online:
www.ce.ksu.edu

Student chapter of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

K-State hosted the KU/K-State and Kansas Section ASCE Joint Dinner in the K-State Student Union in fall 2008. This event allows students from both universities to get to know each other as well as discuss their successes over the past semester. The concrete canoe and steel bridge teams spent much of the year preparing for regional and national competitions. The ASCE student chapter started the fall 2008 semester by hosting a mixer for students, faculty, and staff. They also completed a year-long service project in Wamego that included the design and construction of 125 L.F. of sidewalk.

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Card # __________________________  Expiration date _____ / ______

Signature _____________________________________________________

Name _______________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________

City ___________________________ State _____  Zip __________

Phone ______________________________

I understand this gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. 0700706/I20700

Mail to:
KSU Foundation
Civil Engineering Enhancement Fund
2323 Anderson, Suite 500
Manhattan, KS 66502-2911

Or visit online:
www.ce.ksu.edu

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Spring 2008 CE Advisory Council

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