



VERMONT CHAPTER
PO Box 64902
Burlington VT 05406



Green Mountain Specifier

July 2002

THIS MONTH:

THURSDAY, JULY 18th

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
Lennel Specialties Corp.
- John Edgar
Sto Corporation
- Scott Walker, CSI
Grace Products
- James 'Chas' McLaughlin, CSI
James E. McLaughlin Co. / Sto
- Chris Wilkins, PE
Hallam Associates
- William Alexander 'Sandy' Fead
Paul Frank & Collins

TIME/DATE

Thursday, July 18, 2002
2:30-5:00pm

LOCATION

The Burlington Sheraton Hotel
Williston Road, I-89 Exit 14

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

2 HSW AIA/CES credits

COSTS

CSI & AIA Members	\$20
Students	\$10
Non-Members	\$25
New CSI Members	FREE

RSVP

By no later than noon, Monday, July 15th to Jonathan Miller, (802) 865-4579
campsi@earthlink.net

Questions? Contact Jonathan Miller

July 18th Program *Physics of Wall Design*

Last May's program topic did turn out to be highly debatable! Leonard covered so much in too little time and could not leave enough time for a good discussion. The chapter decided that we needed to have a forum to first tidy up some of the issues that came out of the May program and also to provide a Q&A format for a good discussion on the topic.

Our follow-up panel discussion and ensuing question and answer session will cover many issues, including through-wall flashing, air barriers, vapor barriers, housewraps, insulation types, EIFS walls, legal aspects and more. Be sure to bring along questions you might have for discussion. We are allotting at least an hour to discuss your questions.

June 6th Program *Chapter Awards Banquet*

The awards banquet began with a beautiful boat trip on the Dynamite II with Osprey sightings; remembered Joe & Joyce Zajchowski as we dedicated their memorial plantings and stones; moved into a cocktail hour of discussion; had an exquisite dinner; and then we recognized outstanding efforts that benefited the chapter and CSI by Trowel Trades Supply, Gene Pawlikowski, Fritz Horton, Adam Bortz, Jonathan Miller, Chris Eling and Peter Morris.

There were other efforts over the past fiscal year that need mentioning: like when the going got tough last November and our speaker, Herman Protze, wound up in the emergency room in Boston, Bruce Jacobs, CSI, & John Kamencik of Don-Vac stepped up and helped lead a

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

successful discussion on the issue of water moisture in concrete and it's effect on floor finishes; Gordon Clements, CSI, put on a surprisingly great, interesting program on window treatments that many did not anticipate; Mike Kirick, CSI, PE, and others gave us an impressive overview on telecommunications & data cabling in VT construction; and the immensely difficult but successful efforts to put on the Northeast Region Conference at Basin Harbor Club by Peter Morris & Pennie Beach, Adam & Rita Bortz, Bob & Dot Rand, and Jonathan Miller & Regina Cass.

The chapter is very grateful for all of the efforts put forward to make our past year so successful ! See page 6 for a photo record of the awards.

CSI Certification

Congratulations go out to Peter Morris, CDT; Chris Eling, CDT; and Victoria Rickert, CDT on passing their exams last April 6th ! The next exam dates for CSI Certifications are September 19th in Providence and nationally on April 5, 2003. For more information, or to sign up for the next series of study course sessions, contact Certification Chair Adam Bortz at 802-864-5953 or by e-mail adambortz@aol.com

LAST MONTH:

MAY PROGRAM

Luncheon Seminar, Panel
Discussion & Tabletops on:

PHYSICS OF WALL DESIGN

SPEAKER

Leonard Anastasi
Lennel Specialties Corp.

TIME/LOCATION

Wednesday, May 22, 2002
11:00am-2:00pm
at The Clarion Hotel

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

2 HSW AIA/CES credits

A record 72 attendees saw our featured speaker, Len Anastasi of Lennel Specialties, make a two-part presentation that spoke to so many different aspects of wall design that there was little time left for questions or comments. This month's program is a follow-up discussion featuring a discussion panel.

At any rate, the May program began with a discussion of through-wall flashing. Different materials, fastenings, details, anecdotes of failures, and common practices were all listed and spoken to. Recommendations were made, too, based on Len's extensive experience in the field, in management, and in running his specialty products company: details to specify, and ones to avoid; advantages and disadvantages of several different types of wall flashings; and some common-sense practices that are sometimes forgotten.

After a lunch break, Len forged ahead with air barriers. Some materials that can qualify as part of an air barrier system: $\frac{3}{8}$ " plywood, $\frac{1}{2}$ " foil-backed gyp. board, concrete, and some fluid-applied membranes. A few that do not qualify: CMUs, expanded polystyrene, 30# building felt, and particle board.

Len talked about the forces and pressures that an air barrier must resist, and showed details of how to do window openings with different types of systems.

Thanks to Len Anastasi, *Lennel Specialties*, for a whole lot of info. For more on these issues, see the description of this month's CSI VT program, p.1.

The President's Corner

By Peter D. Morris, CSI, CDT, RA

Apple Pie and Vacation Time flies by

I am reminded that we did not publish the Green Mountain Specifier in June. (Note to self: Remember to savor and enjoy given vacations.) Where did the time we saved go? Busy, busy.

Time off is important. This issue brings my wish that you and yours enjoy family, fun and, especially, our freedoms over the holidays and throughout the rest of the year.

The CSI National Convention and Trade Show

As I write this, Jonathan Miller – our Past President, Regional Director, Membership Chair, and Technical Chair – is walking the halls of Las Vegas representing the Chapter and raking in the awards he and we have won this past year. Look for a report in our next issue.

July Board Meeting

Our July Board meeting is over lunch, 12 Noon to 1 PM, on Thursday, 11 July, at Gillian's Restaurant in Shelburne (at the entrance to the shopping center). Come join us to discuss future programs and other business.

July Program

We debated giving you some time off in July, but many felt our May program left too many questions unanswered and perhaps some statements unchallenged.

So, back to work we go. Mark your calendars: Thursday, July 18th from 2:30 PM to 5 PM at the Burlington Sheraton Hotel, Vermont CSI will host "The Physics of Wall Design—Revisited", a panel discussion and question and answer session searching for truth and good science.

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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

TBD

SUMMARY

Specifier Adam Bortz will be leading a workshop on coordinating and constructing the General Requirements front end of the specifications. Something we all can use a course on !

COSTS

CSI members: \$35
Non-members: \$50

RSVP

By no later than Friday, August 9th to
Jonathan Miller, (802) 865-4579
campsi@earthlink.net
Questions? Contact Adam Bortz at
864-5953 or adambortz@aol.com

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About...Gypsum

(But Were Afraid To Ask)

by John Mandel, USG Co.

Every day – at home or at work – you’re surrounded by it. It’s in the walls and ceilings of your house. It may even be in the underlayment beneath your floors. You probably don’t know it, but you’re also ingesting it – little by little, every day. Over a lifetime, you’ll actually consume approximately 28 pounds of it. Sound worrisome? Relax. It’s just gypsum – one of the most amazing, versatile and useful minerals in the world.

Gypsum is a naturally occurring rock made of calcium sulfate and water. Geologists call it hydrous calcium sulfate, or $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. But thanks to its incredible range of applications and end uses, it’s also called the “miracle mineral.”

And it is nothing short of miraculous that a rock formed beneath the earth’s surface some 140 million years is now being used in so many divergent applications. Gypsum is used in dozens of industries for hundreds of end uses. It is the primary ingredient used to produce wallboard, plaster, poured gypsum concrete, certain types of acoustical ceiling panels and other building products.

As a result, gypsum is in nearly every home, office and commercial building in the country. Gypsum is also used as an additive in hundreds of foods, beverages and pharmaceutical products. (Since it’s mostly calcium, it’s good for you). Gypsum is also a soil nutrient and crop fertilizer. It’s used to create decorative statuary and industrial molds. Landscapers add gypsum to ponds and lakes to turn muddy waters crystal clear. Thermoplastics manufacturers use gypsum as a whitening agent. Road maintenance crews patch pavement with gypsum. Dentists use it to make molds of your teeth. And remember the snow scene in the movie, “It’s A Wonderful Life?” Those artificial snow flakes were – you guessed it – gypsum.

continued on page 5

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Mr. Christopher M. Eling, CSI, CDT
Newsletter Ed./Elec. Comm. – see contact info on p.1

- In Telectrical -

by Michael Kirick, PE, RCDD, CSI

Add a Low Cost Fax Line

Looking for a painless way to cut your office overhead or add a cheap temporary fax line to that remote project site? If you have access to the Internet, a jConnect fax line may be just the trick for you.

jConnect is an internet based fax service that will issue a dedicated fax number for your use, receive your fax sent to this number, then convert it to a graphics file and forward it automatically to an e-mail address you register with them. The service is reasonably priced, usually quick and accessible, and very reliable. The added bonus to this process is that once you receive your e-mailed fax, you can then store it electronically with your job file for later access and printing, in case you misplace or damage the original. You can even easily forward to others without the typical loss in print quality as you make copies of copies of faxes. And you can even send your fax to dozens (or even hundreds) of people with a single click of your mouse.

The service comes in two flavors, a basic vanilla that costs only \$4.95 per month with unlimited free receipt of faxes and \$0.10 per minute to send. A tastier deluxe version, for \$12.50 per month, includes a toll free number and costs \$0.20/pg to receive faxes. For either version, faxes can be received at any computer that you can get your e-mail from. The drawback with the basic service is that they will assign a fax number that is likely to be in a mid-west toll zone, so you or your clients will always be paying long distance prices to send stuff.

Set up is quick, easy, and done right on the internet or via a toll free number. As a bonus, all fax accounts include internet voice mail service too. Check out www.j2.com for details and sign up. If you act soon, you could even receive the first month free, as a trial run. I've used it for about a year now, and only experienced a short interruption of service while they were upgrading their server farm. Give it a try today.

In Telectrical is a semi-regular column by Vermont Chapter CSI member Michael P. Kirick, PE, RCDD, CSI that highlights new items of interest in the electrical and telecommunications field.

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

Gypsum – continued from page 3

A 5,000-Year-Old Building Material

The use of gypsum as a building material dates back about 5,000 years ago to the ancient Egyptians. The walls of the tomb of Pharaoh Cheops within Egypt's largest pyramid were covered with gypsum plaster.

The Egyptians were among the first to discover gypsum's unique working properties. They learned that when a gypsum rock is crushed and then heated, most of the water present in the mineral is released as steam. The resulting material, which we now call "stucco," can be easily restored to its original state by simply re-adding water. As water is added to the stucco powder, a "slurry" is formed that can be molded into virtually any shape before the material hardens back into a rock-like state.

Taking advantage of this unique feature, the Egyptians applied gypsum slurry – or plaster – over the stone walls of the pyramids to smooth interior surfaces and create a mortar to seal cracks and holes. In subsequent centuries, gypsum plaster was used to create architectural detailings, statuary and artwork, although its use as a building material was limited.

In the United States, gypsum wasn't used at all until 1785 when American statesman, inventor and writer Ben Franklin "discovered" gypsum while travelling in France. Franklin was fascinated with the material, which was then known as "Plaster of Paris." He introduced the product to the U.S., noting that it was an ideal material for casting and soil nutrition.

The Golden Age of Gypsum

The use of gypsum plaster as a building product gained widespread popularity following the Colombian Exposition World's Fair held in Chicago in 1893. Many of the buildings constructed for the exposition were built using gypsum plaster. The following year, a major manufacturing breakthrough occurred when "Sackett Board," the first plaster base panel and an early forerunner of gypsum board, was patented by inventor, Augustine Sackett.

The Sackett Plaster Board Company was subsequently purchased by United States Gypsum Company and in 1917, U.S. Gypsum launched the "golden age" of gypsum with the introduction of the first modern gypsum panel, which it marketed as SHEETROCK® Brand Gypsum Panels. The original SHEETROCK Brand panel was a bit unwieldy and crumbly, but it formed the basis for the development of modern drywall.

Today, United States Gypsum Company, the nation's leading wallboard manufacturer, produces nearly 10 billion square feet of its SHEETROCK Brand Gypsum Panels each year. That's obviously a lot of drywall, but natural gypsum supplies remain plentiful. The mineral is

neither rare nor endangered. Furthermore, the gypsum board manufacturing process is extremely efficient. Approximately 95 percent of the raw materials entering a gypsum board manufacturing plant leave as finished product. Manufacturers also now use hundreds of thousands of tons of "recaptured" gypsum to produce drywall. Recaptured gypsum is formed as a by-product of operations in certain coal-burning power plants. It has the identical physical and chemical properties as natural gypsum. Recaptured gypsum produces a board that has the same performance and handling properties as drywall manufactured from natural gypsum rock.

From Food Additives to Highway Repairs

But the gypsum story goes far beyond construction products. Food and pharmaceutical (F&P) manufacturers use specially processed, high-purity gypsum to provide a supplemental source of dietary calcium and improve product texture and whiteness. Gypsum is in the calcium-fortified bread you eat and in the orange juice you drink.

Beer manufacturers use gypsum to promote the gelatinization of starch in the cooker mash and clear small protein particles that form during the brewing process. The result? Smoother, better-tasting beer with a clear pale appearance. Gypsum is added to aspirin and other pills and tablets. It improves the texture and whiteness of these products without adversely affecting the active ingredients in the medication. Cosmetics makers add gypsum to facial products. It's not abrasive and, when finely ground, is very absorbent.

It is also an excellent soil conditioner, helping to promote healthy root systems, deeper water infiltration and higher-yield crops. It is also used to neutralize high soil pH levels and control erosion and dust.

Artists and statuary makers use industrial gypsum plasters to create intricately detailed figurines, decorative statues and lamp bases. Ceramics and pottery manufacturers use gypsum to create molds to produce dishes, artwork and numerous other products. Similarly, industrial manufacturers use gypsum for tooling, modeling and prototyping applications.

Golf course maintenance managers and landscape professionals add gypsum to ponds and lakes to turn muddy waters crystal clear. Highway maintenance crews use gypsum cement for strong, fast-setting cement repairs.

continued next page



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June Chapter Awards Banquet



One of the plaques for Joe and Joyce Zajchowski. This is Joe's, at the foot of the sugar maple tree dedicated to him. Hard to see at this scale, but the plaque is slate, engraved and inked with the dedication.



At the site of the spirea planting for Joyce Zajchowski, next to the BHC giftshop.



Before dinner, we had a cruise on the lake on the Dynamite II, Basin Harbor Club's tour boat.



Chapter VP Steve Benjamin and Chapter Education guru Adam Bortz on the cruise, putting on their most pensive expressions.



Drinks and hors d'oeuvres on the long porch outside the BHC dining room.



At the banquet: Chapter President Peter Morris, left, is appreciated for his efforts in presiding over the chapter for the past year. M.C. Jonathan Miller, right, presided over the awards ceremony.



Adam Bortz is recognized for serving as the chapter Academic Liaison and chairing the chapter's Education & Certification committees, and for leading the CSI Certification study course.



Chapter Vice President Gene Pawlikowski accepted not one, but two awards: one for his personal efforts within the chapter...



...and the Firm Award on behalf of his company, Trowel Trades Supply, given annually to the local firm which has done the most to support, promote, and aid the Vermont Chapter CSI.



The newsletter editor, Chris Eling, gets an award from the chapter. I know I need a haircut – it's been taken care of.



And Jonathan got an award, too. Pretty soon he won't need wallpaper in his office anymore – it'll be covered floor-to-ceiling with tokens of CSI's appreciation.

Gypsum – continued from page 5

As if all this isn't enough, U.S. Gypsum Company is continuing to push the "gypsum envelope." The company recently introduced a liquefied form of gypsum that can be used where powdered formulations are not practical. So, you can be sure that the uses and value of gypsum will continue to grow.

But until then, contractors will continue to build homes and offices with gypsum board; farmers will continue to add gypsum to the soil to promote healthy crop growth; toolmakers and artists will continue making molds and casts from gypsum; and we'll all continue to ingest our allotted 28 pounds of gypsum in the foods we eat and the beverages we drink.

by John Mandel; (312) 606-4523; jmandel@usg.com

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 July 18th program or the July 11th 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 !

VT Elevator Code Change

Review Period to Run Out July 5th !

The state is about to adopt a new elevator code to be enforced by VOSHA. Contact the Secretary of State's Office or check out their website for more information. Take a look and send in your comments or we will all live with the consequences.

New Member Emeritus

Congratulations go out to Vermont Chapter member and retired architect Bob Rand, CSI, of Brandon for achieving the membership status of *Member Emeritus* ! This means Bob has been a CSI member for at least 15 consecutive years and has passed the young age of 70. Bob joins Roger Marshall, CSI, CCS, AIA, as our second *Member Emeritus*.

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

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.

New Chapter Logo Still Needed

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.

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. A CSI motto can also be included: this is a quote from CSI's Mission Statement:

"The Construction Specifications Institute advances the process of creating and sustaining the built environment for the benefit of the construction community by using the diversity of its members to exchange knowledge."

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.

Stay tuned for details on what the winning logo entry will receive as their prize !

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

[The following topics represent our current program plan with dates, speakers and venues under discussion & negotiation]

September 12 "Building Codes 2002"
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 & a 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 Member Transfer

Please give a hearty welcome to Bruce Anderson, CSI, CDT, AIA, who recently transferred his membership from the *Twin Ports Chapter CSI* (Duluth, Minnesota) ! Bruce is an architect with Morris Switzer & Associates.

New Members Welcome !

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

June 2002

Ms. Mary Tousignant, CSI
Granite Importers

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

Ms. Robin Lawson, CSI
Swaney Taylor Lighting Associates

November 2001

Mr. John Hausner, CSI
Homestead Design, Inc.

17 New Members!

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.