



THIS MONTH:

FEBRUARY 8-9th, 2005

BETTER BUILDINGS BY DESIGN 2006 CONFERENCE

SESSIONS

40+ presentations

50+ exhibits

Evening reception

TIME/LOCATION

February 8th and 9th, 2006

Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center, Williston Road off I-89 exit 14, South Burlington

SUMMARY

The Vermont Chapter CSI continues to be a sponsor of this annual conference put on by Efficiency Vermont. This year's events look interesting and we are looking forward to it – we hope to see you stop in at our CSI tabletop!

The 40+ workshops are each 90 minutes long and are divided into four main tracks/categories: Building Envelope, Mechanical Systems, Lighting, and Innovations & High Performance.

New for the 2006 Conference:

- More mechanical system workshops than ever before, including several sessions on commissioning.
- Greater display and availability of energy-efficient products and services from exhibitors.
- Availability of continuing education credits from more organizations, with simpler documentation and processing.
- One day registration is also available.

Visit www.efficiencyvermont.com for more information on the conference and registration.

VT CSI To Receive 6th Chapter Commendation

The Vermont Chapter CSI has been selected to receive a sixth consecutive "Outstanding Chapter Commendation" Award! The honor will be presented to the Vermont CSI delegation at the CSI Show & Convention, March 28-April 1.

The award attempts to determine whether a chapter is being all that it can be, and how active it is in its locality.

Of the fifteen member chapters in the North East Region, Vermont and the Rhode Island Chapter are the only two have a current string of consecutive awards. RI is working on seven, as they got on the Commendation train a year earlier than VT, but we hope to catch up to them one of these days...the odds of that are slightly better than those of having thirty days in February, but we'll keep trying.

For all those members past and present who have helped contribute, thank you and congratulations!

Better Buildings By Design Conference

Efficiency Vermont's 2006 *Better Buildings By Design Conference* returns to the Sheraton Burlington on February 8-9, 2006. Presented in partnership with CSI, this two-day event is the region's top conference on building durability, efficiency and value. More than 40 workshops, presented by leaders in the industry, will offer information about design and construction approaches and technologies that are being used to create today's high performance commercial and residential buildings.

Call 1-877-248-9900 for more information or to register for the 2006 Better Buildings By Design Conference. Weblink at left.

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

CSI Certification Study Sessions

Adam Bortz, CSI, CDT, is once again leading the Vermont Chapter CSI Certification study sessions this year. They will be held on the following Thursdays from 4 to 7 PM: Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, March 2 & 9, 2006. Sessions are held at Adam's home. If you are interested in attending one or more sessions, please contact Adam at adambortz@aol.com to register.

We study CSI's The Project Resource Manual, which each person will need as resource material. The sessions are intended to prepare people to take the Certified Documents Technologist exam, which is regularly administered by CSI for a separate fee and is next scheduled for early April '06. Currently the closest exam sites are expected to be Albany, NY & Boston, MA. Exam registration is through the Institute's website, www.csinet.org.

The fees that the VT Chapter charges for the study sessions are \$60 for VT CSI members, \$75 for other CSI members, & \$90 for non-CSI members. For those not expecting to attend all six, each session is \$15.

LAST MONTH:

JANUARY 5, 2006

DEC PERMITS – STORMWATER & CONSTRUCTION GENERAL

SPEAKERS

Kim Greenwood, *Environmental Consultant*
Jeff Nelson, *Pioneer Environmental*

TABLETOPS

Advanced Drainage Systems with Ferguson Waterworks

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Rich Verrier

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Rich.Verrier@ads-pipe.com

AH Harris

www.ahharris.com

Graham Gurry

(860) 306-3099

graham.gurry@ahharris.com

CDS Technologies

www.cdstech.com

Deon Laurens

(585) 223-3990

dlourens@cdstech.com

EJ Prescott

www.ejprescott.com

Jamie Dumas

(802) 272-5104

Jamie.Dumas@EJPrescott.com

NNE Concrete Promotion Association

www.nnepca.com

Jonathan Kuell, Executive Director

(888) 875-3232

nnepca@maine.rr.com

StormTech

www.stormtech.com

Greg Novick

(888) 892-2694

gnovick@stormtech.com

WH Shurtleff

www.whshurtleff.com

Malcolm Poole

(800) 663-6149

mpoole@whshurtleff.com

TIME/LOCATION

Thursday January 5, 2006, 11am–2pm
Double Tree Hotel

SUMMARY

Thanks to our speakers for all of their information about the DEC & stormwater permitting process, especially upcoming changes, and thank you to our tabletop sponsors!

Program Report

by Roger Marshall, AIA, CSI, CCS, rmaia@smorgans.net

January's program on DEC Permits - Stormwater & Construction was important for everyone involved in projects where one acre or more will be disturbed from the natural state, since by the end of this year they will require stormwater permits. This is an increase in area from the present five acres.

The speakers did an excellent job describing the permitting requirements, types of permits, the concerns the permit process is supposed to address, and some recommendations for solving stormwater problems, I wish there could have been more time to talk about creative (and passive) design solutions which are less invasive than the usual stripping and stumping the site and having to provide engineering solutions to mitigate the resulting in increased run-off, siltation and pollution.

It was also great to see the tabletops provided by seven organizations involved with providing services and products to resolve stormwater problems, however they also did not address the ethics of good landscape design which utilizes the natural vegetation and contours to keep the runoff on the site without exotic engineering solutions. It would be great to know how many trees per car, in swales lower than the pavement rather than up on curbs, would be required to resolve run-off from large parking areas.

While I was pleased that my belief that haybales are worse than useless; and that settlement ponds are a useful tool to prevent large quantities of stormwater from entering streams; the speakers did not address the question of the ultimate cost and the time delays required to complete the permit process.

An unfortunate aspect of the permitting process is that it does not solve the problem of road salt. We keep adding more and more salt every year, and where does it go? Right into Lake Champlain! How much longer will we be able to rely on the lake as a source for drinking water? How many years will it take before saltwater fish like cod and haddock can be introduced into the lake?

-- Roger Marshall, AIA, CSI, CCS




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NEXT MONTH:

MARCH 9, 2005

2005 VT FIRE SAFETY CODE, IBC SEISMIC CODE, AND STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

SPEAKERS

Bob Patterson, *VT Div. Of Fire Safety*
Carl Childs, PE, *McFarland Johnson*

TIME

Thursday, March 9th, 2006
1:30pm – 4:30pm

LOCATION

Old Dorm Lounge
Vermont Technical College, Randolph VT

SUMMARY

State Fire Marshal Bob Patterson of the Vermont Dept. of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, will talk about the current fire safety code for the state. Carl Childs will look at the seismic code section of the International Building Code (IBC), which has now been adopted by the state. In the last third of the program, VTC architectural students will present some of their work. This is in conjunction with the VTC Student Affiliate Chapter of CSI.

We hope to see you there, both to get exposure to well-known codes and not-so-familiar codes, and to see what some of the next generation of construction-industry students are up to.

COSTS

\$35 for CSI members
\$50 for Non-Members
\$10 Students
New Members *FREE!*

RSVP / QUESTIONS

Contact Program co-Chair John Ostrum
via e-mail at: john.ostrum@state.vt.us.

Don't Forget To Vote

Institute Election Ballots Issued

by Joy Davis, CSI Communications

The following members have been nominated to serve on CSI's Board of Directors in FY 07 (July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007). CSI will mail instructions for casting paper and electronic ballots to all members in late January. And whether or not you find the time to vote, a new Board is going to be elected—so make sure you vote before the **March 1** deadline.

To help you make your decision this year, in late December CSI posted information about the candidates and the election at www.csinet.org/election (go to www.csinet.org, click "forums," then click "CSI Election 2006.") Members are invited to read the biographies candidates have written about themselves and to post questions for the candidates.

CSI's Board includes nine executive committee members and 20 directors that represent CSI's 10 regions. And the candidates are...

Executive Committee Candidates

President-Elect

Eugene A. Valentine, FCSI, CCS, AIA, of Mesa, Arizona (Southwest Region)

Chapters: Albuquerque, Phoenix

Vice President, Professional

Sheryl L. Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP, of Fair Oaks, Calif. (West Region)

Chapters: Sacramento, Redwood Empire, Monterey Bay

Vice President, Professional

Bob D. Kenworthy, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, of Auburn, Wash. (Northwest Region)

Chapters: Mt. Rainier, Puget Sound

Vice President, Industry

W. Richard Cooper, PE, FCSI, CDT of Brentwood, Tenn. (Gulf States Region)

Chapter: Nashville

Vice President, Industry

Paulette K. Salisbury, FCSI, CDT, MAI, of Pleasanton, Calif. (West Region)

Chapter: San Francisco

Treasurer

Michael M. Davis, FCSI, CDT, of Chattanooga, Tenn. (Gulf States Region)

Chapter: Chattanooga



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CSI Vermont Chapter: FY2006 Officers

Ms. Victoria C. Rickert, CSI, CDT

***Chapter President**

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802-863-5800; 802-865-5025 Fax
vricket@eastcoasttile.com

Mr. John Kamencik, CSI

***Chapter Vice President; Programs Co-Chair**

Don-Vac, Inc.
64 Harvest Lane, Williston VT 05495
802-878-5006; 802-878-6867 Fax
johnk@donvac.com

Mr. John P. Ostrum, CSI, CDT

***Chapter Vice President, Programs Co-Chair**

State of Vermont, Dept. of State Buildings
2 Gov. Aiken Avenue, Montpelier VT 05633-5801
802-828-3314
John.Ostrum@state.vt.us

Mr. John Gant, AHC, CSI, CCPR

***Chapter Immediate Past-President; VT Region Director; Scholarship & Social Chair**

Ingersoll-Rand / Security & Safety Consultants of NE
1731 Richmond Road, Hinesburg VT 05461
802-482-4763 Ph. / Fax
john_gant@irco.com

Mr. Jonathan M. Miller

**FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP, AIA, NCARB
Chapter & Region Membership Chairs; Institute
Membership Committee**

510 Saint Paul Street, Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-4579; campsi@earthlink.net

Mr. Robert H. Rand, CSI – Member Emeritus

***Chapter Treasurer; Finance Chair**

87 Cedar Street. Brandon, VT 05733
802-247-3729
bobhrand@aol.com

Mr. Roger Marshall, CSI, CCS, AIA

Member Emeritus - Technical Chair

Roger Marshall, AIA – Architect
161 Austin Drive #9, Burlington VT 05401-5415
802-862-3186
rmaia@smorgans.net

Mr. Adam F. Bortz, CSI, CDT

***Chapter Director; Chapter Professional
Development & Certification Chairs**

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Mr. Christopher M. Eling, CSI, CDT

Newsletter Editor, *Chapter Secretary

Peter Morris Architect
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chris@pmarch.com

January Board Meeting Summary

This is but a summary; the full text of the 1/10/05 meeting minutes is available from the Chapter Secretary.

- Ron Beales volunteered to chair the chapter's awards committee, with assistance from past chairs.
- The May Trade Fair Committee is next meeting on Feb 16th, 5:30pm at Don-Vac Inc. (John Kamencik's office). The committee is open to ideas and requests on sponsors and program topics, and is developing a tasklist to allow volunteer focus.
- For those active members who voiced intent to attend the CSI Show in late March, chapter and region funding was allocated for partial reimbursement of attendance costs. The CSI Show this year will be the 50th annual convention.
- Three have signed up for the chapter's Certification Study Sessions with Adam Bortz.
- For Vermont CSI's upcoming www redesign, Maine's website (developed and maintained by Dick Eustis) is the model.
- As the chapter's Region Director, John Gant requested reports from all committee chairs. These are for inclusion in the spring 'midterm' report to the region on the status of the chapter.
- Lou Matrulli of Syracuse Chapter has stepped down from region leadership. "Ol' Argyle" Ted Healy of Worcester Chapter CSI will serve out the 18-month term on the Institute Board. Mike Debiak is the North East Region CSI President.
- Institute News: Eugene Valentine, FCSI, CCS, AIA, former Institute Treasurer, has been nominated as President-Elect of CSI.
- Awards Banquet is penciled in for June 15, 2006. There is a possibility of combining the event with a Leadership Retreat. Location may be Basin Harbor again, or the Lake House hotel on Grand Isle.
- **Next Board Meeting:** 4:00pm Tuesday Feb. 7, 2005, at Best Tile, 1364 Marshall Avenue, Williston VT. Contact Chapter President Victoria Rickert for more information.

Mr. Peter D. Morris, CSI, CDT, RA, ASLA

Chapter Long-Range Planning Chair

Peter Morris Architect
8 Roundtree Way, Vergennes, VT 05491
802-877-3830; 802-877-3972 Fax
pm@pmarch.com

Mr. Ronald W. Beales, CSI

Chapter Awards Chair

Pella Windows and Doors, Inc.
186 Summit Circle, Shelburne VT 05482
802-985-9828; 802-985-2912 Fax
ronaldb@184.pellapdsn.com

Just Click Here; Curl Up With a Good Book

by Joy Davis, CSI Communications

I'll read anything. I can't walk past the "new arrivals" shelf at the library without picking something up. Got a book that's never been reviewed, written by an author that no one's ever heard of? Yeah, I'll take a copy of that—and a copy of the equally mysterious one sitting next to it. As a result, I've got a cache of books that I consider essential reading for anyone involved in the work and hobbies I do.

So I was very pleased to receive my copy of the list of 50 new titles CSI has added to the online CSI Bookstore. These titles were selected based on recommendations made by CSI members and knowledgeable publishers. Many have been best-sellers, some are hidden gems, and most are on someone's must-have list. The books cover a range of topics and fields, including engineering, architecture, specifications, CAD, sustainability and moisture/mold.

You can see the new additions and browse by subject and title in the CSI Bookstore. If you're a CSI member, you get a discount when you order a book from CSI. So if there's a book you've been meaning to pick up, now's a good time to find out if the Institute carries it.

To visit CSI's online bookstore and browse the available titles, go to www.csinet.org and click "Bookstore." You can use the bookstore search on the right side of the page, or scroll down for a list of topics to choose from.

If you'd like to recommend a title to add to the bookstore, send me an e-mail a jdavis@csinet.org, or call me at 800-689-2900. Happy reading!

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Learn About Building Information Models at CSI Show & Convention

CSI will offer several sessions on the topic of Building Information Models (BIMs) during The 50th Annual CSI Show & Convention in Las Vegas, March 28 to April 1. BIMs are computerized 3D and 2D models linked to databases that house the specifications, schedules and other documents related to a project. They give designers a faster, richer design process, owners more budget control through predictions about the project's construction process, and contractors projects with fewer surprises. Architect Frank Gehry, FAIA, and his colleague Dennis R. Shelden, founder and Chief Technology Officer of Gehry Technologies, will discuss how they use BIMs during the opening general session of the Show & Convention. Read about the BIM education sessions that have been scheduled at

http://www.csinet.org/s_csi/sec_CSIWeekly.asp?CID=1227&DID=12359

Win a Three-Night Stay At the MGM Grand:

Enter the CSI Foundation Raffle by Feb. 28, and you could win a three-night stay at the MGM Grand, host hotel for The 50th Annual CSI Show & Convention! This prize is valued at \$1,200. Visit www.theocsishow.com for more information.

Free Entry to the Show & Convention:

Register for The 50th Annual CSI Show & Convention by March 3 and you could attend for free! Participants who register by March 3 for The 50th Annual CSI Show & Convention Convention Education Package will be entered in a drawing for a free registration! Register now at www.theocsishow.com.

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Call For Volunteers - VT CSI Leadership

We are always looking for 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. See the summary of the most recent board meeting minutes on page 4 for the date of the next scheduled meeting. Contact President Victoria Rickert at vrickett@eastcoasttile.com to let us know that you can come...thanks !

■ g m s ■



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Mr. Wolfe goes to Washington

by Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA
Institute Director, North Central Region, CSI

I should have known things were going too well. I was just getting accustomed to the chauffeur-driven limousine that comes with being an Institute director when I was invited to attend a chapter membership committee meeting. Their intent was not to host a lunch in my honor, but to ask about two Institute issues: customer service response, and the FY 2005 dues increase. The board of directors deals with a lot of important issues - creating and maintaining standards, working with other organizations to improve the construction industry, education, certification, and more - but they must never forget that some of the most important issues are the day-to-day needs of our members.

Most members don't realize it, but our board of directors has made many tough decisions in the past several years. The first time I visited CSI headquarters - back in the good old days - it was in the building we *owned*. I don't know how many people worked there at the time, but it was a much larger office. Since then, there have been a number of reductions in staff and office space. At some point, publishing *the Construction Specifier* was farmed out, as was customer service.

During the last five years, costs increased while our income fell, and the inevitable result of this combination was downsizing. Our total staff is about thirty now, down from more than fifty just a few years ago. But, even while staff was being reduced, Member Services was brought back in-house, where it belongs. Currently there are four people in the Member Services department, who handle all e-mail and calls - *and* process orders, registration, member special requests, and invoicing.

This smaller staff is lean, mean, and hard working, but they are well aware of the importance of customer service and are continually searching for ways to make it better. The IT platform and database they use are being upgraded to make it easier to find information, and one of the reps will soon focus entirely on leader issues and requests, using a VIP Help Desk.

Customer service is largely an issue of perception; we tend to remember and talk about those few things that go wrong, rather than the many things that work as expected. Yes, some member service experiences have been less than satisfactory, but the vast majority have been handled promptly and effectively. There are a few glitches, but overall, Member Services is doing a great job. If something doesn't go as expected, ask that it be corrected. And when things are done as expected, remember to say thanks!

The other issue raised by the chapter - membership dues - attracted a lot of attention last year because the chapter's members faced simultaneous increases from chapter and Institute - the result being a forty-dollar bump in one year. Without new sources of income, dues increases will remain a fact of life. The Board has looked for ways to increase income; it has also cut costs to control our expenses. Those efforts have been successful, and our financial status is improving, but there is no way to avoid the effects of inflation.

Year	Dues assessed	Dues at 4% annual increase
1997	\$155	\$155
2002	\$180	\$189
2003	\$195	\$196
2005	\$210	\$212

Using 1997 as the base year, and assuming an annual inflation rate of four percent, it is clear that Institute dues have remained stable in constant dollars.

To avoid large increases, should we consider establishing an annual increase pegged to inflation? Would it be better to see our dues go up a few dollars each year, or would you prefer an increase of twenty or thirty dollars every few years?

These are just a couple of the issues that are debated and decided by our board of directors. If you have questions or suggestions related to these or other matters, don't be bashful - contact your region or Institute directors! They need your input to help make decisions in the best interest of our members.

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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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FY2006 Vermont Chapter CSI Events

Note: Events after April 1 2006 TBC (To Be Confirmed)

- September 8 “CAD Standards and 3-D Imaging”
 Jeff Caird & William Brothers, *Morris Switzer & Associates*, noon-2pm at VTC Old Dorm Lounge
- October 13 “Flooring – Moisture & Concrete Substrate Problems”
 John Kamencik, CSI; *Flooring Div. Mgr., Don-Vac*
 Harry Lentz, *Architectural Specifier; Belknap White and Armstrong Commercial*
 11:00am-2:00pm, at the Double Tree Hotel
- December 1 “Glazing For the North East Climate”
 Dennis O’Rourke and Ronald Beales, CSI,
Pella Windows and Doors
 11:00am-2:00pm at the Double Tree Hotel

2006

- January 5** “DEC Permits – Stormwater & Construction General”
 Kim Greenwood and Jeff Nelson, *Pioneer Environmental*
 11:00am-2:00pm at the Double Tree Hotel

Feb. 8 & 9 “Better Buildings by Design 2006”
 by *VEIC / Efficiency Vermont*, Burlington Sheraton
 2 days of Seminars, Forums, and Exhibits

Feb 2 – Mar 9 Six Weeks of CSI Certification Study Sessions
 Adam Bortz, CSI, CDT

March 9 ‘2005 VT Fire Safety Code; IBC Seismic; Student Work’
 Bob Patterson, *VT State Div. Of Fire Safety*; Carl Childs, PE, *McFarland Johnson*; 1:30-4:30pm at VTC Old Dorm Lounge

April 6 Vermont Chapter CSI Annual Meeting

April 27 “Water Conserving Fixtures & Alternate Sewage Treatment Systems”

May 18-19 “Green & Sustainable in VT Conf & Trade Fair”
 Green Booth Exhibits, Seminars and Food

June 15 “Chapter Awards Banquet & Golf Outing”
 at Basin Harbor Club

VT Chapter Stats as of Dec. 31st :

New Members last Month	2
Members Lost last Month	4
Total New Members for FY 2006 / Sponsored	47/7
Retention rate year to date	68.3%
Total Home Chapter Members	128
Total VT Chapter Members	140

FY ‘06 New Members Welcome!

47 new Members for FY’06 with 7 Sponsored

* *Welcome to members transferring in!*

December 2005

Mr. David Roney, CSI, *Eagle Window New England*
 Mr. Mathew E. Mancini, CSI, *State of Vermont DEC*

November 2005

Mr. Triston A. Babcock, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Joseph J. Bent, Jr., CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Brooks P. Clark, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Michael F. Daniels, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. James L. Gonyaw, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Jason A. Lafontaine, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Matthew L. Lynch, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Michael T. McCann, CSI, AIA
Truex Cullins & Partners

Mr. Gary M. Morin, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Scott A. Perry, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Nathan D. Saldo, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Dennis W. Shockro, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Michael T. Tomasi, CSI-S VTC

October 2005

Mr. Ryan J. Adler, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Brook J. Babcock, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Daniel E. Beyea, CSI-S VTC
 Ms. Jaime L. Bigelow, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Christopher C. Bouwer, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Brian J. Clews, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Zackary C. Colby, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Sean M. Dudley, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Steven P. Dumont, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Sean R. Fitch, CSI-S VTC
 Ms. Heather E. Fontaine, CSI-S VTC
 Mr. Christopher W. Gale, CSI-S VTC
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