



VERMONT CHAPTER
PO Box 64902
Burlington VT 05406



Green Mountain Specifier

April 2003

THIS MONTH:

APRIL PROGRAM

FAHC RENAISSANCE PROJECT Q&A SESSION-LUNCH-SITE TOUR

APRIL 24, 2003

HOST

Matthew Martin, CSI, Assoc. AIA
Fletcher Allen Health Care

TIME

Thursday, April 24, 2003
10:30-11:00 Registration on Shuttle Bus
11:25-1:00 Introductions & Speakers
1:00-1:30 Lunch
1:30-3:00pm Facility Tour

LOCATION

Fletcher Allen Health Care
Meet in Sheraton's Rear Parking Lot
Bus to Burgess and back

CREDITS

(3) AIA HSW credits
AIA program # 042403

COSTS

CSI & AIA Members: \$35
Non-Members: \$50
Students: \$10
New CSI Members: FREE

SUMMARY

This one promises to be interesting. CSI member Matthew Martin has invited the chapter to get a closer look at the much-publicized Renaissance Project: the expansion of the Fletcher Allen hospital in Burlington. We will be discussing design, construction processes, and construction management – see article at top center for more info.

RSVP

by noon, Monday, April 21st
to Program Chair Jonathan Miller
CSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA, NCARB
campcsi@earthlink.net
Questions? Contact Jonathan via e-mail.

April 24th Program

Fletcher Allen Tour – The Renaissance Project

This month's program is focused on the construction materials, process and sequencing of one of the state's largest projects weighing in at \$380M. A group at Fletcher Allen's Facilities Department, led by CSI member Matt Martin, has graciously taken the challenge of sharing knowledge of their construction process with Vermont's professional community. Topics of discussion include: strategies of wall system design; demolition and new construction sequencing; construction management; and scheduling issues. Sign up to visit Vermont's own BIG DIG ! Sign up soon as space is limited !

Chapter to Visit VTC

April 17 CSI Presentation

A group of active Vermont Chapter members will be sitting in on Vermont Chapter member, Prof. Brad Miller's, 1pm and 2pm classes at Morrill Hall in Room 202. Come sit in for a good orientation on what CSI and the Vermont Chapter are all about !

Norwich University

April 2nd Class Visit

Prof. John Mallory invited chapter member, Jonathan Miller to sit in his 10:00-11:30am class to discuss residential outline specifications for a class project. While there Jonathan handed out new member pins to Chris Reeve, CSI-S, Tim Corbet, CSI-S, and to Lisa Sawin, CSI-S, who joined CSI and the Vermont Chapter immediately after class.

WE WANT YOU ...

...to make a contribution to the Green Mountain Specifier – ideas, articles, letters, advertising or other relevant material (if you're polite, maybe we'll even take irrelevant material). Contact:

Chris Eling, CSI, CDT, Editor
chris@pmarch.com
Peter Morris Architect
8 Roundtree Way
Vergennes VT 05491
phone: (802) 877-3830
fax: (802) 877-3972

Leo Berliner, CSI, CDT Passes Away

by Jonathan M. Miller, CSI

It is my sad duty to inform you that our chapter's 1st Vice-President, Leo Berliner, passed away on March 12th at Fletcher Allen. Leo, 55 this year, was born in Heidenheim, Germany in 1948. Services were held March 14th in Cleveland where Leo grew up and where he was laid to rest.

As some of you know, Leo broke his back last November...what no one knew at the time is that the reason it broke so easily is that his brain cancer had reoccurred and spread down his spine, weakening it. The last time I spoke with Leo he was having his computer set up next to his bed in order to pick up his spec business where he left off.

Our 2nd Vice President, Steve Benjamin, said it best when he stated that Leo... "spoke with enthusiasm about the construction process..." and we are very sorry that "...we will not be able to continue our conversation this year."

He is survived by his wife Yaffa and 10 yr. old son, Zollie. Cards and notes can be sent to:

Yaffa Berliner
84 Grandview Drive
Richmond VT 05477

LAST MONTH:

MARCH PROGRAM

SPECIALTY ARCH. LIGHTING LEDs – FIBEROPTICS - CONTROLS

SPEAKER

Donna Leban, AIA; *Light-Space-Design*

WITH TABLETOPS

Visible Light / ColorTechnics

Microworks Designs, Ltd

Efficiency Vermont

TIME/LOCATION

Thu., March 13, 2003, 11:00am-2:00pm
Sheraton Burlington

SUMMARY

43 attendees were treated to some nifty demonstrations of the latest technologies available in fiberoptic and light-emitting diode (LED) lighting. On the fiberoptic side, we saw several different types of point-source, spotlight, and luminescent-tube fixtures, as well as new illuminators that run silent (i.e. no fan). As a very quickly evolving technology, all the LED stuff on display was new to most attendees: "cove" lights (tube-shaped), wall-washers, and even a lamp that fits a standard MR16 socket. The most exciting part, however, was of course the various color fades and effects possible with both of these technologies.

And we learned stuff too. For example, the rumored 100,000-hour life of an LED is only partially accurate: red LEDs can last that long, but whites and blues are in the neighborhood of 10,000 hours. Keep watching, though, because LEDs are supposed to have a high ceiling for future advances in efficiency and lamp-life.

LEDs are low-heat, but fiberoptic lighting has zero heat on the fixture side, making it attractive for temp-sensitive environments like deli cases. Fiberoptic also will filter out UV and other potentially harmful light components, ideal for art or artifact displays.

Apparently fiberoptic tubing does degrade after 25-30 years (10-15 years in exterior applications). Also, 40' of fiber is about the cutoff point, before the light level dims noticeably – a limitation I wasn't aware of.

We learned a great deal more than I have room for here: consult with our speaker or our tabletop sponsors if you want to find out more. Thanks to Donna Leban for a great talk and a whole lot of useful info.

The President's Corner

By Peter D. Morris, RA, CSI, CDT

Foolishness

It's been a cold Winter. No longer than most, but I, like many, am ready to cut my way out of the long johns. Enough is enough, especially after all that dancing last month. Won't the fun ever stop? Inside out and upside down. I'm hoping for a little straight talking sanity on April 1st.

Leo Berliner

We mark with sadness the early passing of Leo Berliner, our Chapter's Executive Vice President. Leo had been battling cancer for a number of years. We hoped he had it beaten. He is survived by his wife, Jaffe, and ten year old son, Zollie. We will miss his good company and enthusiasm.

Our April Program

The tour of the Medical Center Renaissance Project should be an interesting behind-the-scenes look at Vermont's largest construction project – and perhaps the most notorious. The tour group size has a limited amount of space available, so be sure to sign up early.

A Call For Volunteers

The Board meets for lunch once a month in the Burlington area. We discuss our outreach and future programs. If you can spare the time for lunch once a month you can help. Contact me at pm@pmarch.com and we will include you at our next meeting.

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NEXT MONTH:

MAY 8th PROGRAM

PHYSICS OF METAL ROOF DESIGN

SPEAKER

James R. Townsend, PRC
Architectural Metal Systems

TIME

May 8, 2003 11:00am-2:00pm

LOCATION

Sheraton Burlington
I-89 / Williston Road

SUMMARY

Part of our continuing theme, of "Physics" presentations on ordinary building components. After our two seminars on "The Physics of Wall Design" last summer, we have "The Physics of Metal Roof Design": a discussion seminar on how a building's roof plane works (and how it might not work). Topics include types of materials used at the surface, subsurface, insulation, and interior levels; waterproofing & ice protection; venting & air circulation; and more. Make sure to bring your questions and comments.

This event is close on the heels of our April program, so be sure to make your reservations early.

RSVP / QUESTIONS

by noon, Monday, May 5
to Program Chair Jonathan Miller,
CSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA, NCARB
campcsi@earthlink.net

Board Without Trees?

by Jeff Stone, CSI

For over 60 years, particle board (PB) and more recently Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF), have been a staple in the construction industry. One of the most common uses for PB and MDF is as a substrate for hardwood veneers panels.

Over 90% of a typical 3/4 inch thick hardwood veneer panel is composed of the core. PB and MDF are usually manufactured from softwood trees. Since the quality and age of the trees are not relevant to the manufacturing process, these trees are traditionally harvested by clear cutting large tracts of land.

Although softwood trees are a renewable resource, there continues to be abuses in the harvesting of this resource. Unlike what many of us believe, simply planting a tree where one has been cut falls short of the solution to this multi-faceted problem. The biggest threat to the forest environment is clear-cutting, a process that eliminates entire ecosystems. New trees are planted with the intention of future harvesting, which limits these new forests to fast growing, single specie trees to be clear-cut within 20-30 years. Although the practice of clear cutting will not likely change soon, there are measures that purchasers and specifiers of wood panel products can take to reduce the demand for products of clear-cutting.

Another ongoing concern with MDF and PB is formaldehyde emissions. These emissions are a proven carcinogen in animals and can cause asthma and respiratory problems in humans. New buildings frequently undergo an airing-out procedure prior to occupancy to remove some of these pollutants. Off gassing, however, can occur for years. It is in the interest of those concerned about interior pollutants to eliminate as much of this as possible.

New developments in manufacturing have created a product that performs similarly to wood-based MDF and PB but is constructed from the agricultural byproducts of wheat, flax, oats, barley and soybeans. This new generation of agriculturally based composite board is generically referred to as agriboard. Agriboards use a synthetic polymer resin to bond the straw fibers together. This moisture resistant resin has superior bonding characteristics to the formaldehyde-based resins used in PB and MDF.

continued on p.4



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Region Conference Pushed To 2004

The Buffalo Conference Committee requested that the conference be pushed back a year due to fund raising concerns in this time of uncertainty. After deliberation the board voted 14-1 to push the date to September 23-25, 2004. Save the date ! In a related matter, our Bylaws require an Annual Meeting of the Region take place, not to mention a fall board meeting and presentations of Region Awards. This looks to happen this fall somewhere in the Albany area September 27-28...stay tuned.

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CSI Vermont Chapter: FY2003 Officers

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Mr. John Gant, CSI

Chapter President-Elect; Website & Planning Chair

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Boards Without Trees, continued from p.3

Unlike the softwood trees used for PB or MDF, hardwood face veneers are not harvested by clear-cutting. Certain trees are selected from a forest for their specific attributes, while the remaining trees are left uncut. Hardwood forests are allowed to replenish naturally with a variety of species to maintain their varied environment. A hardwood forest may be selectively harvested at a sustainable rate that maintains a healthier ecosystem than an uncontrolled forest.

Agriboards were first developed to replace particleboards and are being used for exterior sheathing, roofing, underlayment, and shelving. For several years, Navy Island Plywood has monitored the improvements of agriboards and has worked with several mills to produce a core suitable for laying up high quality veneers. This new veneer paneling developed by Navy Island Plywood is called HarvestPly.

HarvestPly achieves superior structural quality as well as being a sustainable and healthy alternative to PB and MDF based veneer panels. HarvestPly is an excellent choice for the architect or designer concerned about environmental issues.

Jeff Stone is the Managing Partner of Navy Island Plywood, located at 330 Chester Street in St. Paul, Minnesota. For additional information call Navy Island Plywood at 651-224-5806, or visit their website at www.navyisland.com

© Jeff Stone, CSI; Navy Island Plywood

CSI Election Results

CSI voters chose members for the fiscal year 2004 Institute Board and gave Intermediate and Student members the right to use the suffixes CSI-I and CSI-S during this year's annual election.

The new Board members will take office on July 1, 2003, the start of CSI's fiscal year 2004, under the leadership of Edith S. Washington, FCSI, CCS. Washington is currently president-elect, and will automatically start a one-year term as president on that date.

An amendment to the CSI Bylaws that allows Student and Intermediate members to use suffixes received the approval of two-thirds of voters, as the Bylaws require for any change. The amendment took effect immediately upon certification of the vote.

The Tellers Committee met recently to validate the results of the annual election. A total of 3,482 members, 21 percent of those eligible to vote, cast ballots.



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Security Integration

By T.J. Gottwalt, AHC, CSI, CDT

On a business trip recently, somebody asked me whom I work for. I responded that I work for ASSA ABLOY. He asked what we do, and I responded with the simplified, "We make locks". When asked whom he worked for, the gentleman responded, "Lockheed Martin. We make things for people that don't care about locks." This was a subtle reference to the September 11 attacks, not lost on me. It got me thinking about perhaps why there hasn't been a direct correlation between the attacks and increased sales of locks. The two are basically unrelated. The WTC could have had the finest locks and security systems in the world, and they wouldn't have prevented what happened. I think we all realize this.

What really struck me though about the man's comment was the fact that there is so much more to *security* than locks. "Leading the trend towards higher security", our company tag line, involves so much more than locks, doors, and hardware. It involves an entire world made up of systems integrators, security consultants, secure architectural design, access control technologies, biometrics, metal detectors, RFID, CCTV cameras, data encryption, perimeter detection, x-ray machines, asset tracking, alarms, loss prevention, guards, guard dogs, barbed wire, metal bars, and yes, locks and hardware.

As members of the architectural openings industry, we represent one small piece of an entire facility's security. Perhaps we need to think more about how our products fit into this entire security world. In my lifetime, there will always be a need for secured openings, but the percentage of value those openings represent to overall construction costs may be diminished because of other related security industry offerings.

In my 28 years in the architectural openings industry, I have seen threats to our core business. Much of the aluminum door hardware market has been lost to the aluminum curtain wall people. The security industry has the potential of taking a large portion of hardware business from the openings industry unless we find a way to start thinking along the lines of all the items mentioned above. Whenever an area of importance in construction products arises out of a need in the market, and falls

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Security Integration *continued from p.5*

between two or more divisions of the construction specifications (as defined by the Construction Specifications Institute), one or the other usually wins out over the long run. In this case, the products are divided between Division 8, Doors and Windows, and Division 13, Special Construction (sometimes Division 16, Electrical). It basically comes down to, who is going to learn the business and serve the market the best? In this case, it comes down to whether the security industry can learn about doors, hardware, life safety codes, egress requirements, handicap codes, fire ratings, and product testing procedures, or the openings industry can learn about systems integration, RFID, basic electronics, biometrics, CCTV, alarms, and integrated locking solutions.

Alas, there doesn't need to be an either/or solution. Evolution usually is what takes place when two industries converge. Look at the home automation market. There we see several disparate technologies all converging into a new market with incredible growth potential. (34% of new homes in 2002 have some form of automation incorporated into them.) The formerly separate items of fire alarm, security system, home theater, high speed internet access, climate control, audio/video distribution, cabling, lighting, even automated window blinds and irrigation control, are all converging into one centrally (and remotely) controlled home automation system. Pretty incredible, really, until you realize that this capability has existed for many years. It's the integrators who are capturing this market; the people who can pull each of these pieces together to serve the homeowner's needs and desires.

In the same manner, it is security integrators who are meeting the needs of building owners for greater security and integrated solutions encompassing a variety of technologies. The architects' challenge is to pool and coordinate the resources of Architectural Hardware Consultants (AHC's), Certified Protection Professionals (CPP's), and security service integrators to provide a unified approach for safe and secure buildings. Door and hardware distributors are also looking at installation of their products to further add value to their clients, the building owners.

With this type of evolution in the architectural openings industry, it won't be long before we see a greater level of coordination between doors and hardware. For example, doors and frames being sold as an assembly complete with integrated wiring and security components. This is just one way that the industry is changing to meet the needs of building owners and contractors.

Institute Convention

First of Three in Chicago

John Gant, Chapter President-Elect, and Jonathan Miller, Chapter Secretary & Past-President, are set to attend the annual national CSI convention starting on April 9th in Chicago, IL. The Vermont Chapter will be collecting its third consecutive Chapter Commendation Award...we just missed on a third consecutive Chapter Cup (awarded to two chapters with the greatest percentage and total membership increases), but hey, two in a row is unprecedented. The chapter is off to a good start for 2003, having initiated an outreach program for new student members – see the articles on page 1 for more information on the programs at Norwich University and Vermont Technical College.

Stay tuned next month for a summary of the convention, from the perspective of the chapter's two attendees.



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GUI Bytes

SpecProcessor – Part 5; Font Basics

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[Working with word processors, in general use or spec writing]

There are two basic families of fonts: serif and sans serif. The first group has the little "tails" at the ends of the lines that make up a letter; the second group does not (Times Roman is a serif font; Helvetica is a sans serif font). Serifs allow the reader to more quickly recognize letters, but they can reduce readability in fonts smaller than 10 points.

Because people in the United States are most comfortable with serif fonts - which you will find in most newspapers, magazines, and books [and the body of each article in this newsletter –ed.] - a serif font is preferred for printed documents. But for other documents, there is more to consider:

- Documents that are to be shared electronically should use fonts that are readily available in the public domain. Otherwise, the font you use may become something completely different when your document is opened by someone else. The most common of these are Times New Roman, Arial, Verdana, and Trebuchet, which have been distributed with Microsoft products.
- Fonts with small "holes" in the letters e and o may become illegible after copying or faxing.
- Documents prepared for use on a web site may be easier to read if they use a sans serif font. Computer monitor resolution might be low enough that the serifs are not properly rendered, making sans serif fonts preferable.

Font preference is not permanent, but changes over time. Times Roman and similar fonts have shown remarkable stability, which is probably enhanced by their dominance in the printed media. For an interesting look at what the future may hold, read "A Preliminary Study of Children's Reading Preference for Different Online Fonts", at <http://psychology.wichita.edu/hci/projects/UPAfontchildrenpaper.pdf>

want to know more?

For more information, read "PAGEFORMAT - Review Comments and Suggested Revisions" on the web at <http://www.northstarcsi.com/PageFormat.pdf>

[Next month, Part 6: Font Specifics]

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swolfe@bwbr.com, on the web at www.CSI-MSP.org

THIS SPACE FOR RENT

Our VT chapter Newsletter is published monthly and distributed to over 200 local contractors, architects, product reps, engineers, and other CSI members. Contact the editor for more info on advertising...

A Specifier In Our Midst

[One of the Vermont Chapter CSI's newest members, Lars Hubbard, CSI, gives us a quick introduction to his work and his firm, Davis Langdon Schumann Smith --ed.]

Davis Langdon Schumann Smith is the U.S. arm of the largest specification writing firm in the world, providing consulting to top international architects, including Sir Norman Foster & Partners, Nicholas Grimshaw & Partners, and Denton Corker Marshall, to name a few. We have done and are doing projects all over the world (and here in Vermont) from our offices in the UK, S. Africa, and the U.S., and our affiliated offices in Europe, Australia, the Middle East, and the Far East.

Our U.S. operation concentrates on the development of web-based document management and specification production systems, both for internal use and as a solution for enterprise clients; we also provide high-level specifications consulting and sustainability consulting services, and can provide cost estimating consulting through one of our affiliates. Our office in Vergennes is the hub of a virtual office which has staff in Massachusetts and Maine, as well as affiliated offices in New York, California, and Washington.

VT Chapter Stats as of Mar. 31:

New Members in March '03	7
New Members in FYTD	27
New Members in FY2003	22
FY2003 retention rate to date	89%
Total VT Chapter Members	83

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EDITORIAL POLICY:

The Green Mountain Specifier is published as the official newsletter of the Vermont Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute. Neither the Editor nor the Chapter assumes responsibility for any alleged errors, and opinions stated are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Chapter's members or leadership, or the Institute.

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome, and should be submitted to the editor by the 24th of the month in order to be eligible for the next issue. Contributions may need to be edited for, among other things, clarity, filesize, and length. Submitted pieces also may not be able to be accepted due to space constraints.

2002-03 Vermont Chapter CSI Events

- September 12** “Building Codes 2002 – Code Interpretations”
Robert Howe, Chief State Fire Marshal
Dept. of Labor & Industry
- October 17** “Mold & Indoor Air Quality”
Jeff Hood, CSC, *Icynene Insulation Systems*
11:00am-2:00pm at the Burlington Radisson
- November 13** “Architectural Concrete” – Bob Myers, North
New England Concrete Promotion Association
Joint presentation of CSI and SEAVT
5:00-8:00pm at the Inn at Essex
- November 14** “Stone - Design, Detailing & Specifications”
Gene Pawlikowski, CSI
11:00am-2:00pm at the Burlington Sheraton
- December 5** “Horizontal Surfaces” – Products-Applications-
Advances-History-Future
Steve Benjamin, CSI
11:00am-2:00pm at the Burlington Sheraton
- January 16, 2003** “Design-Build”
Sandy Fead & Panel Discussion
11:00am-2:00pm at the Burlington Sheraton
- January 23** “Grace Construction Products University”
at the Burlington Sheraton 7:30am to 5:00pm
- February 12-13** “Better Buildings by Design 2003”
by Efficiency Vermont, at the Burlington Sheraton
- March 13** LED Lighting & Controls
Donna Leban, AIA of *Light-Space-Design*
11:00am-2:00pm at the Burlington Sheraton
- April 24** “FAHC Renaissance Project Site Tour”
Host - Matthew Martin, CSI, Assoc. AIA
- May 8** “Physics of Metal Roof Design”
James R. Townsend, PRC of AMS
11:00am-2:00pm at the Burlington Sheraton
- June 5** “Chapter Awards Banquet”
4:00 – 10:00pm at Basin Harbor Club
- July 23** “Lighting Design, Dimming, and Controls”
Ed Jaffee, CSI, IES, LTCD
- TBD** “The Product Rep–Contractor–Architect Relationship”
Good Service – Expectations – Killer Issues
Al Brosseau, CSI of *Albro Export & Marketing*

New Members Welcome !

The Vermont Chapter CSI welcomes the following new 2003 members:

April 2003 **23 New 2003 Members!**

Ms. Lisa Sawin, CSI-S
Norwich University

March 2003

Mr. Danile Pratt, CSI, AIA
Robert Carl Williams Associates, PC
Mr. David P Roy, CSI, AIA
Wiemann Lamphere
Mr. Lars Hubbard, CSI *Boston Chapter Transfer*
Davis Langdon Schumann Smith
Mr. Ray Girard, CSI
Girard Associates
Mr. Anthony R. DeBlasio, CSI
Holophane Lighting
Mr. John Zeichner, CSI-S
Norwich University
Mr. Casey Reed, CSI-S
Mr. Benjamin Ridgeway, CSI-S
Mr. Kyle Nolin, CSI-S
Vermont Technical College

February 2003

Ms. Susan Coleman, CSI
Vermont Energy Investment Corp.
Mr. Jonathan Kleinman, CSI
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Mr. Edward Jaffe, CSI, IES, LTCD
Microworks Designs Ltd.
from Norwich University
Ms. Margaret Brady, CSI-S
Mr. Tim Corbett, CSI-S
Ms. Corinthia Martin, CSI-S
Mr. Michael Memmott, CSI-S
Mr. James W.C. Plouffe, CSI-S
Mr. Christopher C. Reeve, CSI-S
Ms. Sarah Shepard, CSI-S
Ms. Tonya Willett, CSI-S

from Vermont Technical College
Mr. Michael Pomeroy, CSI-S
Mr. Nicholas Rogers, CSI-S

Interested in Joining CSI ?

Contact us and we will put you on the road that can connect you to the rest of the construction industry and explain the benefits of chapter membership. Contact Membership Chair, Jonathan Miller, for more information.