



VERMONT CHAPTER
PO Box 64902
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Green Mountain Specifier

February 2004

THIS MONTH:

FEBRUARY 11-12 PROGRAM

BETTER BUILDINGS BY DESIGN CONFERENCE

by Efficiency Vermont; co-sponsored by the Vermont Chapter CSI

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Susan Maxman, FAIA

SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

High-Performance Design Guide
Office Lighting
Rooftop HVAC
Future of Controls
Air-Sealing Techniques
Building Green Homes in VT
High-Efficiency Heating Equipment
Building Commissioning
"Dark Sky" Lighting
Windows for Residential Buildings
Building Energy Simulation
Daylighting
Indoor Air Quality
Applied Advance Framing
and more...

TIME

February 11-12, 2004; seminars and workshops throughout the day, live music and demonstrations in the evening

LOCATION

Sheraton Burlington; I-89 Exit 14W

CREDITS

many hours of HSW credits available at several of the seminars.

SUMMARY

See article on page 3 for more info and how to register.

CSI SHOW 2004

From April 20-24 in Chicago, the annual event will feature a pre-convention seminar, technical tours, Expo Education on the exhibit floor, a product demonstration area, and more than 70 education sessions!

"Early Bird" registration ends Feb. 6th,
"Advance" registration ends Feb. 27th.
Go to www.csinet.org for more info.

Feb. 11-12th Conference *Better Buildings By Design*

The Vermont Chapter CSI is proud to be a partner of the annual Efficiency Vermont building conference, *Better Buildings By Design Conference 2004*. It's not too late to register. And while you're there, visit our booth in the exhibit area and have lunch on us on Wednesday!

CSI Awards VT! *Vermont Chapter Honored*

We have been notified that the Vermont Chapter and its members have been selected to receive several FY03 awards from the Northeast Region CSI, and from the Institute. If you were in attendance at our January 15, 2004 program you got to see some of these awards presented by NERCSI Vice-President George Rosamond – we were greatly pleased that he was able to take the opportunity to visit us. George bestowed on us the following:

- **Citations of Service** (four of 'em!)
Jonathan Miller was awarded three as:
FY 02-03 VT Chapter Director
FY 03 NER Educ./Technical Co-Chair
NER Leadership & Training Co-Chair
Adam Bortz was awarded as:
FY 03 NER Certification Chair
- **Donald J. Colosano Newsletter Award** (*Chris Eling, VT Chapter*)
- **Education Award** (*VT Chapter*)
- **Membership Award** (*VT Chapter*)

We also won **BOTH** Institute membership **Chapter Cup Awards**, something unprecedented in CSI history! We also won our 4th consecutive **Outstanding Chapter Commendation Award**, and the **Continuing Publication Commendation!** I count at least 4 national and 7 region awards...amazing!

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

Special Program March 1st at VTC

"The Architect-Contractor-Product Rep Relationship: Good Service-Expectations-Killer Issues."

Architects want Product Reps to show up only when they need them, and with the exact product they are putting into their current project. Contractors want the products at the lowest price, shipped on a firm schedule with good simple 'no-brainer' installation advice. Product Reps want to walk in and sell the right products to architects, contractors and owners, giving them enough information to install it properly (so no callbacks happen). They also want to inform potential buyers about new products so they can think about using them in future products. When Product Reps have good products and give good service you tend to call them first regarding the next project. See page 3 for more.

VOTE

Institute Slate of Candidates

When the ballot comes in the mail from CSI please take 10 minutes to read the ballot and cast your votes either by mail or online....thanks!

LAST MONTH:

THE BIDDING PROCESS

SPEAKER

William Alexander 'Sandy' Fead, CSI
Paul Frank & Collins, w/ discussion panel

TIME/LOCATION

Friday, January 15, 2004; 11am-2pm
at the Sheraton Burlington

SUMMARY

With 71 attendees for this program, the chapter tied its record-high – it seems everyone's car started on this coldest day of the year! Sandy Fead, who has been our January speaker for four years in a row now, gave (as usual) an excellent, informative, and entertaining talk. The discussion panel afterward did a good job addressing questions from us in the "peanut gallery".

The topic dealt with problems and potential hang-ups with the bidding process in construction projects. Sandy's first point was that an invitation to bid is a promise by the owner – and that some things can be assumed if the bid leaves them unspoken. For example, the owner's right to reject all bids is not an automatic unless the invitation to bid says so. However, the next point was that the owner can put whatever requirements he or she likes in the invitation: "there's no harm in asking." No one has to bid if they don't want to.

Owners of public projects must follow public bid regulations. Federal funding means following the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FARs) for the relevant agency. For state funding, though, each state has their own set of rules. From Sandy's point of view as a construction lawyer (and compared to other states), Vermont is relatively unregulated, and its rules are ambiguous and undefined. During the discussion panel later, Dave Burley of VT Dept. of Buildings & General Services made the point that the ambiguous nature helps the small state of Vermont because it allows the state more control and involvement in each project. The state is not yet at the point where corruption of the process is a great concern.

Much more was discussed; hope you were there and took good notes!

Thanks to Peter Gibbs, Richard Zybur, Kevin Brett, Dave Burley, and Sandy Fead for the very good discussion panel, and to Sandy for another great program!

The President's Corner

By John A. Gant, CSI, CDT; john_gant@irco.com

I had originally planned to devote this article to the results from our chapter survey, but that will have to wait until next month. Instead I would like to keep everyone apprized of the huge highs and lows our chapter has experienced this past month.

Ron Bacon

First, with the sad news. This past month we lost a devoted life-long member of the Vermont Chapter. Chapter Director Ron Bacon was a "core" member of our organization, having been a continuous CSI member for over 25 years. His input and passion for this organization will be greatly missed.

Donations can be made in his memory to the Dufresne-Henry Scholarship Fund, #54 Route 106, North Springfield, Vt. 05150. Your CSI chapter was honored to make a contribution in Ron's memory.

Chapter Awards

Now, for the happier news. I have one word and several punctuation marks to describe the outcome of this year's CSI Institute Awards: WOW!!! Led by the continued outstanding work of Chris Eling, CDT we once again received the Institute's **Continuing Publication Commendation**. Also, thanks to the efforts of Victoria Rickert, CDT; Jonathan Miller, CCS, CCCA, SCIP, AIA, NCARB; Chris Eling, CDT; and the rest of the Board we received an **Outstanding Chapter Commendation** for the 4th year in a row !

In what IS an unprecedented feat we will receive not one, but both of the Institute's **Chapter Cups**. Each year the Institute recognizes two chapters: one for the largest net increase in membership, and another for the largest percentage increase in membership growth. This year our chapter has the distinct honor of having both the largest percentage increase and net increase in membership. We as a chapter have received the Cup for the largest percentage increase in three of the past four years. Congratulations to all of you for making this happen!

Remember – Volunteers Are Always Wanted!

Please contact me at john_gant@irco.com or by phone at 1-802-482-4763 if you have any questions, comments, or complaints (I mean 'improvement opportunities').



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NEXT MONTH:

MARCH 1st PROGRAM

THE ARCHITECT / CONTRACTOR / PRODUCT REP. RELATIONSHIP

SPEAKER

Al Brosseau, CSI, CPMR
Albro Export & Marketing

Al Brosseau of Quebec, Canada is a member of the board of directors for the Manufacturers' Agents National Association (MANA)

TIME / LOCATION

March 1, 2004 at VTC, Randolph VT

CREDITS

1 hour of HSW credits available

SUMMARY

We are excited to have the opportunity to hold our second program on the campus of Vermont Technical College in Randolph, VT. We have finally taken up Al Brosseau on his standing offer to come south of the border to speak on this topic, and it should be a good one for students and building professionals alike.

RSVP / QUESTIONS

To Program Chair Jonathan Miller at campesi@earthlink.net; more specifics will be forthcoming...

2004 'Better Buildings By Design' Conference

National Experts to Speak at Region's Top Building Conference

by Amy Carignan, Efficiency Vermont

The top conference in the northeast on commercial and residential construction will return to Vermont on February 11th & 12th. *Better Buildings By Design 2004* will feature 30+ presentations on design and construction approaches that will reduce energy use, maximize occupant comfort, increase building longevity and lower operating and maintenance costs. With nationally renowned workshop leaders, a showcase of work by the region's finest energy-efficient designers, and more than 45 exhibitors of cutting-edge products and services, this conference is expected to draw 800+ design and construction professionals from throughout the northeast.

Featuring four simultaneous workshop tracks on Envelope, Mechanical, Lighting, and Integrated Design, the conference will include a Home Builders' Forum, case studies of recently constructed high-performance Vermont buildings, and an evening reception with live music and demonstrations, and much more. Presented by Efficiency Vermont, this year's conference proudly welcomes award-winning architect, Susan Maxman, FAIA, to present the keynote address. 1993 Past president of the American Institute of Architects, Ms. Maxman will use examples of green projects that her firm has designed over the years to share her perspective on re-inventing the way we look at the built environment.

Better Buildings By Design 2004 will take place at The Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center in Burlington. To register or to get more information, call 1-877-248-9900 or visit www.efficiencyvermont.com.



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Vermont Green Building Network

January 23rd VGBN Annual Meeting Recap

Dan W. Reicher, Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Energy, was the well-respected keynote speaker at this well attended (66 people) Friday afternoon event. He served Bill Clinton from 1997 to 2001 as the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. His topic of “*Green Building & Sustainable Energy: National and Vermont Perspectives*” was well received. Dan provided some great context, statistics and compelling examples of why we need to focus on energy efficiency, renewable energy and green building in Vermont and also nationally, so we can all head in a more sustainable direction. He mainly spoke to his main organizing idea of “Technology, Policy and Finance.” To see his PowerPoint presentation click on the newly launched VGBN Website at www.vgbn.org.

They are also very close to finishing negotiations with the *U.S. Green Building Council* about becoming an affiliate chapter...stay tuned.

With nominations from the floor, 16 people expressed interest in the 15 slots on the 2004 VGBN Board of Directors; 10 of 13 directors are carrying over from the July 30, 2003, initial chartering Board. The slate of nominees will be voted on at the February 4th board meeting. After great volunteer contributions, Attorney Julie Taylor, Loren Doe from BED, and Jonathan Miller from CSI VT, all decided not to continue on the board.

There were three breakout discussion sessions on: Big Picture Issues like Barriers to Green Buildings in New England; Internal Issues of Defining VGBN; and Technical topics such as Materials & Methods, and Building Systems & Technology. The discussion write-up from each will be posted on the website.

Last but not least is that **VGBN Membership** is now available and is **FREE** for the first year ! Simply go to the website www.vgbn.org and click around until you find the “JOIN US” button. Fill in the data, click your options and congratulations on becoming more informed by joining Vermont’s greenest network organization !

Mr. Peter D. Morris, CSI, CDT

Chapter Immediate Past-President

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“It Wasn’t Even Raining Yet When Noah Built The Ark” by R.L.Manders, CSI, CDT

Literature tells us that when Noah got the idea to build the Ark, the sun was shining brightly; no clouds were in the sky, and no thought of rain. However, the Ark was built to prepare for what the future would hold for Noah.

As it tells us, then it rained and it rained, for forty days and forty nights it rained. This sudden deluge occurred, but Noah was well prepared. His “floating houseboat” was designed to accommodate this particular situation.

Today’s Design Professional can be confronted with a “deluge” of Substitution requests, and often at a time that is not comfortable to satisfactorily research each and every request thoroughly. This “deluge” normally occurs about the time the Bidding Documents hit the street, and the date of bidding just a short time away. Too little time is available for research to properly compare the substitution request with the specified brand or item.

Fortunately, today, while the “sun is shining”, the Construction Specifications Institute has given us the necessary information and technique to solve those problems associated with this particular deluge. Simply stated, this is the “Voluntary Alternate”, which is non-discriminatory in nature, and classified as an “Open Proprietary Specification”. In those Sections where the

labor to material ratio is quite high, (e.g. the Painting Section), this is an ideal way to honestly write the Specification. The Company presenting the best and most complete information and assistance is used as the “Base Bid”, but then if the Low Bidder on that particular Section has a “better idea”, logically everyone wants to hear from them. However, as we all know, many of the Manuals on the design professional’s shelf are outdated; the Low Bidder must submit current, accurate, and complete information for easy evaluation. This submittal must also include not only the technical information, but answer the question of “How many dollars can we give back to my client” if the proposal is accepted. If accepted by the Owner, a Change Order is immediately issued passing the credit to the Owner. If there are no savings for the Owner – i.e. the price is the same – the Specification should be followed as written, using the Base Bid Product.

This technique of writing Specifications is fair and above board, and all bidders are bidding on the “same sheet of music”. Being non-discriminatory, this technique works well for those jobs where public funds are involved. However, as has often been said, “the proof of the pudding is in the eating” and this will prevent those deluges of requests during those times when the Design Professional cannot afford to sift through questionable information from outdated Manuals.

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January Board Meeting Summary

This is merely a synopsis; the full text of the January 12, 2004 meeting minutes is available from the Chapter Secretary.

- At long last our bylaws revision is complete, and after approval from the Institute the chapter will hold a vote on approval and incorporation – likely in April.
- Chapter study sessions for the CDT exam, held by our own Adam Bortz, are underway on Feb. 5th.
- The chapter had lower-than-expected revenues for the calendar year 2003, due to competition for program attendance and increased program expenses.
- We received the awaited notification on the North East Region Awards [more on page 1 & 2 –ed.]. Also, the Chapter will be sending Chapter President John Gant and Editor Chris Eling to the annual CSI Show in Chicago, April 9-12 2004, to accept awards there.
- There was a motion to retain our chapter dues structure for the next fiscal year, which was seconded and passed.
- After some discussion on sponsorship of student members, a motion to continue to cover membership costs for all students as long as they're still students. Our policy of first program free (for new members only) will also be continued. Motion seconded and passed.
- Ideas for future monthly program topics include Daylighting Design, and LEED Certification for individuals with a mini trade-fair [see last page for more upcoming programs –ed.]
- The big one: the chapter has several active members who may be going on hiatus or stepping down soon. These include education/certification expert Adam Bortz; and Membership Chair, Program Chair, and über-member Jonathan Miller. We will need volunteers to help out!

Next Board Meeting: noon on February 17, 2003 at Little Saigon on Shelburne Road in South Burlington.

MasterFormat Expansion News

Change in Timeline

[from csinet.org]

Among the changes undertaken in response to the needs expressed by users is the task team's timeline/work plan for completion of these drafts and acceptance of commentary. The task team initially planned to complete work on Draft 4 in April 2003 and have the draft available for commentary through June. This would have allowed a first final manuscript to be ready in July, and editing and indexing completed and ready for delivery to the publisher by December 2003. However, in light of changes that have been made in the direction of Draft 4 since April, and in response to concerns raised by some commentators, an additional six to nine months have been added to that timeline. The new, improved, and expanded MasterFormat 04 is now planned to be available to users in September to December 2004.

Any questions? Contact Greg Ceton – gceton@csinet.org

You may download an outline of the new MasterFormat at http://www.csinet.org/s_csi/docs/7400/7379.pdf

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Twenty Years Ago Today – Part V

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I/O

A smart computer isn't much good if you can't talk to it or figure out what it tells you. Early models had a series of dials or switches that had to be set in a certain way, or someone had to punch holes in cards and feed them to the machine so it would understand what it was supposed to do. Then, after performing the calculations, the answer would be displayed as a series of lights or meter readings. Even if answers were printed, they weren't something you would read if you didn't have to.

One of the keys to the success of the personal computer was the development of input and output methods, eventually leading to the use of the PC by people with no knowledge whatsoever of what computers are or how they work. The common typewriter keyboard was an obvious improvement, as was the use of a monitor to display what was being entered.

Another important part of the input/output (I/O) process is the computer program. Early programming was done in machine language, consisting of a series of zeros and ones (binary math). Programming quickly evolved to resemble normal English, with words that had obvious meanings being interpreted by the computer as binary code.

The most common use of today's computer – word processing – would not exist without software that lets users type, format fonts, display pages as they will print, and send documents to a printer without knowing much at all about the computer. Other application programs allow

us to create spreadsheets and databases, browse the Internet and use e-mail, and play games without a thought about what makes it all happen.

Another boost to the computers popularity was the ability to display graphic images. Early PCs were text-only machines, which obviously limited their use to things that could be expressed in letters. Some adventurous souls realized that typing certain combinations of characters would look like a picture when held at arm's length, but this wasn't really using graphics. (See www.chris.com/ascii/index.html for examples of this arcane art form. If you have some time to kill, watch the original Star Wars in ASCIIimation at www.asciiimation.co.nz/)

The mouse was one of the great inventions in the computer world, an essential element of the graphic user interface (GUI) most of us use today. The GUI allows users to perform operations simply by "clicking" on items in drop-down menus, or on icons (small images) that represent those items. This is not only faster than typing our commands on the keyboard; it means that users do not have to remember all of the commands that would otherwise have to be known to operate a program.

(See the winter 2002 issue of *Invention and Technology* magazine for an interesting article about the creation and development of the mouse. Read it on line at www.inventionandtechnology.com/2002/03/mouse.shtml)

My QX-10 had an interesting keyboard, one that was an integral part of that computer's software. Its function keys were grouped according to function, and each was labeled with its function.

The QX-10's mouse was optical, a technology that was ignored in favor of the mechanical mice that dominated the computer industry until recently. However, today's optical mice are clearly superior to the QX-10's, which required use of a special mouse pad. Today's mouse also has much higher resolution, but that was not really required back then, as it was not used for pointing or drawing; the graphic user interface was then still in its infancy.

[Next month, Part 6: side effects]

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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, file size, and length. Submitted pieces also may not be able to be accepted due to space constraints. –Editor



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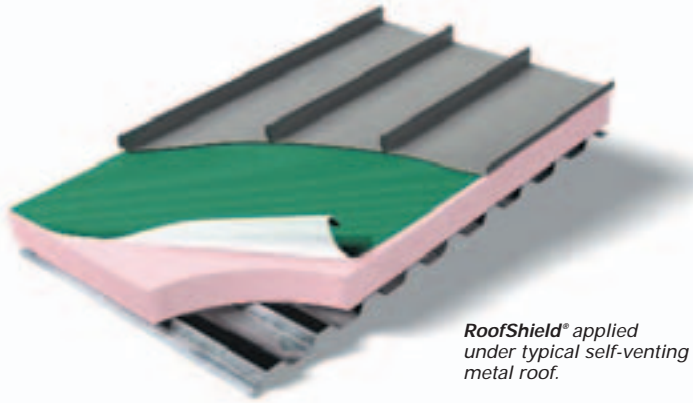
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*ASTM E96 Method B (CNRC)

**Value taken from current Tyvek® literature, Tyvek® is a registered trademark of DuPont.

***Value taken from current Grace Construction Products literature, Ice & Water Shield® is a registered trade mark of Grace Construction Products.

RoofShield® /WallShield™ Physical Properties

Weight	5.161 oz./yd ²
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Water Vapor Transmission	ASTM E96 method B (perms) 212
Water Penetration Resistance	AATCC-127 68
Surface Burning Characteristics	ASTM E 84-97a (Lbs.) Flame Spread Class A Smoke Developed Class A

Approvals:

BOCA - Building Officials Conference of America, Research Report No. 98-10 Pending
ICBO - International Conference of Building Officials, Evaluation Report #ER-5894, Approved

Applicable Standards:

AATCC - American Association of Textile Chemists & Colorists
AATCC-127- Water Resistance: Hydrostatic Pressure Test
ASTM - American Society for Testing & Materials
ASTM E84-00a Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials
ASTM E96 for Water Vapor Transmission of Materials
ISO - 5363:3 1992, Mean Air Permeance

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Nancy Vitale
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bob@intersourcerooting.com



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2003-2004 Vermont Chapter CSI Events

- June 5, 2003** “Chapter Awards Banquet”
4:00 – 10:00pm at Basin Harbor Club
- July 17, 2003** “Lighting Design, Dimming, and Controls”
Ed Jaffee, CSI, IES, LTCD
11:00am-2:00pm at the Clarion Hotel
- August 14, 2003** “The LEED Process & Specifications”
Ross Spiegel, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA
CSI Liaison to U.S. Green Building Council
Former CSI Institute President
- Sep. 24, 2003** “The Buzz About Electronic Hardware”
by Shelley Hudson, CSI, CCPR of *Ingersoll-Rand*
12-2pm at VT Technical College, Randolph VT
- October 9, 2003** “The Power of One: Facilitating Green Building”
by Paul Murray of *Herman Miller* (Lynn Ovitt, CSI)
11:00am-2:00pm at the Clarion Hotel
- Nov. 5, 2003** “Brick & Stone Paving”
Gene Pawlikowski, CSI of *Trowel Trades Supply*
11:00am-2:00pm at the Sheraton, S. Burlington
- Dec. 4, 2003** “P.Lam & Solid Surface Fabrication Shop Tour”
Top Shop & Steve Benjamin, CSI of *WilsonArt*
- January 15, 2004** “The Bidding Process”
By Sandy Fead of *Paul Frank & Collins* + Panel
11:00am-2:00pm at the Sheraton Burlington
- Feb. 11-12, 2004** “Better Buildings by Design 2004”
by *Efficiency Vermont*, at the Burlington Sheraton
Seminars, Forums, and Exhibits
- March 1** “The Product Rep-Contractor-Architect Relationship”
Good Service-Expectations-Killer Issues, at VTC
Al Brosseau, CSI of *Albro Export & Marketing*
- April** “FAHC Renaissance Project Site Tour – Part II”
Host - Matthew Martin, CSI, Assoc. AIA
Sr. Project Manager, *Fletcher Allen Health Care*
- May** “Windows, Doors & Hardware”
Mini trade-fair with luncheon seminar
- June** FY 2004 Chapter Awards Banquet
location TBD
- July** “Daylighting Design & PVA Workshop”
Joint with NESEA & VGBN

New Members Welcome !

January 2004

December 2003 **83 new 2003 Members!**

Mr. Jason M. Butler, CSI
Pella Windows & Doors

November 2003

Mr. Sam D. Gibson, CSI, AIA
Sam D. Gibson, Architect

Mr. Tom Good, RA, CSI
Tom Good Architect

Mr. Jerry F. Thornton, CSI, RCDD
University of Vermont

October 2003

Mr. Roberto W. Fitzgerald, CSI, AIA
Dore & Whittier Architects

Mr. Michael S. Simanskas, CSI, AIA
Dore & Whittier Architects

Mr. Mark A. Marshall, CSI, Assoc. AIA
Dore & Whittier Architects

Mr. John F. Thompson, CSI, Assoc. AIA
Dore & Whittier Architects

Ms. Kaija Johnson, CSI-S; VTC
Mr. Shaun White, CSI-S; VTC

September 2003

Mr. Tony Bartorillo, CSI, CCPR
Russell Construction Services
Transfer from the Pittsburgh Chapter CSI

Mr. John Goodell, CSI
SVE Associates

Mr. Tom Bartholomew, CSI
Northern NE Concrete Promotion Association
Joined us from the Maine Chapter CSI

August 2003

William Alexander ‘Sandy’ Fead, CSI
Paul, Frank & Collins

Mr. Martin V. Hawkes, CSI
Tree Ridge Enterprises Inc.

July 2003

Mr. Andrew Gregory, CSI, AIA
Truex Cullins & Partners

Mr. Bill Mueller, CSI
Miller-Sheehan-Sullivan Sales

June 2003

Mr. Terrance Murphy, CSI
Vermont Technical College Professor

VT Chapter Stats as of Jan. 31:

	Jan '04
New Members, 2003...best in CSI !!!	84 & 121%
New Members, 2004	0
New Members to date for FY2004	17
Sponsored New Members in FY 2004	12
Retention rate year to date	81.0%
Total VT Chapter Members	132 !!!