

SPEE.tectonics

The art of creating things that have both beauty and usefulness



Knowledge for Creating and
Sustaining the Built Environment

February 2012

FEBRUARY 27TH MEETING

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,
FEBRUARY 27, 2012

COST:

\$30.00 Per Person; Free to
CSI members.

RESERVATIONS:

Please go to:

<http://www.csihouston.org>

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http://www.csihouston.org	

Monday, February 27th CSI Houston Chapter Presentation

Kelli Weiblen of CertainTeed (Kelli.Weiblen@saint-gobain.com) will present "Publications for Life Cycle Assessment" at the Monday, February 27th, CSI Houston Chapter Meeting.

This course provides an extensive look at how specific publications regarding product selection promote environmentally sustainable buildings. These publications such as LCA, PCR and EPD describe environmental concepts and how these concepts may be of value to architectural firms and building owners pursuing LEED certification.

1. Discover how Life Cycle Assessment and Environmental Product Declaration publications help architects and owners select sustainable products that make a minimal environmental impact when specifying products.
2. Explain how publications such as; product Life Cycle Assessment, Environmental Product Declarations and the Product Category Rules are tools to elevate environmental impacts, select the best resources, and promote LEED certification for building owners.
3. Review how Environmental Product Declarations and other certifications contribute to minimal environmental impacts during product selection and contributes to sustainable design.
4. Describe how sustainable design practices and product selection contribute to realizing minimal impacts to the environment during the manufacturing process.

One AIA Learning Unit will be awarded as well as and an HSW credit and a Sustainable Design credit for our LEED accredited members.

Monday, March 26th CSI Houston Chapter Presentation

Sean Leich of Mapei (SLeich@mapei.com) will present "Concrete Restoration Basics" at the Monday, March 26th, CSI Houston Chapter Meeting.

CSI HOUSTON CHAPTER
2011—2012 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Robert M. Cook, CSI, AHC (832) 496-9507 Robert.Cook@sbdinc.com
President Elect	James Sandoz, CSI, CCS AIA LEED AP jsandoz@fkp.com (713) 821-9266; cell (832) 405-8541
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VP Finance/ Admin.	Don Smith, CSI, CCS, RA LEED AP (713) 688-0092 don.smith315@sbcglobal.net
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Treasurer	Chuck Vojtech, CSI (281) 227-3577 chuck@rpcinc.com

2011—2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director through 2013	Amy Peevey, PE, RRO, CDT (713) 467-9840 apeevey@besgrp.com
Director through 2013	Holly Jordan, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP (713) 366-0320 hjordan@jordanconsultants.com
Director through 2012	Di Ann Reid, CSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP (713) 844-0091 diann_reid@gensler.com
Director through 2012	Doug Frank, FCSI, CCS (713) 621 2100 dfrank@fkp.com
Director through 2011	Bill Fairbanks, CSI, CCPR (281) 227-3577 fairbanks@rpcinc.com
Director through 2011	
Director, Emeritus	Larry Adams, CSI, DAHC (281) 448-7279

2011—2012 CSI HOUSTON SPEC.TECTONICS

SPEC.tectonics Editor	Don Smith, CSI, CCS, RA, LEED AP (713) 688-0092 don.smith315@sbcglobal.net
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2011—2012 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program	Janet Babineaux, CSI (281) 221-8353 JBabineaux@brick.com
Membership	Amanda Carrington, CSI (713) 851-6153 acarrington@southern-sustainability.com
Certification	Holly Jordan, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP (713) 366-0320 hjordan@jordanconsultants.com
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Continuing Education	Mark Koehler, CSI (713) 302-6636 mkoehler@siplast.com
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Public Relations	Logan Vits, CSI, CCPR, LEED GA (713) 703-5201 lvits@assaabloydss.com
Product Show (CTE)	Di Ann Reid, CSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP (713) 844-0091 diann_reid@gensler.com
Golf Tournament	Holly Jordan, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP (713) 366-0320 hjordan@jordanconsultants.com
Table Top	Holly Jordan, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP (713) 366-0320 hjordan@jordanconsultants.com
CIC Delegate	Di Ann Reid, CSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP (713) 844-0091 diann_reid@gensler.com

2011—2012 CSI HOUSTON WEBSITE

Webmaster	Lisa Murray, CSI, CCS, LEED AP (713) 294-7387 lisa@mosaicdesignspec.com
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2011—2012CSI HOUSTON FOUNDATION

President, 1 Year	Frank Bain, CSI (713) 827-8844 fbain@wallcoveringsintl.com
Vice President, 2 Years	Greg L. Roberts, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, FAIA
Secretary, 2 Years	Dorothy Gumm Denison, CSI, CCS
Treasurer, 3 Years	Brett Wilbur, CSI, CCS, RA
Position 1, 1 Year	Tom Atwell, CSI CDT, AIA
Position 2, 3 Years	Al Pasek, CSI, CCPR
Position 3, 3 Years	Don Ude, CSI

CSI SOUTH CENTRAL REGION (<http://www.scr-csi.org>)

President	Rick J. Lueb, CSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA (405) 232-8787 rlueb@taparchitecture.com	Institute Director	Dorothy Gumm Denison, CSI, CCS (713) 962-4209 dotgumm@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Holly Jordan, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP (713) 366-0320 hjordan@jordanconsultants.com	Webmaster,	Lisa Murray, CSI, CCS, LEED AP (713) 294-7387 lisa@mosaicdesignspec.com

February 2012

President's Message

by Robert M. Cook, CSI, AHC

Advertising seems to permeate our society today. We are bombarded with it. Many manufactures and companies are developing catch phrases to market their products like:



“Where’s the Beef,
Platinum Sustainability,
Don’t let moisture, or moisture related issues, rain on your parade,
With a Complete installation system comes complete confidence,
Specify for Strength – Specify for Beauty,
I may not be able to smash thru gravity but I break the mold when it comes to sustainability,
Make something great,
Providing protection and Value from the beginning,
We’re here for you. Working together to provide innovative and customized security solutions.
We’re the ones with the connections,
It’s how you get to the top that matters,
The clear solution just got clearer,
We’re the science behind a flat-out better mix,
Unlocking the Mystery of Electronic Access.
Did you Know... Now You Know...
Have your cake and eat it too,
Yes it’s all that and a bag of Chips,
Ready whenever you are, Where nothing else is good enough for long enough.”
Now CSI wants us to ask ourselves, “What If?”

What if everyone in the Chapter brought just one new guest to our meeting? Bob Cook’s President’s Message for Feb. 2012

What if everyone in the chapter did just one thing to help the Chapter throughout the year?

What if we had a waiting list for people wanting to be on a committee?

What if our student chapter was so successful all of our student members got hired by local firms because the architects knew them?

The possibilities are endless. It is a fact that the top 10% of a sales force account for 50% of the sales. I know our CSI group are the best in their various industries. As you all push yourselves to new goals this year, ask yourself “What if?”, and make your “What if” happen for our Chapter today.

Respectfully, Robert M. Cook CSI, AHC

New Accessibility Standards Coming March 15th

by Don Smith, CSI, CCS, RA, LEED AP

For the first time in years, vastly new and different accessibility standards will become law on March 15. Are you ready for the new laws? See the link below for a great deal of information on the new Texas Accessibility Standards.

<http://www.tbae.state.tx.us/PublicInformation/NewTAS>

A business card for TPCCI (Texas Professional Concrete Contractors Institute). The card features a yellow outline of the state of Texas with the acronym 'TPCCI' in bold black letters. To the right of the map, it lists 'Manufacturer's Representative', 'Waterproofing Products', 'Concrete Accessories', and 'Specialty Coatings'. Below this, the name 'JOHN M. ZIEBELL' is printed in bold. At the bottom left, the address '26911 Bridleway Circle Magnolia, TX 77355' is provided. At the bottom right, the phone number '(832) 746-3507' and email 'johnziebell@att.net' are listed.

TPCCI
Manufacturer's Representative
Waterproofing Products
Concrete Accessories
Specialty Coatings
JOHN M. ZIEBELL
26911 Bridleway Circle
Magnolia, TX 77355
(832) 746-3507
johnziebell@att.net



Kathleen Liles, CSI, CDT

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Email kliles@archoustics-south.com
Web www.archoustics-south.com



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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.



- Solarban® Solar Control Low-E Glasses
- Oceans of Color® Spectrally Selective Tinted Glasses
- DURANAR® SPF ENERGY STAR-compliant high-performance coatings
- CORAFLO® ADS colorful, field-applied fluoropolymer coatings
- CORAFLO® and ENVIROCRON® Zero-VOC powder coatings
- Pure Performance® Zero-VOC paint from Pittsburgh® Paints
- Megaseal® Hygienic Industrial and Commercial Flooring Systems

To find out more information about PPG Architectural Glass, Coatings and Paint, go to: www.ppgideascpes.com

Contact:  Carl Metzroth, CSI, at 281-610-4854, or e-mail: Metzroth@ppg.com
Deron Patterson, CSI, at 281-841-0829, or e-mail: Patterson@ppg.com

The only Cradle to Cradle Certified^{CM} Architectural Glass

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 \$200 for members and \$250 for non-members, or free with a Golf Sponsor-

WHERE IS YOUR BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENT?

A quarter page ad is only \$250 for 12 issues

A half page ad is only \$500 for 12 issues

A business card ad is only \$225 for 12 issues

Contact Don Smith at (713) 688-0092 or don.smith315@sbdglobal.net for more information.

CSI BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Houston Chapter CSI

**Location: HESS Building - 5430 Westheimer Road - Houston, TX
November 28, 2011**

Present: Amy Peevey, Amy Salmeron, Betsy Finch, Bill Fairbanks, Bob Cook, Chuck Vojtech, Di Ann Reid, Don Smith, Frank Bain, James Sandoz, Lisa Murray, Logan Vits, Mark Koehler, Neil Byrne, Tom Atwell, Al Pasek

President Bob Cook called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

The October 2011 Board Meeting minutes were approved.

REPORTS

Member Services: Neil Byrne

Programs: Janet Babineaux
No report.

Membership: Amanda Carrington
Neil reported that membership has had an increase. He stated he would make an announcement at the chapter meeting regarding members recruiting new members.

Awards: Amy Salmeron
Amy reported she has begun working on the awards and would like the chapter to submit an entry for the Craftsman Award. Amy Peevey mentioned the Houston downtown courthouse as an option.

Finance/Administration: Don Smith

Don brought the Board up to date on the IRS status. He reported that he and Neil Byrne interviewed Christine Crooks, CPA, and hired her to prepare and submit the past tax returns for 2007 - 2010 for the agreed upon fee of \$1,000.00 previously approved by the Board. Don also mentioned that after discussing the situation with Chuck Vojtech he recommended that we make a motion to the Board to hire Christine Crooks to prepare the tax return for 2010 - 2011 FY, which is due by December 15, 2011, for the amount of \$200.00. Don "moved to hire the CPA, Christine Crooks, to prepare the 2010 - 2011 FY tax return for the amount of \$200.00". Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Vojtech
Chuck mentioned he will check out credit union memberships and compare them to our current checking account with Bank of America.

Table Top Display: Holly Jordan
No report.

Public Services: Lisa Murray
Golf Tournament: Holly Jordan
No report.

Spec.tectonics: Don Smith
The current newsletter has been posted to the website.

Electronic Communications: Lisa Murray
Lisa reported we are still using Constant Contact and that she is looking for the easiest service to use. The website will stay the same for the time being. Logan Vits will work on the website with Lisa.

Public Relations: Logan Vits
Logan reported he provided Construction News with our current chapter information.

Professional Development: Mark Koehler
Continuing Education: Mark Koehler
Mark reported he has certificates from the last chapter meeting.

Academic Affairs: Robert Byrne
Al reported that G. Battle with Prairie View A & M has requested a spec writer give a presentation to the students at Prairie View A & M.

Certification: Holly Jordan
Di Ann reported CDT classes will start in January at Gensler. The classes will be from 5 to 7 p.m. one night a week. Di Ann will provide additional information to the Board at the next planning meeting.

Technical Committee: J. Peter Jordan
No report.

Scholarship: Frank Bain
Frank reported the members will have a planning meeting to discuss the scholarships.

New Business:
The Board discussed a Christmas party for CSI Houston Chapter. Don Smith "moved to have a Christmas Party on December 12, 2011 at Guadalajara Restaurant and charge \$20 per person". Motion approved. Members will be asked to bring can goods to donate to a local food bank. Lisa will send an email to members and an announcement will be made at the chapter meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 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](https://twitter.com/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!

CDT Certification Classes

By Di Ann Reid, CSI, CCS, LEED AP

The Spring 2012 CDT Exam window is approaching (April 2-28, 2012) and we are pleased to invite you to participate in the Construction Documents Training Course — a program designed to impart practical, technical and philosophical learning to staff that helps to institutionalize the practice of construction documents as an integral part of the firm's design and delivery practice.

The course will be conducted over 12 weeks in two-hour sessions every Thursday at the Gensler Houston offices (711 Louisiana, Suite 300) and via GoTo Meeting beginning Thursday, January 12, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and ending Thursday, March 29, with a course review and practice Exam.

CDT Winter 2012 Course Dates:

Session 01: Thursday, January 12, 5-7 pm Session 07: Thursday, February 23, 5-7 pm
 Session 02: Thursday, January 19, 5-7 pm Session 08: Thursday, March 1, 5-7 pm
 Session 03: Thursday, January 26, 5-7 pm Session 09: Thursday, March 8, 5-7 pm
 Session 04: Thursday, February 2, 5-7 pm Session 10: Thursday, March 15, 5-7 pm
 Session 05: Thursday, February 9, 5-7 pm Session A201: Thursday, March 22, 5-7 pm
 Session 06: Thursday, February 16, 5-7 pm Makeup (if needed) Thursday, March 29, 5-7 pm

Our goal is to give you a comprehensive understanding of the contract documents through the design process and contract administration, as well as arm you with the some basic tools and techniques that will be helpful when producing or interpreting specifications for your project.

Exam Content Summary

The proportion of the exam dedicated to each subject matter area is as follows:

Subject Matter Area No. 1: FUNDAMENTALS.....	8%
Subject Matter Area No. 2: PLANNING AND PRE-DESIGN.....	20%
Subject Matter Area No. 3: DESIGN.....	37%
Subject Matter Area No. 4: PROCUREMENT.....	10%
Subject Matter Area No. 5: CONSTRUCTION.....	20%
Subject Matter Area No. 6: POST-CONSTRUCTION.....	5%

We feel very strongly about the direct benefits of this program both to you and your firm. Please **email Sharon Heiser (sharon_heiser@gensler.com) or call 713.844.0126** to confirm your participation.

Participants planning on taking CSI's Spring 2012 CDT exam will also need to register for the exam through the CSI website, please click on the following link for more information on the CDT Exam and to register for the exam. The early registration deadline is **February 2, 2012**, and the final registration deadline is **March 2, 2012**. Next exam offered by CSI will be Fall 2012.

Cost of CDT Preparation Classes is \$75.00 for CSI members and \$100.00 for non-members

CDT Exam Cost *	CSI members	Non-members	Students
Cost Before February 2, 2012	\$235	\$295	\$105
Cost After February 2, 2012	\$370	\$430	\$105
<i>Save up to \$135-- join CSI before you register</i>			



This course qualifies for 16 AIA CEU HSW/SD Credits.

IDP Candidates: This course qualifies for 40 supplementary education elective hours for passing CDT Exam.



CSI Corporate Partner Program

Join CSI's Corporate Partner Program!

- ▶ **Gain Broader Exposure for Your Company or Product**
- ▶ **Communicate Project Information More Effectively**
- ▶ **Train Your Team to be Thought Leaders the Construction Community Trusts**

CSI's **Corporate Partner Program** is designed for building product manufacturers, contractors, design firms and federal agencies that have multiple employees interested in joining CSI and accessing CSI's products and services at **value pricing**.

Each partnership is **customized to meet your strategic business goals and objectives**. This program provides businesses and organizations the opportunity to gain wider exposure by developing a formal relationship with CSI and its member network. By joining, Corporate Partners demonstrate their support for CSI and its mission: to advance building information management and education of project teams to improve facility performance.



Become a Corporate Partner

- ▶ **CONNECT**
to Thought Leaders
in the Industry
- ▶ **EMPOWER**
through Workforce
Development
- ▶ **INFLUENCE**
the Direction of Commercial
Construction
- ▶ **SHOWCASE**
Organizational Excellence

Corporate Partner Benefits

EXPOSURE

- Logo on www.csinet.org
- Article in CSI Weekly e-newsletter and other construction related publications
- FREE banner space in CSI Weekly
- Use of CSI's Corporate Partner logo on your website and other approved marketing pieces
- Discounts on listings in BSD's SpecLink
- Recognition on CSI's Facebook page and CSI's Twitter Feed
- Networking at local CSI chapter meetings and invitation-only events

EDUCATION

- CSI's Certification programs
- CSI Academies
- Customized on-site training
- CSI's WebReach program



For more information visit www.csinet.org/corporatepartner, or contact:

Susan Konohia
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The Construction Specifications Institute
TEL: 703-706-4744 FAX: 703-684-0465
EMAIL: skonohia@csinet.org

Shannon Pennington
Coordinator, Corporate Partners
The Construction Specifications Institute
TEL: 703-706-4736 FAX: 703-684-0465
EMAIL: spennington@csinet.org

CSI Institute and Regional News

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

INSTITUTE REPORT

- a. The first time for region presidents to attend Institute Board Meetings happened this year in Minneapolis board meeting.
- b. **BRANDING-** CSI is looking for a way of identifying themselves and are preparing an RFP to obtain services. AIA for example has a branding called DESIGN MATTERS.
- c. A new program is being developed by CSI under the Certification Committee for government employees and businesses that deal with government construction for a certification test called CDT-G. This should bring in new members and lots of interest and recognition for CSI.
- d. Paul Bertram, Institute President, has made a strong effort to encourage members to increase membership – His belief (and mine too) is that interesting and hot topic meetings bring people to meetings, thus increasing membership.
- e. There is the Corporate Partner Program going on to encourage businesses to support CSI and its role in the construction industry.
- f. Paul Bertram encourages region members to write articles for chapter newsletters, attend chapter meetings other than your own.
- g. One other endeavor that CSI is doing is planning to send the Specifier to all universities involved in construction for their library.
- h. IPD/SMART Data Dictionary – working on an international construction dictionary which will be accomplished along with BIM.
- i. A committee has been set up to capture and catalog all existing (and new) education programs that CSI has developed to make them available for a nominal price.

CCCA 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.

South Central Region Meeting Notice

by Lisa Murray, CSI, CCS, LEED AP
CSI South Central Webmaster

April 12-15, 2012 will bring the 2012 South Central Region CSI Conference. The event is open to all region membership and will occur at the Historic Downtown Fort Worth Hilton. Join Ft. Worth Chapter next April as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary by hosting the event. Theme for the event is "New Frontiers." Highlights for the event include:

- Education Programs for up to 6 CEUs.
- Spouse programs.
- Golf Outing at The Golf Club at Fossil Creek designed by Arnold Palmer.
- Evening Social Events.
- Region Awards Luncheon
- Region Board Meeting

Be watching for more information circulating soon.

The region website has been completely revamped. To find out more about the region, catch an update on the Conference planning, or find fellow chapters around the region and their programs and activities visit <http://www.scr-csi.org>. If you have comments or suggestions contact webmaster at information below:

Lisa Murray
713-297-7387
lisa@mosaicdesignspec.com

“Strictly SMITH-ly”

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

Trust and Client Project Expectations ...

Last month, we discussed education, experience, and background information needed by the construction specifier to define products, equipment and materials needed for the Project and the Contractor's. This month we will discuss trust and expectations.

My first interview for a drafting position in an architect's office included a review of some drawing samples. There must have been something there that convinced the interviewer to take a chance on a youngster with no formal architectural training or experience. Only years later could I imagine what he might have been thinking. Commitment.

In the 60's and up to the mid 70's, we worked on drafting paper with pencil. Ink was considered a poison that would shorten your career. You were expected to start in the upper left hand corner of the sheet and finish in the bottom right hand corner before you left that day. Each sheet had to be a complete executed and coordinated thought that fit the project communication to the Contractor without omissions or gaps. The design development drawings gave a general idea of the design concept, arrangement, relationships, and materiality of the Project.

If the project was small, you might work alone or team up with someone else that wasn't fully utilized. You got use to leading and following in this arrangement. Occasionally you went along on site visits. This was your exposure to construction sequence and to test your ability to notice variation from the bid documents.

You had to know how a building was put together, the order of its construction, and a sense of function, purpose, economy, and durability of the materials used in a project's construction. This was your introduction into specifications.

A fixed amount of time is allotted to construction documents. You also had to know your own limits, when to ask questions about missing elements, and understand the interrelation of function and durability of construction materials and systems used in the project. No time was allotted to do any task twice or more. That is a luxury that designers alone reserved for themselves.

You had to be knowledgeable of the work of other disciplines and able to think of the completed project in three dimensions.

You get a relative indication of your technical skills by the number and kinds of questions that come back to you in the bidding process.

If you were lucky enough to work in an open drafting room, you could benefit from listening to the mistakes that others made and take both their origin and solution to heart.

As you grow in skill and trust, you could be rewarded by more complex projects, or you could be thrown in a project in trouble to see how fast you can think on your feet.

In any case, the project team benefits from a project that was delivered on time, that met client expectations, and was profitable. If your client has frequent construction projects, and you have a proven track record of delivering what was promised, you could rise to the top of the client's selection list, but there is no guarantee that every project was yours for the asking. Clients frequently go to others to keep your commitment sharp.

Clients look at project costs, their business productivity, material and system durability, and facility maintenance issues.

The best compliment that an Architect can receive is repeat business from a client. It is both a compliment and a position of trust that must be continuously nurtured and earned.

Today if something goes wrong, there has to be someone responsible to make it right. A lot has changed from the days when one of Frank Lloyd Wright's clients complained that "Water is dripping on my desk," and he responded "Move your desk."

"Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment."

Barry LePatner, Esq.

... Just My Opinion

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
JAN 29	30	31	FEB 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Lincoln's Birth- day	13	14 CSI Planning Meeting — Jungman Library	15	16	17	18
19	20 President's Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 CSI Board / Chapter Meet- ing—HESS	28	29	MAR 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 CSI Planning Meeting — Jungman Library	14	15	16	17
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