



NEXT PROGRAM:

FEBRUARY 9-10, 2005

BETTER BUILDINGS BY DESIGN 2005 CONFERENCE

WORKSHOPS

40 + scheduled

TIME

February 9-10, 2005

LOCATION

Sheraton Burlington, on Williston Road

SUMMARY

Once again, the Vermont Chapter CSI is proud to be a sponsor of the Better Buildings By Design Conference, held annually by Efficiency Vermont. The event features workshops, exhibits, sponsor booths, and more.

Throughout the conference will be four simultaneous workshop tracks: Building Envelope, Mechanical Systems, Lighting and Innovations & High Performance. Over forty workshops in all are scheduled.

SCHEDULE

Includes a Keynote address; exhibits; an evening reception; and many, many workshops and seminars.

RSVP / QUESTIONS

Visit www.efficiencyvermont.com for more information on the conference. Download the [conference brochure](#) in PDF format (2.3 mb). You may also [register online](#) or call 1-877-248-9900 for more information.

Change Is Good !

After 3-1/2 moderately successful years as Jonathan M. Miller, Architect, Jonathan has been lured by his CSI technical focus into joining the firm of Davis Langdon Schumann Smith in their Vergennes office as a Senior Specification Consultant. For CSI business keep using the web address campcsi@earthlink.net.

Institute Ballot Error ! *Institute Board Election*

CSI's election service vendor, Intelliscan Inc., has identified 3,390 members who did not receive region election information on their annual Institute Board election ballots. When voting check your ballot for **Mike Debiak**'s name at the bottom middle of the form (for North East Region CSI members). Intelliscan has invalidated the faulty ballots and is in the process of mailing corrected replacement ballots along with a cover letter to those members affected. The corrected ballots will be identified with the wording "REPLACEMENT BALLOT" at the top. As the corrected ballots will be mailed by Thursday of this week, the closing date for the election will remain March 2.

Ballots not mailed by March 2 will be voided. The candidates were profiled in the January issue of NewsDigest Quarterly, which was mailed to all members in early January. The issue is posted at www.csinet.org/newsdigest. The FY06 Board will take office July 1, 2005.

CDT Study Sessions

The Vermont Chapter will soon begin its annual round of CSI Certification study sessions. The 2005 edition will be held from 4-7 pm weekly, each Thursday from February 10 through March 17. Cost is \$60 for VT chapter members, \$75 other CSI members, and \$90 for all others (\$15 per individual session if you will not be attending all six meetings).

If you wish to take part in the 2005 go-round, please contact our Certifications Committee Chair, Adam Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP to reserve your spot.

E-mail: adambortz@aol.com

Phone: 802-864-3516

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:

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Outstanding Chapter Commendation

The Vermont Chapter CSI has received notification that it has been awarded the Institute's Outstanding Chapter Commendation for the fifth consecutive year: bronze-level status ! (I wonder if that means we get John and Alycia Gant's old baby shoes for bronzing?)

The award attempts to determine whether a chapter is being all that it can be, and how active it is in its locality. For the Vermont Chapter CSI, the award's nomination form itself has served as a very useful checklist and guide, showing how a CSI chapter can be better organized and more effective.

Next big goal is the silver-level commendation, which is given at the tenth consecutive award.

Construction Admin. Follow-up Program

Because Sandy Fead had to cut about half of his presentation due to time, and the discussion panel was similarly abridged, Sandy and each of the discussion panelists have agreed to come back for a sequel program. Should be sometime in March at the Sheraton Burlington; stay tuned for an announcement.

LAST MONTH:

JANUARY 27th PROGRAM

CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION

SPEAKER

William Alexander 'Sandy' Fead, CSI
Paul Frank & Collins

DISCUSSION PANEL

- Bob Rea, *VT Dept. of BGS*
- Dennis Webster, CSI, AIA, *Wiemann-Lamphere Architects*
- David Mitchell, PE, CSI, *Engineering Ventures, Inc.*
- Matt Martin, CSI, Assoc. AIA, *FAHC Renaissance Project*
- Jeff Davis, *DEW Construction*

TIME/LOCATION

January 27, 2004 ; 11:00am – 2:00pm Sheraton Burlington,
on Williston Road

SUMMARY

Big turnout of 72, one of the highest turnouts for a VT chapter program.

Sandy spoke about the Administration of the Contract for Construction. He also began with a disclaimer that as an attorney, he is witness only to the small percentage of projects that go horribly wrong. The 99.99% that are perfectly smooth (said he with a wry smile), he doesn't see in the normal course of his work.

AIA A201, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, sets the tone. One of Sandy's key points was about agents: who has the authority and/or the duty to act on behalf of the owner. Architects have an unusual standing in that they are limited agents of the owner, and may at different times be required to represent the owner's interests, or their own personal/business interests, or on behalf of the public interest, or even as an impartial arbiter.

One issue that Sandy brought up was that of site visits. AIA A201 is quite vague as to what the architect's responsibilities are in this arena, using phrases like "endeavor to guard the Owner," and "become generally familiar with [progress and quality of the work]." Meanwhile, unless spelled out otherwise in the Contract, the architect does not have the right to stop the work if, for example, safety violations are witnessed on a site visit. The Owner has that right.

After a break for lunch, the discussion panelists spoke about their perspectives on the issues at hand. The importance of communication, and how much might be too much. Contracts should be reviewed by all parties in order to keep everyone in the know. The 'partnering' method of construction is becoming more popular, as it has been more successful in avoiding adversarial contract disputes. Criteria for the awarding of bids should be established and revealed up front.

As this topic is so large, it was felt that we only got to the tip of the iceberg this time. Each of the discussion panelists have agreed to come back for a follow-up program in March; exact date will be announced soon.

Big thanks to Sandy and each member of the panel !

The President's Corner

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

Ghostwritten

John Gant and his wife, Alycia, welcomed a baby daughter into the world on January 21, 2005: Camryn Eleanor Gant. As such John has taken a couple weeks of paternity leave from Vermont CSI. Congratulations on the new arrival !

Institute Recognition

Vermont Chapter CSI's fifth consecutive Outstanding Chapter Commendation Award from the Institute [*see article on p.1*] serves to highlight the excellent volunteerism that has kept our chapter successful. For the past five years VT CSI has dedicated itself to serving our construction community as an important educational and networking resource. Over 150 Health/Safety/Welfare continuing education credits have been offered at chapter programs. Membership in the chapter has increased eight times over. An important presence at institutions of higher education has been established, including an affiliate chapter in place at VTC.

For all those members past and present who have helped contribute, a big well-deserved thank you! And if you are interested in being part of our future, well, remember this:

Volunteers Are Always Wanted!

Please contact 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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IN TWO MONTHS:

MARCH, 2005

CASEWORK AND COUNTERTOP VTC INSTALLATION

SPEAKER

Steve Benjamin, CSI, CCPR, Vermont
Chapter CSI Vice President
WilsonArt

TIME/LOCATION

March, 2005
Vermont Technical College

SUMMARY

We will be at VTC in March, for a talk on solid-surfacing as well as the demonstration of a solid-surface installation onsite. *WilsonArt* has generously donated the materials.

AGENDA

11:00 Registration
11:25 Speaker begins
12:30 Lunch break
1:00 Speaker resumes
2:00 Program concludes

COSTS

\$30 for CSI members
\$40 for Non-Members
Students *FREE!*
New Members *FREE!*

RSVP / QUESTIONS

Contact Program Chair Jonathan Miller
via e-mail at: campcsi@earthlink.net

TechNotes

What does TechCom do?, part 1

By Sheldon Wolfe, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, Minneapolis-St. Paul CSI

One question that occasionally comes up is, "What does the Institute Technical Committee do?" Until the last few years, TechCom was directly involved in creating or updating technical documents, but that work is now assigned to task teams, so it's not an unreasonable question. According to the committee charges, TechCom has the following responsibilities:

1. Oversight and coordination of technical task teams and liaison activities.
2. Input into quality of material produced.
3. Handle requests from outside organizations for technical assistance.
4. Assist regions and chapters in technical activities through region technical chairs.
5. Assist the Executive Committee and staff plan technical activities for the future.
6. Develop procedural guidelines for task teams working on technical documents.

These are all important, but examining what is involved in the first charge will go a long way toward answering those who ask what it is that TechCom does. Let's look a little closer at what this single item includes.

- Approve technical adequacy of CSI's technical documents.
- Review material prepared by task teams to assure consistency with CSI's Technical Guiding Principles and other technical publications.
- Report to the Executive Committee inconsistencies that cannot be resolved through discussions with task teams.
- Maintain awareness of all CSI activities that might impact the advancement of CSI's Technical Guiding Principles.

In short, TechCom is supposed to maintain consistency of all CSI technical documents and activities. That doesn't sound all that difficult, but when you consider all the task teams, all the organizations we work with, all the people involved, and the need for coordination of these activities, you begin to see the challenge. *continued on p.7*



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Jan. Board Meeting Summary

This is but a summary; the full text of the January 11, 2004 meeting minutes is available from the Chapter Secretary.

- Chapter is currently at 121 members, 115 home chapter.
- Investigation into chapter insurance policies has revealed that directors/officers insurance is quite expensive, and moreover would be an addition to, not an replacement for, the General Liability policy we already hold. The chapter may instead pursue a number of other low-tech solutions, including a chapter “ethics manual” and program disclaimers.
- Chapter President John Gant cannot attend the CSI Show this year. [*Jonathan Miller will be attending the convention, along with John Ostrum.*] The chapter will partially subsidize expenses of chapter members who wish to attend. Treasurer Bob Rand notes that the chapter budget has a specific allocation for convention attendance.
- The NE Region board will be meeting March 18-19, possibly in western Massachusetts.
- The Green Building Trade Fair in May (a joint event with VT Green Bldg. Network) will be a two-day affair, including one day devoted to an Intermediate LEED workshop. As of this meeting the best guess for dates is May 12-13. There needs to be a committee formed to coordinate tabletops / exhibitors. John Gant volunteers and is looking for assistance – contact him if you can help. Anyone with a ‘green’ product or service is a possible tabletop sponsor.
- Nominations for chapter officers will be discussed at the next board meeting. Nominations are needed by March. Elections are scheduled for April.
- The Institute Membership Committee is working on new promotional material for CSI, touting membership benefits of networking potential and professional diversity. They are looking for testimonials from members – contact Jonathan Miller for more info.
- **Next Board Meeting:** noon-1:30pm, Tuesday, February 8th, 2005 at Buono’s Restaurant in Shelburne, on Route 7 / 3182 Shelburne Road.

Mr. Peter D. Morris, CSI, CDT

***Chapter Immediate Past-President**

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***Chapter Director**

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Want To Be A Specifier?

Adam Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP, has offered to teach specification writing to someone who has the ability and the desire. Adam retired last month and is willing to pass on his many years of experience for a reasonable fee.

A Specifier is someone who has a working knowledge of construction contracts, current construction materials, means and methods, and an understanding of how the construction team works together. They must be able to write, to work well with diverse clients and speak with authority from knowledge. If you haven't already done so, be prepared to join CSI, study for and pass the CDT exam, and then pursue your CCS. Interested?

Give Adam a call 802-864-3516 or send him an e-mail at adambortz@aol.com.



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2005 CSI Show In Chicago

The 49th Annual CSI Show & Convention (Chicago, April 19–24) will deliver an education-packed week for construction professionals from every field. From implementing LEED, to advances in security technology, to specifications that stand up in court, this event is an opportunity to delve into the industry's hot topics under the leadership of expert speakers. With more than 70 education sessions scheduled, participants can earn all the Continuing Education Units (CEUs), Education Contact Hours (ECHs), Learning Unit (LU) Hours and Health, Safety, Welfare (HSW) credit they need for the year.

April 23–24, participants can also attend [CSI University](#), which will co-locate with The 49th Annual CSI Show & Convention. CSI University trains participants to be leaders in their professions and local CSI chapters. This program builds professional skills and exposes attendees to what CSI has to offer, including its education and certification programs, leadership opportunities, and networking.

The 49th Annual CSI Show & Convention is also co-locating with [The Masonry Showcase](#) and [The TFM Show](#). Participants who [register for The 49th Annual CSI Show & Convention](#) may choose from the education sessions offered at these events as well.

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CSI Charters Costa Rican Chapter

By Luis Chasi, CSI, Costa Rica Chapter Vice President

Last November 4, the Costa Rican Chamber of Consulting Architects and Engineers (CCAI) celebrated its 20th anniversary. This was not like any past celebration, however. During this ceremony, CSI's Costa Rica Chapter was born.

The Costa Rica Chapter is CSI's 144th chapter, and the second outside of the US. The Ciudad Juarez Chapter of Mexico is the other.

Now the real challenge begins for this new chapter. We have ambitious plans. The most important of all is being commissioned by CSI to produce the official Spanish translation of MasterFormat™ 2004 Edition and all related documents. We believe this venture will expand CSI's horizons well beyond North American borders, and export initiatives similar to ours to other Latin and Spanish speaking countries.

Once the above-mentioned project is successful, and with the support of CSI, we may even start promoting to software companies the delivery of software packages for the implementation of MasterFormat 2004 Edition in Spanish. We look forward to becoming one of CSI's more successful chapters.

Call For Volunteers

Vermont CSI Leadership

The chapter is looking for nominations for the fiscal year 2006 chapter officers. Nominations must be made by March 2005; chapter elections will be held in April. We need help from our membership to continue to be successful. Get a more rewarding experience from CSI and help out! A couple hours a month is all it takes for most positions.

All those interested are welcome at our board meetings, regularly scheduled for noon to 1:30pm at Buono Appetito Restaurant at 3182 Shelburne Road...just south of the S. Burlington - Shelburne town line. See the summary of the most recent board meeting minutes on page 4 for the date of the next scheduled meeting.

Contact Jonathan Miller at (campsi@earthlink.net) to let us know that you can come...thanks !



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NER Conference Set

Mark your calendars for **August 25-27, 2005**, and plan for a great time at the **Sheraton Harborside Portsmouth (NH)**. Join fellow CSI members and their families in enjoying a very walkable historic town with lots to do, including shopping there and at the Kittery Maine Outlets not 10 minutes away. Tour a Lighthouse, enjoy a dinner cruise, attend CSI Workshops, Seminars and Exhibit Booths. The Sheraton will be newly renovated this spring with the chance of touring an addition under construction as well. Three cheers for the New Hampshire Chapter for getting organized and stepping up to the plate !!!



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TechNotes, TechCom *cont'd from p.3*

During the last few years, when the Project Resource Manual (PRM) and MasterFormat were under development, the need for oversight became clear. While each of the task teams included the best people available, each well acquainted with CSI documents and principles, they were working on documents that both relied on, and were affected by, the work of the other task team. If one task team were to develop a given concept in one way, while the other task team took a different path, the result would be conflicting documents. It would be extremely difficult and time-consuming to eliminate all differences between two documents, but TechCom, while reviewing the work of all task teams, is in a unique position to spot and minimize conflicts.

Last year, TechCom completed two documents that should be of great value to all CSI members, especially those who find themselves representing CSI's perspective to other entities. These two documents, "Procedural Guide for Representing CSI" and "Guide to CSI's Technical Principles" provide a brief synopsis of CSI's technical documents and position on several important issues. Both will be available for download at the Institute website, www.CSINet.org.

Using these documents, task teams and liaisons should be able to avoid many conflicts, but given the extent of material covered by CSI technical documents, some difference of opinion is inevitable. While TechCom's preference is to rely on the expertise of task teams to avoid discrepancies, there are occasions when it must step in to resolve differences or to ensure compliance with CSI's principles.

© 2004, Sheldon Wolfe, FCSI, CCS, CCCA
Institute Technical Committee

National CAD Standard 3.1 Ships Updated To Reflect MasterFormat 2004

CSI has begun shipping version 3.1 of the National CAD Standard (NCS) as of the end of January 2005. You can place an order now in the [CSI Bookstore](http://www.CSIBookstore.com).

CSI member cost: \$250
Non-member cost: \$350

Version 3.1 has been updated to reflect MasterFormat 2004 Edition, which was released in November 2004, and other changes approved by the U.S. National CAD Standard Project Committee. The version 3.1 package includes a 950-page binder edition of the standard and a compact disc containing the document in Adobe PDF format.

Customers who purchased version 3.0 when it was released in 2004 will receive a compact disc copy of version 3.1 in the mail by the end of February 2005. Professionals with version 2.0 or lower should order version 3.1.

The NCS establishes a uniform format for presenting and organizing graphic information on drawings, and helps coordinate CAD publications among organizations. Using the NCS creates consistent, streamlined communication between owners and design/construction teams. Using the NCS also reduces costs for developing and maintaining office standards and transferring building design data from design to facility management. [Read more about the NCS](http://www.CSINet.org) at [csinet.org](http://www.CSINet.org).

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



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FY2005 Vermont Chapter CSI Events

October 13	<u>“Vermont Codes 2004 Update”</u> Bob Howe, Asst. State Fire Marshal 11:00am-2:00pm at the Sheraton Burlington
November 11	<u>“Waterproofing the Building Envelope”</u> Mark DerMugrditchian, CSI, CDT; <i>W.R. Grace</i> 11:00am-2:00pm at the Sheraton Burlington
December 2	<u>“MasterFormat 2004”</u> Dennis J. Hall, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA 11:00am-2:00pm at the Sheraton Burlington
<u>2005</u>	
January 27	<u>“Construction Administration”</u> William ‘Sandy’ Fead, CSI; <i>Paul Frank & Collins</i> 11:00am-2:00pm at the Sheraton Burlington
Feb. 9-10	<u>“Better Buildings by Design 2005”</u> by <i>VEIC / Efficiency Vermont</i> , Burlington Sheraton 2 days of Seminars, Forums, and Exhibits
Feb – Mar	<u>6 Weeks of CSI Certification Study Sessions</u> As taught by Adam Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP
March	<u>“Construction Administration, Part 2”</u> William ‘Sandy’ Fead, CSI; <i>Paul Frank & Collins</i> and Discussion Panel; at the Sheraton Burlington
March	<u>“Casework & Countertop VTC Installation”</u> by Steven Benjamin, CSI, CCPR At Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center
April	<u>“FAHC Renaissance Project – Final Site Tour”</u> Host - Matthew Martin, CSI, Assoc. AIA Sr. Project Manager, <i>Fletcher Allen Health Care</i>
May	<u>“Green & Sustainable VT Trade Fair”</u> 1 day of Booth Exhibits, Seminars and Food 10:00am – 5:00pm
June	<u>“Chapter Awards Banquet / Annual Meeting”</u> 3:30 – 9:30pm at Basin Harbor Club near Vergennes

New Members Welcome !

January 2005

Mr. John Kamencik, CSI, *Donvac*
Mr. Larry Dean, CSI, *Colin P. Lindberg, AIA*
Mr. Philip A Lamoureux, CSI, *Coastal Forest Products*

November/December 2004

October 2004 **56 new 2004 Members!**

Ms. Ann Marie Harmon, CSI, AIA, *Architect*
Mr. Robert Buchan, CSI, CDT, AIA
BMA Architects & Planners

September 2004

Mr. Dan Chalifour, CSI, *Firestone Bldg Products*

July/August 2004

June 2004

Mr. Timothy J. Renaud, CSI-I, *Overhead Door Co.*

May 2004

Mr. Ryan Adler, CSI-S; *VTC*
Ms. Heidi Ainsworth, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Mike Becker, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Steve Belleville, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Brian Blair, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Jeremy Broe, CSI-S; *VTC*
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Mr. Lance Lowell, CSI-S; *VTC*
Ms. Jamie Montague, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Arex Nguyen, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Eric Overton, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Chris Pike, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Michael Quirion, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Jesse Richards, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Jason Swain, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Chris Taft, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Brandon Walbridge, CSI-S; *VTC*
Mr. Justin Wright, CSI-S; *VTC*

April 2004

Mr. William Lawliss, AHC, CSI, CCPR
Ingersoll Rand - Safety & Security of NE

2003 VT Best in CSI out of 143 chapters !

VT Chapter Stats as of January 31st:

	January '05
New Members last Month	3
Total New Members for Year 2004	56
New Members in FY 2005 / Sponsored	6/4
Retention rate year to date	49.2%
Total VT Chapter Members	126