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Knowledge for Creating and
Sustaining the Built Environment

October 2011

OCTOBER 24TH MEETING

PROGRAM:

PLACE:

H.E.S.S. Building
5430 Westheimer

TIME:

5:30 P.M. (Registration and
mixer)

6:00 P.M. (Evening Meal
and Meeting)

DATE:

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 24, 2011

COST:

\$35.00 Per Person; Free to
CSI members.

RESERVATIONS:

Please e-mail:
csihouston@gmail.com

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CSI Houston Website:
<http://www.csihouston.org>

October CSI Houston Chapter Program

Fire Rated Glazing Today

Presented by

Pat McIntosh
AGC Interedge Technologies

Presenter for the October 24nd CSI Houston Chapter program will be Pat McIntosh, with AGC Interedge Technologies. His presentation is entitled "Fire Rated Glazing Today."

The presentation will include a discussion of the different types of glazing products available in the market today as well as explain the difference between fire-protective and fire-resistant glazing products.

Program attendees can receive 1 hour AIA/CES CEU credit.

Coming in November . . .

The presenter for the November 28th CSI Houston Chapter program will be John Swink with Acme Brick. His presentation is entitled "Fundamentals of Balanced Design for Fire Safe Construction."

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October 2011

President's Message

by Robert M. Cook, CSI, AHC

Wow, isn't it wonderful to go outside and not be sopping wet! I hope everyone is enjoying the great fall weather as we start into October and prepare to celebrate Halloween with the kids and grand-kids. I hope everyone will be safe.



Just wanted everyone to keep Kathleen Liles in their prayers. She is having some health issues and needs our prayers, and let's hope for some divine intervention for her to have a full recovery. I know I speak for those that really know her when I say that she is loved and respected and our hearts go out to her and her family.

As we prepare to golf on Monday the 10th with great friends in this great industry, which has been so good to us all, I just wanted to reflect for a moment. Thanks to the Golf Committee and Holly Jordan for her efforts in getting sponsors. We have 80 players signed up, and it looks like we will have a very successful tournament again because of everyone's efforts. Times are tough, but everyone working together can make a big difference. Thanks to our CSI Houston family we have our first Gold Sponsor in the history of our Golf Tournament Neil Byrne from Byrne Metals. We also have 6 silver sponsors which is more than I've ever seen. Thanks again to everyone for all their work and support.

I hope you will all enjoy the weather and get outside and do something fun. We all work so much and can get into such a rut at times that it can become a bad habit. Before we know it the rut is over our heads and before you know it it is a grave. Life is passing us by in a flash. Just think how fast this year has gone by already! Take some time to enjoy the outdoors and your families. None of us know how much time we have so take full advantage of every minute! Until next month, keep smiling


South Central Region Notice

by Dorothy Gumm Dennison, CSI, CCS, CSI
South Central Region Director

Your Regional CSI Board is looking for a Treasurer. Start in July 2012. I have a job description if you would like to see it.

This is your opportunity to step up and help lead the CSI organization for Texas and Oklahoma.

Contact me at dotgumm@sbcglobal.net if you feel you can help with this important work.



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Houston Code News and Events

By Di Ann Hassloch, CSI ,CCS, CCCA, LEED AP

New Electrical Code - Effective 09/01/2011.

On August 10, City Council approved the adoption of the 2011 National Electrical Code and local amendments.

New Commercial Energy Codes - Effective 09/02/2011.

September 2, 2011, commercial buildings and structures shall comply with the 2009 IECC or 2007 ASHRAE 90.1, pursuant to Section 19.53 of Chapter 34, Texas Administrative Code.

In accordance with this provision and the rules thereto, the City has reviewed the codes and has proposed amendments for review by the Energy Systems Laboratory.

Please visit the City of Houston Form & Publications Page at <http://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/code-enforcement/code-updates.html> to access the new Commercial Energy Codes

New Construction Codes—Effective 12/31/10.

On November 3rd, City Council approved the 2006 Code Package to adopt updated Construction Codes. The new amendments are available at our Forms & Publications page.

Texas Adopts New Energy Code 2009 IECC effective April 1st, 2011. The major points to be guided by for the building envelope are:

- All commercial projects will need insulated glass. No more monolithic exceptions for small window to wall ratios.
- All commercial projects will need to exhibit an SHGC (Solar Heat Gain Coefficient) of .25 or less. This is a major revision and improvement to save energy for our building owners. There are exceptions for projection factors i.e. shading.

As published in the Texas Register today: ADOPTED RULES June 4, 2010 35 TexReg 4727

Current codes in the City of Houston include:


- Building Code: 2006 IBC with Houston Amendments.
- Residential Code: 2006 IRC with Houston Amendments.
- Electrical Code: 2011 NEC with Houston Amendments—1st Printing.
- Mechanical Code: 2006 UMC with Houston Amendments.
- Plumbing Code: 2006 UPC with Houston Amendments.



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- CORAFLO[®] ADS colorful, field-applied fluoropolymer coatings
- CORAFLO[®] and ENVIROCRON[®] Zero-VOC powder coatings
- Pure Performance[®] Zero-VOC paint from Pittsburgh[®] Paints
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FEATURE YOUR PRODUCTS WITH A TABLE TOP DISPLAY

At each monthly meeting, the Chapter encourages Industry Members to provide a table top display of their products and services for the inspection and education of those attending the meeting.

The table top display is also encouraged to be presented during the social hour and after the program for any questions by attendees.

The presentation fee for this time is \$100 for members and \$150 for non-members, or free with a Golf Sponsorship pledge. See page 10 for details.

CSI BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Houston Chapter CSI

**Location: HESS Building - 5430 Westheimer Road - Houston, TX
August 22, 2011**

Present: Amanda Carrington, Amy Peevey, Betsy Finch, Bill Fairbanks, Chuck Vojtech, Di Ann Reid, Don Smith, Doug Frank, Frank Bain, Holly Jordan, James Sandoz, Lisa Murray, Logan Vits, Mark Koehler, Neil Byrne

President Bob Cook called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. The August 2011 Board Meeting minutes were approved.

REPORTS

Member Services: Neil Byrne

Neil reported that he had met with Amanda to discuss increasing chapter membership.

Programs: Janet Babineaux

Neil reported that programs are set through the end of the year.

Membership: Amanda Carrington

No report.

Awards: Amy Salmeron

No report.

Finance/Administration: Don Smith

The 2011/2012 CSI Houston Budget was reviewed and approved. James Sandoz "moved to approved the budget as amended." The motion was seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Vojtech

Chuck reported that the bank balance is \$12,692.90. The CSI Houston Chapter received money for student memberships, but National has not listed the students yet.

Table Top Display: Holly Jordan

Holly reported that there will be two tabletop displays at the August chapter meeting. Holly moved to raise the tabletop display cost to \$200 for members and \$250 for non-members. Motion was seconded and approved

Public Services: Lisa Murray

Lisa reported work on the website is continuing. Also reported that individuals should use the automated RSVP system on the website to RSVP or request an addition to the mailing list and that these requests should not be handed to Lisa. Lisa reported that email attachments are not permitted with the email system that our Chapter uses; has nothing to do with attachment size, it just cannot be done.

Golf Tournament: Holly Jordan

Holly reported that there will be a committee meeting August 25th.

SPEC.tectonics: Don Smith

The board discussed members not reading the newsletter not benefitting members that paid for advertising.

Electronic Communications: Lisa Murray
No report

Public Relations: Logan Vits

Logan reported he has been in touch with the AGC and Construction News regarding providing our chapter information with these organizations.

Professional Development: Mark Koehler

No report.

Academic Affairs:

Mark reported Robert Byrne has agreed to chair Academic Affairs.

Certification: Holly Jordan

Holly reported there are seven students attending classes, the slide from National are helpful and that the study guides are easy to read.

Technical Committee: J. Peter Jordan

No report.

Scholarship: Frank Bain

The Board discussed the 2011-2012 Foundation candidates. The candidates include Al Pasek, Brett Wilbur, Don Ude, Dorothy Gumm Dennison, Greg Roberts, and Tom Atwell. Frank Bain "moved to approved the Foundation candidates." Motion seconded and approved.

New Business:

Tax Exemption Issue Status: Bob Cook, assisted by Neil Byrne, will interview CPAs.

Paypal Payments: Bob Cook will make and announcement at the Chapter meeting that the fee charged by PayPal will be charged to the Chapter if the individual using PayPal does not pay the fee.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

***Betsy Finch, CSI
Chapter Secretary***

CSI Member Loyalty Program

By CSI National

CSI's Member Loyalty Program is designed to assist:

- Members whose employers can no longer pay for membership dues.
- Members who have been laid off.
- Members who are being hit hard by the economic crisis and cannot afford to pay for membership dues

CSI is offering a 6 month grace period for membership renewal to members who are facing issues listed above.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. The member must be in the Professional, Associate, or Industry level of membership.
2. The member must either:
 - Have been laid off
 - Have an employer who can no longer pay dues
 - Be undergoing financial hardship due to economic constraints
3. Convey this information to CSI

Contact CSI Member Services at **800-689-2900** for more information.

Using CSI National to Find Your Next Job

By CSI National

Here are some ideas for using CSI if you're looking for a job, or think you might need to start looking in the next few months. CSI members with other ideas are urged to post them in CSI's forums. Conducting a job hunt?

1. **Visit CSI's Career Center.** You can post a resume and read job postings from across the country for free. Visit the Career Center.
2. **Join a CSI chapter and go to the meetings.** Your local CSI chapter is plugged in to construction in your area. Spend time with people who know which firms are hiring, and who could recommend you. Find a chapter.

Improve your resume:

1. **Get your CDT, or advanced certification.** Show potential employers that you are an expert. CSI chapters offer preparation courses and mentoring for exam candidates – another opportunity for you to expand your network. Learn more about CSI Certification. The early registration deadline for the fall exam cycle is July 26, 2011.
2. **Write a technical article for Construction Specifier magazine.** Contact the Specifier with your article idea at editor@constructionspecifier.com.
3. **Be a speaker for a CSI Webinar.** To submit a presentation complete this form and then email it to jnorris@csinet.org.
4. **Participate in CSI.** Potential employers are likely to Google your name while considering you. Give them something worth finding:
 - Expert responses to questions in CSI's forums. (Log in before you post a response to have your name appear with your response.)
 - Your membership in a CSI committee or task team at the national, region or chapter level. (See a list of national committees and task teams.)
 - Join CSI's LinkedIn group. (Create a free profile on LinkedIn, then search for "CSI" under groups.)
5. **Tweet what you know!** Create a free profile at www.twitter.com and start sharing what you know about construction and CSI. Then let CSI know by sending a tweet to CSIconstruction. CSI follows and promotes CSI chapters and members that tweet.

Your CSI membership can be a valuable tool in your job hunt! Good luck!

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**CCCA CERTIFICATION CANDIDATES NOW
REQUIRED TO HAVE TWO YEARS OF
EXPERIENCE**

By Holly Jordan, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP

At the recommendation of the Certification Committee, the board revised the experience prerequisite for Certified Construction Contractor Administrator candidates from "strongly encouraged" to a requirement attested to by two people.

Implementation of this modification will align the advanced certification exam candidate prerequisites and enhance the CCCA credential. CCCA candidates registering for the spring 2012 exam will be the first group that will have to meet this requirement.

**FEATURE YOUR PRODUCTS WITH A
TABLE TOP DISPLAY**

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CSI CONVENTION THOUGHTS AND MUSINGS

By Douglas C. Frank, FCSI, CCS

Chicago Again?!? For the Fourth time in the past Eight years we visited the Windy City for our big show. McCormick Place is again the venue, this time in Hall D in Lakeside Center which is the hall closest to Lake Michigan. That also makes it the farthest from the headquarters hotel. It truly seemed like a half mile walk from the hotel to the hall in the morning. After a round of seminars and 4-1/2 hours walking the exhibit floor, the walk back to the hotel required a rest stop at the bar.

In a new scheduling idea, the event began on Tuesday with an offering of seminars a two technical tours. A significant number of folks took advantage of this additional day of seminars. Having left 100 degree heat in Houston on Monday, waking up to 60 degrees, with a high of about 78, was glorious.

Wednesday; Woke up to 48 degrees!! After a couple of early seminars, the Exhibit Hall opened for the first time. Like kids at a new toy store, we poured into the hall to discover what new wonders awaited us. I guessed, and it was later confirmed, that the exhibit floor was about the same size as last year. I counted around 225 exhibit booths. After 4-1/2 hours on the floor, and another hour in seminars, the day ended with the Welcome Reception where it's always fun to catch up with friends you only get to see once a year.

Thursday: What happened to Fall?? 44 degrees with a wind chill of 39 at 6:00 am, high in mid-50s; Good Grief! The day began with more seminars and then another 4-1/2 hours of exhibit hall. If I'm being honest I spent a couple of those hours in my hotel room resting my feet (and my eyes). An afternoon seminar was followed by the region caucuses where region leadership lets us know about what's going on at Region and Institute level. The CSI Houston is well represented at the South Central Region and Institute level by Region President Kathleen Liles, Region Vice President Holly Jordan, and Institute Director Dorothy Dennison. After the caucuses, lots of folks left for the Host Chapter's River Tour which was a boat trip through downtown on the Chicago River billed as the "Grand Canyon of Architecture". Reports are that the tour was great fun but real cold up on the open top deck of the boat.

Friday: An absolutely gorgeous day waking up to temps in the mid 50s going up to about 72. More morning seminars followed by another 3 hours of exhibit hall. [commentary: back in the good old days when this show had as many as 1000 exhibit booths, three days was required in order to visit each booth. With the number of booths in the past few years that's way too much time.] It was fun watching Holly hitting up exhibitors for CSI Hou-

ston golf tournament sponsorships. I think she even tried to get money from folks in California and elsewhere. The day, and the show, ended with the CSI Annual Meeting and Member Forum. This is the event where the CSI Board makes its report to the membership and occasionally presents resolutions to the membership for a vote. During the Member Forum, it's any individual member's opportunity to approach the microphone and ask questions of the Board. While there was a fairly animated discussion over parliamentary procedures and Roberts Rules, nothing of any real importance occurred this year. Executive Director Walt Marlowe stated that convention attendance was about 4000 which is a 7% increase over last year. He also said that current CSI membership is 11,937. Wow,, I can remember when we were at 18,000 and shooting for 20!!

[more commentary: A personal observation about exhibitors. I noticed a lot of new exhibitors this year. I have not gone through the list to see exactly how many but I'd guess at least 25. That means that, if the total number of exhibit booths was the same as last year, we actually Lost 25 companies who exhibited last year. That's not good. It's also worrisome that so many of the major manufacturers are no longer participating]

The grand finale of the convention was the Honors and Awards Gala where various significant Institute awards are presented including the investiture of new Fellows. It was at this event that our own J. Peter Jordan FCSI received that honor. In the 60+ year history of CSI only about 400 individuals have been so honored and J. Peter is the eighth Fellow from Houston in our 52 year history. Here's an interesting tidbit; Houston's first four Fellows were advanced in an 8 year span (1964 – 1972). Then, after a 31 year gap, Houston's last four Fellows have been advanced in an 8 year span (2003 – 2011).

This year's contingent from Houston included Bob Cook and his wife Gail, James Sandoz, Holly and J. Peter Jordan, Kathleen Liles and her husband John, Dorothy Dennison, Mike McElhany, and me. My apologies if I've forgotten anyone.

Next year CSI goes to Phoenix on September 12 – 14. Hope to see a bunch of you there.

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22nd Annual CSI Golf Tournament

Brian T. Harrington Golf Classic

TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP FORM

Oakhurst Golf Club, 20700 Mills Branch - Porter, TX 77365 – 281.354.4653
Monday, October 10, 2011 (Modified Shotgun Start 12:00 p.m.)

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE:	Cost (Number Available)	Contribution
GOLD	\$2,000	\$ _____
SILVER	\$1,000	\$ _____
BRONZE	\$600	\$ _____
LUNCH BUFFET	\$750 (1)	\$ _____
AWARDS / BBQ DINNER	\$750 (1)	\$ _____
BEVERAGE CART	\$500 (2)	\$ _____
HOLE-IN-ONE CONTEST	\$400 (1)	\$ _____
RAFFLE PRIZE	\$400 (1)	\$ _____
HOLE	\$150	\$ _____
	Total Contribution	\$ _____

(please print)

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[] Please include my company's promotional items in each player's "gift bag."^(*)

Make checks payable to "CSI - Houston" and send to:

*Robert Cook
 19027 Ridge Hill Court
 Houston, Texas 77084*

() Promotional items are to be delivered by September 30th to Holly Jordan c/o Jordan Consultants, 50 Briar Hollow Lane, Suite 235W
 Houston, Texas 77027, (713) 366-0320.*

The sponsorship forms must be received at CSI by September 30th.

Note: All sponsors who qualify will receive a free tabletop presentation at monthly CSI Chapter Meetings.

“Strictly SMITH-ly”

by Donald F. Smith, Jr., CSI CCS RA LEED AP

Specifiers Point of View, Permitted Variation From the Basis of Design, and Washington Politics

Last month’s article discussed general skills needed by the construction specifier to define the products, equipment and materials needed to define the Project.

We all have education, experiences, and other background information that is second nature to each of us. When we say something or write something, the educational training, on the job experience, and other experiences are used shape our decisions on what we say and what we write. We don’t usually consider the education and experience of those who read the specification or even the laborer’s who act on their requirements.

Specifications usually start with what is important to the architect and to a lesser degree what is important to others in order to achieve a particular result. If we want the welded wire fabric positioned off the ground at the neutral plane of the concrete sidewalk, we specify how that is to be accomplished or leave the method to the Contractor. Reinforcing mesh support chairs can certainly accomplish this, but it’s a “little over the top” for a pedestrian sidewalk. It is usually sufficient to raise the mesh with a hook just after the concrete is placed.

The reason behind each specified requirement is usually never specified, unless it is necessary to achieve the result. In the example of the sidewalk slab, the positioning of the reinforcing is to resist tensile forces due to temperature changes and to hold the pieces of concrete together and in the same plane, should a crack occur. Reinforcing left in contact with the ground works just as well as if it was left on the delivery truck.

The “basis of design” is the products, materials, equipment and procedures specified to achieve the required for the completed Project.

This shouldn’t be an insurmountable task for the Contractor. After all, he promised to provide all products, materials, equipment, and labor to construct the Project. But at submittal time, the architect is usually in a tug-of-war with the Contractor and his subcontractors as to why “xyz” can’t be substituted for “abc,” even when they are clearly different from each other. Products,

materials, and equipment each have their unique appearance, performance and reliability that must work in a satisfactory way with the assembly of which they are a part. The architect’s fee is used up in elaborate discussions about the subtle or not so subtle differences between the specified and the proposed substitution, usually ending up with “If you didn’t want “xyz” to be used, why didn’t you specify that “xyz” is not acceptable?”

All of us are specifiers and users of specifications at sometime during our lives. If your wife or significant other sends you to the store to pick up six items, she has every intention of getting those six items when you return without exception. If you return with something else, you will face “This is not what I told you to get.” She is not interested in what they are selling, what the price is, or the football game that is preventing you from getting what she wanted. All you have to think about is that if you come back with anything else, sex might be in jeopardy for at least a month. You will figure it out. Everything of value is not about arguing.

Which brings us to Washington politics. The task required is not specified out there beyond human grasp in the ether of the universe. It is right in front of you. If you don’t know what is required, someone close to you does. Life is finite and procrastination is more expensive than the solution. I would love for each and every politician to be able to say “I helped do that!” I wouldn’t want any of their retirement benefits to be used to offset the national debt and therefore I would expect everyone of them to step up to the plate and fulfill their promises to the People.

“Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment.”

Barry LePatner, Esq.

... Just My Opinion

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Kingwood, Texas 77345

Division 07 - Thermal and Moisture Protection

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October Through December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OCT 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 CSI Golf Tournament	11 CSI Planning Meeting	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 CSI Houston Board / Chapter Meeting	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween	NOV 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 CSI Planning Meeting	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 CSI Houston Board / Chapter Meeting	29	30	DEC1	2	3