



VERMONT CHAPTER
PO Box 64902
Burlington VT 05406



Green Mountain Specifier

August 2002

NEXT MONTH:

AUGUST PROGRAM

DIVISION 1 SPECIFICATIONS WORKSHOP

General Requirements

WORKSHOP LEADER

Adam F. Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP
Adam F. Bortz Specifications.

TIME/DATE

Thursday, August 15, 2002
2:00pm-5:00pm

LOCATION

The Burlington Sheraton
Shelburne Room

SUMMARY

Adam Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP will be leading a workshop on coordinating and constructing the Division 1 - General Requirements or "Front End" of the specifications. We will investigate the why, what, & how of Division 1 - General Requirements in the Project Manual, and look at the relationship of Division 1 to the AIA & other "General Conditions." Attendees are encouraged to bring a highlighter and copies of: the AIA A201; MasterFormat; and the CSI Manual of Practice – Section FF100, if you have them. If not contact CSI at (800) 689-2900 or AIA. Not a member? Then let Jonathan know and he will work some magic.

COSTS

CSI members: \$35
Non-members: \$50
New CSI VT Members attend for **Free**.
Join CSI by the meeting date and get \$50 off attending this program !

RSVP

By no later than **Noon on Monday, August 12th** to Jonathan Miller, (802) 865-4579 or e-mail: campsi@earthlink.net

Questions? Contact Adam Bortz at 864-5953 or via e-mail at adambortz@aol.com

August 15th Program Division 1 Spec. Workshop

This month's program will be a workshop on coordinating and constructing the General Requirements front end of the specifications. Something we all can use a course on ! The program will be led by our own Adam Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP, who is Vermont's only exclusive professional Specification Consultant, in independent practice serving architects, engineers, manufacturers, & others. He is a Certified Construction Specifier, and served on CSI's Certification Committee for 2 years. He has taught the CSI Certification study courses for the Vermont Chapter, and currently serves as the Certification and Education Chairs, as well as Academic Liaison, for the chapter. Adam's efforts resulted in the Vermont Chapter being recognized at the June Convention for having the highest percentage (10%) of newly certified members in all of CSI.

Adam has been intimately involved with Project Manuals for over 33 years, and has many CSI awards for excellence. For many years he has taught CSI Manual of Practice courses in preparation for the certification exams given by CSI.

The workshop will include an overview of what Division 1 is, what its purpose is in the overall scheme of a well-written spec, and common mistakes and problems to avoid, as well as tips on writing clearer, more concise specifications. There will be some active participation – it is a "workshop," after all. We look forward to seeing you there...

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

New Chapter Awards Chair & Officers

Victoria Rickert, CSI, CDT, of Best Tile in Williston has volunteered to be the new Awards Chair for the chapter, taking over the position from Gene Pawlikowski. Victoria has been in attendance at many of our monthly seminars and tabletop events, and she also recently became CSI-certified, passing the CDT exam in April.

Now that he has finished work on this year's Vermont Chapter CSI awards banquet in June, Gene will continue on as the Chapter Secretary as well as Chapter Technical Chair.

We would also like to mention Leo Berliner and Steve Benjamin, who have each just completed their first month as chapter vice presidents. This is the first time serving as chapter officers for both Leo and Steve.

Thanks to Victoria, Leo, Steve for taking an active role in the Vermont Chapter CSI leadership! If you too would like to volunteer to help out, of course you already know that a couple hours a month is all it takes. Give Peter Morris or Jonathan Miller a call.

LAST MONTH:

JULY PROGRAM

Luncheon Seminar on:

PHYSICS OF WALL DESIGN, REVISITED

Panel Discussion on Preventing Leaky and Sick Buildings through Proper Use of Flashings, Air / Vapor Barrier Placement, Proper EIFS System Installation, and Waterproofing Barriers.

PANELISTS

Leonard Anastasi, CSI

Lennel Specialties Corp.

William Alexander 'Sandy' Fead

Paul Frank & Collins

Scott Walker, CSI

Grace Products

John Edgar

Sto Corporation

James 'Chas' McLaughlin, CSI

James E. McLaughlin Co. / Sto

Matt Lillis, PE

Burlington Electric Department

SUMMARY

Last month's July 18th program, at the Clarion Hotel, helped tie up a few of the loose ends left from the May program, "The Physics of Wall Design."

Len and John had an interesting discussion on whether we even need a vapor barrier in our climate (it depends) but all agreed that an air barrier is really important to have. However, don't forget and don't go cheap on the fresh air and filtration system.

Sandy was here to remind us what happens when we put the vapor barrier in the wrong place....."mold is gold" now in legal circles despite a lack of scientific proof between mold and human reactions.

Scott discussed waterproofing and dampproofing as air barriers, while Chas brought his years of EIFS installation experience to the table.

Matt kept us straight with engineering principals and handed out information on vapor barrier locations in different climates. The final attendance count was 43, which was pretty good for a beautiful summer day.

The President's Corner

By Peter D. Morris, CSI, CDT, RA

"August Sells Itself"

That's a saying from the Vermont Resort industry. Lucky you. And me. August in Vermont.

Quick. Do nothing while you can. We are in God's country.

Membership

Join now. Do it quickly. It won't feel like work. Take advantage of this month's program and get \$50 back on your membership by joining and attending ! Need help convincing your boss to support your membership? Contact Jonathan Miller at 865-4579, or e-mail at campcsi@earthlink.net.

August Board Meeting

Our August Board meeting is over Lunch, 12 Noon to 1 PM, on Thursday, August 8th, at Gillian's Restaurant in Shelburne (at the entrance to the shopping center). Come join us to discuss future programs and other business.

August Program

Mark your calendars: Thursday, August 15th from 11:30 PM to 1:30 PM at a location to be determined, Adam Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP, will unravel the correct use and order of Division 1, General Requirements, of Building Specifications.

The CSI National Convention and Trade Show

Jonathan Miller – our Immediate Past President, Regional Director, Program Chair and Membership Chair – was the Chapter's representative at this year's national CSI Convention. Among other things, he collected the bounty of the awards he and we have won this past year. His full report is in on page 3.



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NEXT MONTH:

AUGUST PROGRAM

BUILDING CODES 2002

Interpretations & Issues of Enforcement

SPEAKER

Robert Howe

TIME/DATE

Thursday, September 12, 2002
11:30am-2:00pm

LOCATION

TBD

SUMMARY

Led by Labor & Industry representative and State Fire Marshal, Bob Howe, this program is on interpretations of HCP / Accessibility Codes, issues of Code Enforcement and an update on code changes, like positive pressure, this year.

COSTS

CSI members: \$25
Non-members: \$40

RSVP

By no later than Monday, September 9th to Jonathan Miller, (802) 865-4579
campsi@earthlink.net
Questions? Contact Jonathan at 865-4579 or via e-mail.

CSI Institute Convention

by Jonathan Miller

The CSI Show in sunny downtown Las Vegas ! A nice dry 110°F in the shade outside and smoky bright lights, one-armed bandits and gaming tables inside. What a place to have a conference in late June! The convention, over the next three years, will move to April and be in Chicago, before returning to Vegas again. April in Vegas...much better! I shared the convention center with 8,315 other attendees, up 14% over Dallas last year but down from the all time high of 11,000 set in the late 1990's. Something little known is that typically only 1,500+/- of the attendees are CSI members. The CSI Show had around 650 exhibitors, their chosen threshold for what attendees can endure over three days. Overall this one was better than the last two years. I have to plug the seminars this year....lots of salient detail to great topics, and all of them well attended. Those of you who know me would not have recognized the sprinter as I ran the racetrack in front and behind the Awards stage 5 times....It was awesome to stare into the lights at over 1,000 members and accept the crowd's accolades and the awards from CSI President, Ross Spiegel, and Awards Chair, Paul DiBona. Vermont is definitely on the national CSI map as people I later spoke with mentioned how amazed they were at our achievements. A crowd of 600 members at the Certification Recognition event heard Ross Spiegel mention the Vermont Chapter as having the highest percentage (10%) in CSI of newly certified members this past year. Another proud achievement !

Institute business of note was on the effects of 9/11 on us financially and on membership. The institute has let 10 DC staff people go, outsourced some of the work and deferred \$250,000 of expenditures until the October board meeting. New members increased by 20%, however, we lost that 20% too to break even at just under 18,000 total members in CSI. One positive board action was to offer the membership a referendum next February allowing Student members to use the suffix CSI-S, and Intermediate members the suffix, CSI-I. The inaugural speech from incoming CSI President, Phil McDade, FCSI, CCS, ASLA, revolved around our MasterFormat and MOP updates along with the new OMNI Class OCCS initiative. Phil, also asked CSI members to learn how to agree to disagree ("*Bless His Heart*"), stop writing and printing negative attack articles, and be courteous to institute staff. We agree with him.

Our Region caucus was a bit rowdy after a Rhode Island Chapter member present during the Thursday Awards ceremony was a no-show on the awards platform....out at the gaming tables, we think ! A few of his Rhodie buddies look to be talking cement overshoes.....stay tuned. The Housatonic Chapter decided not to dissolve and actually handed a check over for ½ of their dues in arrears. The fact that CSI Past-President, Ross Spiegel, is a new board director may have something to do with it. The big news was that due to work issues incoming Region President, James Wentworth, will be resigning effective in October. The good news is that incoming Region Vice-President, Doug Caniglia, seems to be taking the bull by the horns and looks capable.

This was another conference to remember....and no, I only lost \$1.

CSI Vermont Chapter: FY2003 Officers

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“Mold is Gold”..The new Asbestos

by Jonathan M. Miller

Mold litigation is ever more present in the news. Witness the June 17-23, 2002 *Washington Times* article by Kristina Stefanova, ‘*Attack of fungus raises damage claims, litigation fears.*’ She blames mold for the multi-million dollar legal judgments being awarded. Insurance companies in Texas are now refusing to cover mold damage and one insurance company in California has mold claims totaling 10 times their net worth! The fact that mold is prevalent in every state should have the construction industry anxious and professionals asking ourselves....how can we avoid getting into those situations? To answer this we need to define the problem and find preventative and remedial solutions. What is mold? How do molds grow? Which molds affect people and how? In future *GMS* issues we will cover some specific molds like *Stachybotrys*; ‘What can we do to avoid or prevent mold growth?’; and ‘What can we do if we have a mold problem?’

What is mold? Molds are ‘*Filamentous Fungi*’, can be found everywhere, and are part of nature’s decomposition process. In the right environment, mold forms masses of branching threads from a food source out towards the air. At the tip of these microscopic threads spores are formed that are easily disengaged and light enough to become airborne. Spores are the reproductive vehicle and have one or two outer protective shells around the mold’s DNA. Spores are easily disturbed into the air and float around until they land on a food source like paper, wood, cloth, leather, adhesives, skin flakes, oils, piles of dust, or just about anything that contains a starch or sugar. There are more than 100,000 known species of mold, over 1,000 of which are common in the U.S. Mold spores range from one to hundreds of microns in size, however, they are typically less than 4 microns in size – so small that as many as 250,000 spores can fit on a pin head and a person can inhale as many as 750,000 of these spores per minute!

continued on next page

CSI VT Chapter: More 2003 Officers

Ms. Victoria C. Rickert, CSI, CDT

Awards Chair

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What helps molds to grow? Molds like warm moist and dark places. Basements, bathrooms, kitchens are usually where you would be concerned. Don't forget water condensation on pipes, evaporating pans in air-conditioners, cooling towers and refrigerators. Also remember the humidity in a forced air ductwork system is typically over 80%. This is due to chilled air close to the dewpoint being delivered right to the reheat coils before blowing into the room. Then there are times of general high humidity (rainy days and fog) and water infiltration from roof leaks, burst or leaky pipes, leaving the windows open during a storm, and floods. "A building can get wet three ways," says W. Lstiburek. "From the inside, outside or it can start out wet." All it needs initially is a wet substrate, 70%+ humidity and 40°F to 100°F for 24 to 48 hours to make a great starter environment. Once the mold colonizes it can continue to grow at a lower 55% (40% in winter) humidity and the mold spores merely become dormant below that. Most mold blooms occur from leaky pipes.

Which molds affect people and how? One common misconception is that if you can kill the mold or even the mold spores that one is safe from mold's deleterious effects. Even pieces of dead molds can carry still active chemical toxins. Common indoor fungi have been observed to produce what are called "mycotoxins" and "volatile metabolites" during growth on building materials. *Stachybotrys*, *Chaetomium*, *Alternaria*, *Fusarium*, *Myrothecium*, *Trichoderma*, *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium* molds are capable of producing chemical mycotoxins which in a concentrated form can affect people in different serious ways. These "mycotoxins" are generally created by the molds to limit or kill the growth of other competing molds. They just happen to affect people too. Mold spores and mycotoxins are generally inhaled but can also be absorbed through the skin or swallowed and digested in order to affect people. Documented reactions to molds encompass headaches, fatigue, chronic fatigue, dizziness, disorientation, dry or non-productive cough, reduction in lung function, and a compromised immune system. Health complaints from mold exposure tend to occur after a water leak, and after remodeling work disturbs the mold spores into the air.

This said, however, there are currently no court admissible scientific ties between mold and physical reactions, just well documented cases of people being exposed and reacting. However, juries do tend to believe mold exposure is related to the illnesses. Opposing lawyers argue from the lack of a scientific basis to deny.

Science has not yet focused its interest on mold as it relates to personal illnesses, but that is changing. Most past and current scientific mold research looks to have been done through the Food Sciences, likely as a result of the rye ergot mold madness from as early as 1250 A.D. up to 1945, among other incidents in history. Current scientific studies using building materials are finalizing at various universities in Denmark.

Despite popular debunking of mold "mycotoxins" as having any affect on people, the U.S. Army considers it serious enough to publish its' Chapter 34 on Biological Warfare and includes *Trichothecene* (pronounced "tri-ko-thee-seen") mycotoxins as one of the deadliest powder, smoke aerosol or liquid spray biological weapons being deployed since the 1960's. (More on this in a future issue.)

Well-documented cases of mold exposure related illness have occurred with archival book restoration by librarians. This looks to be an occupational hazard where a great deal of work is done in damp, lightless rooms with piles of old moldy manuscripts and books laying around. All that wet cellulose paper, starch and sugar...mold heaven !

In a future GMS issue we will cover some specific molds like *Stachybotrys chartarum*. In a later issue we'll follow up with "What can we do to avoid or prevent mold growth" and "What can we do if we have a mold problem to deal with." Perhaps our October 17th Program on "Mold & Indoor Air Quality" will answer these questions...we hope to see you there !

Afterword...This article's information on mold is from two years of reading books & magazines, watching TV specials, speaking with doctors, lawyers & industry people, and surfing the net. Feel free to editorialize.

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WHY ARE WE HERE?
 The Construction Specifications Institute's core purpose is:
To improve the process of creating and sustaining the built

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.
 Rates: for 10 issues, full-size ad (1.5"x3.8") \$80; half-size ad \$50
 For more information contact The Editor.

Grant Money Offered !

\$20,000 Available for Construction Site Waste Reduction Planning

As part of its ongoing efforts to help contractors reduce construction waste through advance planning, the Agency of Natural Resources is offering \$20,000 in grant funding. The purpose is to develop case studies of Vermont builders who save money through waste prevention, reuse and recycling, and to distribute this information to other builders, with the idea of encouraging contractors around the state to apply these "best practices" from the case studies to their own construction projects.

The grant application form can be downloaded from the Agency of Natural Resources website at:

<http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/recycling/c&d.htm>

Applications are due on August 30, 2002. Applications and additional information are also available by calling Jim Surwilo at (802) 241-3481 or Carolyn Grodinsky at (802) 241-3477.

This is a continuing effort by the state: previous projects funded under the program include:

- \$5,560 to Gordon Bristol Consulting for waste reduction planning during renovation and new construction at the corporate office of Mary Meyer Corporation in Townshend.
- \$10,000 to Engelberth Construction Inc. of Colchester for its salvage and recycling program during the renovation of the former Barre City hospital into state offices.
- \$6,150 to Middlebury College for recycling materials generated during construction of its recycling facility.
- \$7,618 to Birdseye Building Company of Richmond for the deconstruction of a single family home in Charlotte.

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[Thanks to Hanne Williams and AIA Vermont for bringing this to our attention.]

New Institute President

[We're a little late in this announcement, but...]

As each new fiscal year begins, CSI welcomes a new Institute president. Starting on July 1, Phillip L. McDade, FCSI, CCS, ASLA, became CSI's 48th president and thus is the top official on the Institute Board's Executive Committee.

McDade is vice president of Weatherford-McDade, Limited, a landscape architectural firm in Jackson, Miss. He joined CSI in 1982 as a member of the Mississippi Chapter. Though he has remained an active member of that chapter, he also joined the Mobile Bay Chapter in 1998.

Prior to assuming the role of president, CSI members had voted McDade as president-elect of the Institute for one year. He has also been the Institute secretary and the Gulf States Region president. Additionally, he has chaired and served on various CSI committees and task teams at the Institute, region, and chapter level over the years. At the Institute level, they include the Audit Committee, the Academic Affairs Program Task Team, and the Chapter Presidents' Training Task Team.

Outgoing president Ross Spiegel has moved to Connecticut and decided to take on the challenge of reviving the Housatonic Chapter CSI. See the Institute Convention summary on page 3.



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Monthly Program Ideas

What Do You Want To See?

The Vermont Chapter is always looking for suggestions of events, issues, or themes for our monthly seminars. If you have a request, an idea, or would like to offer to host a program, please contact Program Chair Jonathan Miller (contact info on p.4). Come to our August 15th workshop program or the August 8th monthly Board meeting and share your ideas!

If you want to be a part of the program team and help with one or more...let Jonathan know !

NorthEast Region Conference



Hosted by the Rhode Island Chapter, Sept. 19-22
At the Westin Providence

Industry members may want to check out booth opportunities at the Renaissance Faire Exhibition. Contact VT Region Director, Jonathan Miller, and/or give Conference Co-Chairman Mark Weiner, CSI a call at (781) 933-0027 x104 or e-mail mark.t.weiner@sherwin.com

And visit the recently renovated and expanded www.neregioncsi.org for information on the conference, the region, and more...

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Specifications Consultation

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 included in the next issue. Contributions may need to be edited for, among other things, clarity, filesize, and length.

Hey! We Need A Logo!

This is the logo that the Vermont Chapter CSI currently uses (also shown in the upper left-hand corner of the first page of every Green Mountain Specifier):



A little tired and/or ordinary, no ? Therefore we are soliciting entries and ideas for a new logo, and there is a prize reward for the best one.

The only requirement is that the CSI shield be included somewhere in the logo. For printing purposes it should be possible to print the logo in black and white. Any text should still be legible when reduced to roughly the size of the current logo above.

Other than that, everything else is fair game. Use the outline of the state, a profile of Camel's Hump (a la the Vermont quarter), or anything else symbolic of the state or its construction industry.

If you have any graphic design ideas for a new and improved logo, contact Jonathan Miller or Chris Eling (see page 4 for contact information).

As a chapter, Vermont CSI is growing rapidly (just look at our consecutive Chapter Cup awards), and is becoming more and more valuable to the construction community at large. Help us put our best foot forward.

Contact Chris Eling or Jonathan Miller – see contact information on page 4.

Request for Volunteers

We are always looking for a few good people to take some of the burden from overextended members. Can you spare a couple hours a month to help run our chapter? Every bit of contributed effort can help.

Scan a business card ! Create your own graphic design !

Remember that our smaller banner is roughly half the cost of this one, but you'll have to use smaller type like this and what kind of an impression will you make on your potential customers if they get an eyestrain headache from reading your ad? (this ad idea from The Original Audacious WorcesterShare Source, Worcester CSI chapter newsletter; Ted "Ol' Argyle" Healy, editor.)

2002-03 Vermont Chapter CSI Events

- April 11, 2002** Window Treatments
Gordon Clements, CSI, *Gordon's Window Décor*
- May 22** The Physics of Wall Design
Leonard Anastasi, *Lennel Specialties Corp.*
- June 6** CSI Awards Banquet
Chapter Awards Banquet at Basin Harbor Club
- July 18** "Physics of Wall Design - Reprise"
Panel Presentation with Len Anastasi, Scott Walker, Chas McLaughlin, Chris Wilkins of Hallam & William Alexander 'Sandy' Fead
2:30-5:00pm at the Burlington Sheraton
- August 15** "Division 1 Specifications Workshop"
Adam F. Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP
At the Burlington Sheraton, 2:00-5:00pm
- [The following topics represent our current program plan with dates, speakers and venues under discussion & negotiation]*
- September 12** "Building Codes 2002"
Robert Howe, State Fire Marshal,
Labor & Industry
- Sept. 19-22** Northeast Region Conference
in Providence, RI
- October 17** "Mold & Indoor Air Quality"
- November 14** "Stone - Design, Detailing & Specifications"
Gene Pawlikowski, CSI
- December 5** "Countertops - PLam and Solid Surfaces"
Steve Benjamin, CSI
- January 16, 2003** "Design-Build"
Sandy Fead & Panel Discussion
- February** "Building Solutions 2003"
- March 13** Chapter Annual Meeting & Forum
- April 10** "Green Architecture & Specifications"
- May 8** "Physics of Roof Design"
- June 5** "Chapter Awards Banquet"
at Basin Harbor Club

New Members Welcome !

The Vermont Chapter CSI welcomes the following new 2001-2002 members:

August 2002

10 New Members!

Ms. Mary Tousigant, CSI
Granite Importers
Mr. Jim Szatkowski, CSI
Sto Corp.

June 2002

Ms. Leigh-Ann Gentry, CSI
FAHC Facilities Planning & Development

May 2002

Mr. Russ Colvin, CSI
Construction Management Consultant
Mr. Bruce Anderson, CSI, CDT, AIA
Morris Switzer & Associates
Mr. Bond Worthington
Vermont Technical College – Student

April 2002

Mr. Jim Muka, CSI
Lynx Windows and Doors (Eagle)

March 2002

Mr. Bob Pustis, CSI
Holophane Lighting

February 2002

Mr. Ev Howard, CSI
Pizzagalli Construction

January 2002

Mr. David Shippey, CSI
Duncan Galvanizing

December 2001

17 New Members!

Ms. Robin Lawson, CSI
Swaney Lighting Associates

Interested in Joining CSI ?

Contact any of the chapter officers 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. Please check out the institute's website at www.csinet.org and the region's website at www.neregioncsi.org for information, links and much more. Take advantage of the institute's program to reward each new member that another member sponsors with a \$25 CSI Buck Certificate. CSI Bucks are applicable to any institute publication or event. Contact Membership Chairman, Jonathan Miller, for more information.