



VERMONT CHAPTER
PO Box 302
Williston, Vt, 05495



Green Mountain Specifier

September 2001

NEXT EVENT:

WEDNESDAY, SEP. 12, 2001
11:15 AM - 1:30 PM

AFTERNOON LUNCHEON SEMINAR
“Safe Schools & Door Hardware”

SPEAKERS

Shelley Hudson, CSI, CCPR
Ingersoll-Rand Co.

LOCATION

The Burlington Sheraton
I-89 exit 13A – Williston Road,
South Burlington, VT

TIME

Wednesday, September 12, 2001
11:15 AM - 1:30 PM

AGENDA

11:15.....Introduction and Speaker
12:30.....Lunch, speaker continues
1:30.....end program

CREDITS

AIA Member & VT Architect Program
Attendees will receive credit for (2)
hours of Health Safety & Welfare
Learning Units.

RSVP

By **NOON, Monday, September 10th** to:
Jonathan Miller, CSI
Freeman French Freeman, Inc.
e-mail: jmiller@ffinc.com
phone: (802) 864-2598
fax: (802) 860-0280

COSTS

CSI Members	Free
Students	Free
Non-Members	\$20.00

Thanks to the *Ingersoll-Rand Company*
for the program and lunch !

September 12 Program

*Safe Schools; Door
Hardware and Codes*

*Speaker: Shelley Hudson,
Ingersoll-Rand Company*

This presentation ties together all the different masters we all serve, such as Accessibility, Life Safety, Fire Codes and Security.

First off will be an overview of school architecture, keeping in mind some security issues; but emphasizing the door opening. There are of course many different ways to approach the issue of security, and different methods will be discussed that ensure the security of occupants of the building and meet code requirements as well as maintenance staff requirements, and provide the best security.

Our speaker, Shelley Hudson, will also have some working samples of hardware that solve some of the common security problems encountered by today's schools.

This is a timely subject, given the news accounts we see all too often about school incidences of violence. Although this presentation is geared towards schools, the solutions are, of course, applicable to a variety of building types.

WE WANT YOU ...

...to make a contribution to the Green Mountain Specifier – ideas, articles, letters, advertising or other relevant material (if you're nice, maybe we'll even take irrelevant material). Contact:

Chris Eling, CSI, Editor
chris@pmarch.com
Peter Morris Architect, Inc.
8 Roundtree Way
Vergennes VT 05491
phone: (802) 877-3830
fax: (802) 877-3972

In Memory of Joyce Zajchowski

Memorial Planting at BHC

On August 24, 2001, a Bridalwreath Spirea was planted at the Basin Harbor Club near Vergennes, Vermont in memory of Joyce M. Weber Zajchowski. She, along with her husband of 46 years, Joe Zajchowski, CSI, CCS, RA, NCARB, died in a car accident on September 21, 2000 on the way to Joe's high school reunion.

Joe Zajchowski was a charter member of CSI's Vermont Chapter and was a continuously active member for 32 years, holding each leadership title at least twice. A Sugar Maple tree will be planted in his memory during the CSI North East Region Conference in October.



At left: According her family's wishes, the Bridalwreath Spirea was planted adjacent to the Basin Harbor Store, one of Joyce's favorite places on the club's grounds.

LAST MONTH:

JULY PROGRAM RECAP

Luncheon Seminar and Tour of the
"VERMONT BRICK FACTORY"
Sponsored by Trowel Trades Supply

SPEAKERS

Mike Butler, Sales Manager
Shawn Kelley, Production Manager
Vermont Brick Manufacturing Co.

TIME/LOCATION

Thursday August 9, 2001
Vermont Brick Factory, Highgate Center

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

1½ direct HSW hours of Learning Units
for AIA or VT Architect members.

25 were in attendance for the seminar on
brick and brickmaking, and a tour of the
only brick factory in the state.

Over lunch, the program started with a
short history of Vermont Brick, as well
as brick manufacturing in general. Basic
terms and manufacturing processes were
explained, including the differences
between brick-making methods, and
why Vermont Brick is a waterstruck
brick.

The tour began with the clay extraction
pits. It proceeded to the storage shed,
and we then followed our guide inside to
watch the bricks being molded. The
gray, wet, malleable "bricks" are
checked for abnormalities, then are
racked and sent into the dryer. They
come out of the dryer still gray, but no
longer malleable to human hands. The
bricks are then stacked and conveyed
into the kiln, where they are fired to their
final state.

At the end of the tour, samples of all VT
Brick standard products were available.

For photos, and more in-depth
information and details, see the article
on page 3.

Many thanks to the Vermont Brick
Factory for hosting their first tour group,
and to Trowel Trades Supply for putting
the event together – and the lunch was
good too...

The President's Corner

by Peter D. Morris CSI, RA

A Great Summer For Building

OK, a great summer for floating in the pool, river and lake. I hope everyone is taking some time to smell the roses.

A Call For Volunteers

The Board meets for lunch once a month in the Burlington area. We discuss our outreach and future programs. If you can spare the time for lunch once a month you can help. Contact me at pm@pmarch.com, and we will include you at our next meeting.

Certification Study Group

The CDT (Construction Documents Technologist) Certification Examination will be given on October 11, 2001 at the Fall NERCSI Conference at Basin Harbor, Vermont.

The Vermont Chapter began a CDT Study Group on 30 August and will meet Thursday afternoons from 4 PM to 7 PM in the Burlington area. Adam Bortz, CSI, CCS, SCIP is the instructor. There is still time to join the group. Contact Jonathan Miller CSI, CCCA, AIA at jmiller@ffinc.com.

Mark 12 October On Your Calendar

Even if you cannot attend the whole Northeast Region CSI Conference at Basin Harbor 11 October through 14 October 2001, be sure to sign up for the Technical Programs which will be offered on 12 October. The theme is "Green and Sustainable in Vermont". Lunch is included in the registration. Registration deadline is 5 October. Contact Jonathan Miller CSI, CCCA, AIA at jmiller@ffinc.com or (802) 864-2598 for continuing education credits and details.



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Not Just Another Brick in the Wall

The chapter program for August was a tour of the only brick manufacturing facility in Vermont. It is also the only all-new brick-making facility in the country built in the last 40 years.

The tour began with a brief history of Vermont Brick. It was started in 1997, and located in Highgate because of the high-quality alluvial clay deposits in the area. The company employs about 25 people, and can produce 8-10 million bricks per year. It seems like a lot, until you find out that a single house can use 32,000 bricks – Vermont Brick’s total output for one day. The world’s largest brick plant can get into the billions. In that context, Vermont Brick operates basically in a New England niche market, and they gear their product accordingly. Vermont Brick is waterstruck. Sandstruck uses a sand mold that is very adaptable for color-matching (via additives in the sand), but tends to produce veneers on the brick that can flake off. Extruded brick produces a very exact, precise brick, but tends to be much weaker physically. Waterstruck uses a watery substance to “grease” the mold, which allows for higher compression strength and truer color. However, the bricks absorb less moisture (meaning that they’re harder to lay with mortar), and tend to have more variation in shape. As a result of these characteristics, Vermont Brick sells their product in the more expensive “antique face brick” market. Historically, Boston and most of New England has a large demand for waterstruck brick that matches the existing – think of Bunker Hill.

So, having learned about the history, we proceeded with the tour. First we braved the heat outside, and looked at the clay pit.

Here, there are only a couple feet of topsoil to dig through before getting to the clay.



Estimates have said that there is enough clay there to last 300 years.



The wet bricks are molded and put on racks before going into the dryers. Before the drying process, water content is about 25%.



After drying, the water content is cut by more than half. The brick is stacked in cubes to be ready for firing in the kiln. Note that the flames in the kiln come from beneath the piles, so the bottom rows of stacked brick get direct exposure, in addition to receiving the weight of all the bricks on top. Later you’ll see what effect this has.



The kiln is fired by natural gas with a propane backup, has 36 burners, and runs up to 1700 degrees.

The kiln is highly regulated, as heating the bricks too fast can cause the water content in the brick to boil. This basically is a quick way to turn the brick into shrapnel.

continued on page 5

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DeCODEing...

contributed by Lori Greene, Ingersoll-Rand Co.

When a code refers to "access-controlled egress doors", it is generally referring to doors equipped with electromagnetic locks. Electromagnetic locks are basically a magnet mounted on the doorframe and a steel armature mounted on the door. When the magnet is energized, it bonds to the armature and locks the door. When power is cut to the magnet, the door is unlocked.

Unlike an ordinary lockset, which normally allows free egress, an electromagnetic lock will not allow egress unless the required release devices are installed on the egress side. The 2000 edition of NFPA 101, The Life Safety Code (Section 7.2.1.6.2), states the following requirements for access-controlled egress doors:

- ❖ Access-controlled egress doors must be permitted by the applicable occupancy chapter.
- ❖ A sensor shall be provided on the egress side, to detect an occupant approaching the door. Door shall unlock when approached by an occupant or upon loss of power to the sensor.
- ❖ Door shall unlock upon loss of power to the locking device.
- ❖ A manual release device shall be provided to unlock the door, and shall be located 40-48 inches above the floor, and within 5 feet of the door. The manual release device shall be equipped with signage - "Push to Exit", and shall interrupt power to the lock, independent of the access-control system. Door shall remain unlocked for at least 30 seconds.
- ❖ If the building is equipped with a fire protective signaling system, automatic sprinkler system, or fire detection system, actuation of such shall unlock the door, and the door shall remain unlocked until the system is manually reset.



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hard
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hardware!"**

Vermont Brick *continued from page 3*



On the left are stacks of normally fired bricks. While somewhat irregular compared to extruded bricks, they stack fairly neatly. On the right are the bricks that were on the bottom of the pile in the kiln. The weight of all the bricks above, in conjunction with the direct heat of the bottom-burning kiln, melts and deforms these bricks. They are called clinkers, and historically are a throw-away byproduct of making normal bricks. Today, however, they are in very high demand as a more decorative brick – Vermont Brick is currently saving all their clinkers (about 1% of total yield) for a year, to fill a single order for enough to build an entire college dormitory near Boston.

While the company doesn't add tints to their brick, they do provide some color variation by means of a technique called flashing. At the end of the firing period, the oxygen supply to the burners is constricted or cut off for varying periods of time. When this happens at 1700 degrees F, the flames feed off the iron oxides naturally contained in the clay, stealing oxygen molecules away from the iron. As this happens, the brick turns to black. Flashing periods vary from 20 seconds to 20 minutes, which runs from very light coloration/mottling to thoroughly blackened. These color variations all result from the same base clay.



The tour ended by showing some of the custom brick shapes Vermont Brick has made in the past. Here you can see what one of the molds looks like – you can also see how much the brick shrinks in the drying and firing process.

Many thanks to Mike Butler and Shawn Kelley for the informative tour, and to Gene Pawlikowski and Trowel Trades for organizing this interesting on-site program.

USG Files for Bankruptcy Trust To Pay Asbestos Claims

By Melita Marie Garza, Chicago Tribune

With only \$76.3 million in insurance funds and more than \$1.1 billion in anticipated asbestos lawsuit settlement claims, USG Corp. intends to file a reorganization plan that would establish a trust to pay the claims, the company said in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Chicago-based USG Corp., the nation's leading maker of wallboard, filed for Chapter 11 reorganization on June 25, making it the eighth company in the past 18 months to turn to bankruptcy court to shield it from crippling asbestos litigation.

Asbestos was a minor ingredient in some of USG's plasters and joint compounds. USG began using it in the 1930s, and stopped sale of products that contained it in 1972.

In its SEC filing, USG said that as a result of the creation of the trust, the bankruptcy court would issue a permanent injunction that would channel all asbestos-related claims to the trust. As a result, the newly reorganized company would be not be liable for any pending or future asbestos-related claims, the filing said.

The model USG intends to follow is similar to that pursued by former asbestos plaintiff Johns Manville Corp., which sought bankruptcy protection from asbestos litigation in 1982. In its reorganization, Johns Manville established the Manville Personal Injury Settlement Trust.

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THIS SPACE FOR RENT

Our VT chapter Newsletter is published monthly and distributed to over 150 local contractors, architects, product reps, engineers, and other CSI members.

Rates: for 10 issues, full-size ad (1.5"x3.8") \$80;
half-size ad \$50

For more information contact The Editor.

The “Pencil & Paper” Mentality

Part 1: Try A New Approach

By Thomas E. Irvin, CCS, CSI, Architect In Private Practice

Using CADD to produce construction documents today is a fact of life. Of the few holdouts who still design with pencil and paper, even they eventually have to turn their sketches over to a CADD drafter for conversion to the electronic media.

For those “forced” to use CADD, transitioning from pencil and paper to a keyboard and screen can often be intimidating as well as a source of great frustration. Many now struggle to create drawings on computer when, if allowed to use their old tools, could produce an outstanding set of documents –well drawn, coordinated, and complete. In fact, many still clinging to what I call the “pencil and paper” mentality are using CADD only because it’s a choice between being employed in an architectural or engineering office or working at home out of the spare bedroom doing house plans.

Over the years, there have been changes in the media we’ve used and people have resisted each time a change occurred. Long ago, drawings were produced on coated linen with pen and ink. When this got to be too costly and time consuming, paper vellum and pencil became the standard. When it was realized that paper was too fragile to remain intact over a long period of time, mylar film was used. Despite changes in the media, the procedure for graphically portraying the designer’s ideas remained relatively the same.

Along comes CADD and not only does the media change (no more sheets on the drawing board) but the procedure changes as well. You can’t use a pencil anymore; you must use a “pointing device” and a keyboard. It’s human nature to want to keep doing things the way you know works so you learn how to turn on your computer, start the CADD software –and then proceed to draw everything exactly the way you used to, one line at a time. You create a 2 x 4 by drawing a line 3-1/2 inches one direction, 1-1/2 inches at a right angle to this, back 3-1/2 inches parallel to the first line, then another line to close the rectangle. Then you draw two more lines to “X” the rectangle because that’s the traditional way of depicting a piece of wood. Over on another part of the drawing, you need another 2 x 4 so you draw six lines again. Maybe if you have some experience by now and think about it, you’ve learned you can save time by copying something you’ve already drawn to another location. Well, that’s a start.

Assuming you have the desire to be productive using CADD, you should become more familiar with how to best use the features available to you in the software. If you don’t have the desire, you need not read further. One feature that can help you to be as productive as you were in the “pencil and paper” days is learning how to create and use drawing blocks. The nearest equivalent to drawing blocks in CADD software today is pre-drawn

stick-on “standard” details (i.e., “sticky-backs”) which some offices used to save time. I doubt if anyone ever used stick-ons for 2 x 4s but I’ll bet it was discussed at some point!

If you study and analyze the *content* of a typical drawing, one should soon realize that it contains many repetitive elements –the same images are used over and over again in different places in different orientations. On floor plans, one of the most common repetitive elements is door and door swing images. In wall sections and details, the number of repetitive elements increases tremendously; dimension lumber, concrete block, brick, structural steel, metal studs, and so on.

Shedding the “pencil and paper” mentality is the key to becoming productive (again) using CADD. To become efficient and productive, you must change the way you produce all those repetitive images. Using “pencil and paper” mentality at its worst, you would draw each image every time. Slightly advanced CADD users would draw the image once then copy it around to other places on the drawing. Those who’ve shed the “pencil and paper” mentality draw the image they need once, convert it to a *drawing block*, then insert that block in the drawing where it’s needed. Those who’ve thought a little more about the advantage of using drawing blocks will save that drawing block in some location so they can use it on every drawing. The prospect of never again having to draw a 2 x 4 (or any other of the hundreds of common images that can appear in a set of drawings) one line at a time should be incentive enough to learn how to create drawing blocks!

A rule to follow: *“If you find yourself drawing the same image more than once, make it into a drawing block.”*

Another, less obvious benefit of using drawing blocks is that drawing file sizes are smaller. “So what?” you say. Well, smaller drawing files take less time to plot –a big advantage if you’re competing for plotting time with the rest of the office. Your drawing image regenerates on your screen faster. You endear yourself to the computer systems manager because your project takes up less hard disk space. If you’re exchanging files with other offices via the internet, send time is shorter even if you use file compression. It takes less time to retrieve your drawing when you want to work on it. If you’re working on a deadline, even a few seconds saved here or there seems to become more important.

If you feel you’re spending too many hours on CADD doing what you consider busy work, perhaps you’re still laboring under the “pencil and paper” mentality. The sooner you learn to how to make CADD work for you, the sooner you’ll discover it’s a help, not a hindrance.

tei

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Next month, Part 2: Drawing Accurately

The Printed Word

E-mail from CSI Executive Director Greg Balestrero
Re: The Future of CSI's Printed Member Directory

[Editor's Note: This was written in response to a number of recent comments and articles, one of which was printed in last month's newsletter, regarding CSI's reported decision to eliminate the hardcopy version of the CSI Member Directory. Hope this clears things up a bit.]

Dear CSI Leader:

The purpose of this letter is to update you on the future of CSI's annual printed Member Directory and to clear up any confusion that may have been created on the subject by other articles or notes you may have seen. First of all, be assured that the Institute is not discontinuing the printed directory. We realize how this important reference has been used by thousands of our members over the years. The directory portion is only a part of the reason why members have enjoyed this publication in the past. There have been sections that offer such things as our Bylaws, listings of certified members, officers' directory, etc. Today, however, CSINet (www.csinet.org) contains far more information, and is updated on a moment by moment basis, providing a unique opportunity to members. But knowing how important the paper directory was to its members, CSI began offering a choice last year, allowing members to select a paper-based copy in addition to using the many searchable databases on CSINet, which now exceeds the content of the paper directory.

This choice grew out of two important events. First, the technology on CSINet allowed us to provide an easy-to-search member directory that would be updated literally moment by moment. This engine includes a searchable database for all certified professionals, as well as a host of other valuable databases that, due to their size, could never be cost effectively published in paper form.

Second, many members over the years requested a more up-to-date directory than the paper directory. Each year, as people join CSI, change jobs, get new e-mail addresses, go on various CSI committees, etc. their personal data can change quickly. Information can be updated online quickly and easily, directly into the database. On the other hand, that continuous stream of new data quickly makes the once-a-year paper directory out of date – almost from the day it's printed. There are approximately 9,000 changes made per year to the records in the directory, which account for about 750 changes per month.

With that in mind, CSI began a three-year test last year by providing the choice to our members. If a sufficient number of our members chose the paper directory over

the three- year period, then we would continue to offer the paper directory. In early April 2001, all CSI members again received a postcard to complete and return to get a printed directory in September. As of July 12, a total of 2,104 members have requested one (out of 18,000 members). This includes all new members who have selected one from the card enclosed in their New Member Kit. Given the continuing demand for the paper directory over the last two years, the members will continue to have a choice of receiving the paper directory, in addition to using CSINet, with all of its new features and searchable databases.

The side benefit to the application of technology is the savings in the cost of distributing a hard copy directory to all 18,000 members. Due to the numerous members who do not wish to receive the paper directory, more than \$20,000 was saved last year by providing a copy only to those who ordered one. Similar savings are expected this year. These savings contribute directly to the new and enhanced services and products being brought to you, as a member of CSI, and to the construction industry.

If you have any additional questions regarding the paper directory, or the services available on CSINet, call our toll free number at 800/689-2900 and ask for help. Or check online at www.csinet.org, for all of the new and improved services available to you on CSINet.

Thanks for being a member of CSI,

Gregory Balestrero, CSI
Executive Director

ESSEX Industries

William Lawliss, CSI, CDT - Architectural Representative

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2001 Vermont Chapter CSI Events

- January 11** “Specifying & Designing Lighting”
Donna Leban, AIA
- February 8** “Code College 2001”
Bob Patterson, Asst. State Fire Marshal
Stan Baranowski, Asst. State Fire Marshal
- March 15** “CSI Certifications” at the Windjammer
Jonathan Miller, CSI, CDT, CCS, AIA
- April 12** “Paint and Coating Systems” Clarion Hotel
Sponsored by Sherwin-Williams Co.
Shance Burchill, CSI, ASID
- May 9** “Fireproofing and Firestopping”
Sponsored by W.R. Grace Co.
Bob Walsh and George Guanci
- June 6** Joint ASHRAE/CSI Awards Banquet
“Luau on the Lake” boat cruise on the ‘Spirit of
Ethan Allen II’ and with Hawaiian Cuisine
- July 12** “Doors, Frames & Door Hardware”
Basic & Electronic Hardware
William D. Lawliss, CSI, CDT – Essex Industries
- August 9** “Vermont Brick - Factory Tour” Highgate, VT
Sponsored by Vermont Brick & Trowel Trades
- September 12** “Safe Schools and Door Hardware”
Burlington Sheraton – 11:15 AM to 1:30 PM
Shelley Hudson, CSI, CCPR – Ingersoll-Rand Co.
- October 12** North East Region CSI Conference – Oct. 11-14
Basin Harbor Club, Ferrisburgh, VT
“Green and Sustainable in Vermont”
Friday Technical Theme [Open to Non-Members]
Up to 8 hours of HSW Learning Units offered.
Jonathan M. Miller, CSI, CCS, AIA
NERCSI Conference Co-Chair
- November 7** “Concrete & Construction Methods”
Burlington Sheraton, 1:00pm-5:00pm
Herman G. Protze, III, ASTM, ASCE, ICRA
- December 6** “Division 17 – Communications Impact on
Vermont Construction” Burlington Sheraton
Michael P. Kirick, CSI, PE

New Members Welcome !

The Vermont Chapter CSI welcomes the following new 2001 members:

September 2001

Kevin Grenier, CSI
E.H. Danson Associates

August 2001

Jerry Wolff, CSI
Parex, Inc.

June 2001

Michael Lancione, Student Member
Freeman French Freeman, Inc.

May 2001

Mitchell Weinberger, CSI
Acrymax / New England
Robert Labraccio, CSI
R K Miles
Robert O. McEachem Jr., CSI
Intersource Roofing Sales
Bryant Bouchard, CSI
Schluter Systems, Inc.

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. You can also 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.

Sponsoring New Members ?

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 Jonathan Miller for more information.

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 to be included in the next issue.