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05406



# Green Mountain Specifier

Winter 2011

## Better Buildings by Design Conference Returns to Vermont

The region's premier design and construction conference returns to the Sheraton Conference Center in Burlington on February 9-10, 2011. Presented by Efficiency Vermont, the Better Buildings by Design conference will offer over 35 interactive presentations on approaches and technologies that are being used in today's energy-efficient homes and high-performance commercial buildings. Conducted by leaders in the industry, sessions will be featured in four simultaneous tracks: Building envelope, lighting, mechanical systems, and innovations/high performance. More than 1,000 attendees are expected.

The keynote address, "Integrative and Regenerative Design: Redefining the Practice of Sustainability," will be given by Bill Reed, an internationally-recognized proponent and

See *Better Buildings* on pg. 3

## Spotlight on Members

By: the Editor

I would like to introduce a new column in this newsletter. I am going to spotlight a different CSI member every issue. This is the inaugural run of this column and as such, I thought it appropriate to shine the spotlight on one of CSI-VT's newest members, Brian Leet.

Brian is a registered architect, currently working with Colin P. Lindberg. Brian attended Carnegie Mellon University and practiced architecture from 1998 to 2005 in Pittsburgh, PA. Brian moved to Vermont in 2005 and over those five years has worked with Lemay & Youkel Architects, and Maclay Architects.

When asked to describe what he sees as the greatest value of CSI, Brian responded, "CSI has a unique position in the construction industry as a member driven group that is not oriented to the specific benefit of a particular role in the construction process. As an organization that equally welcomes and values individuals whether they are architect, engineer, contractor, material supplier, or manufacturer, it offers an ideal venue for improving collaborative design and construction. I am hopeful we are able to both spread the word on the availability of this resource, and increase opportunities for members to benefit from cross-pollination of ideas and experiences."

Brian has taken leadership as the membership chair for CSI Vermont, which has become a desperately important role, following years of decline in membership retention. If you need any information on membership or have questions about membership benefits, please contact Brian (see board and committee chair insert on pg X).

Thanks Brian, for all that you do for CSI-VT.

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE

### CDT Study Course for Construction Document Technologist Exam

Started January 11, 2011  
11 Weekly Sessions

Tuesday Evenings 5:30pm-7:30pm

40 Hours IDP Credit Upon Certification

At Offices of Freeman French Freeman  
81 Maple Street  
Burlington, VT

For more info, see *CDT Study Course* on page 2

## **CDT Study Course** *(continued from pg. 1)*

### **Cost:**

CSI VT members \$50, non-members \$75

The CDT study materials are an overview of process and technical requirements for project delivery, from conception and programming through commissioning and operations. The knowledge tested in this exam is at an ideal level to continue the growth and development of young professional interns, soon to be graduates, or industry professionals who generally only participate in a particular portion of projects, such as product representatives and site superintendents. The CDT also functions as a prerequisite for CSI's specification, construction administration and product representation certifications. By sharing the study of a common body of knowledge, past participants in the CDT study group have found the coursework, and relationships with fellow students, invaluable.

All CSI Certification exams, including the CDT will be available from March 28 through April 9 and multiples may be taken concurrently.

### **Benefits of the CDT Study Course and Exam**

- Broad and relevant best practices for the construction industry.
- Detailed review of technical and procedural subjects.
- Industry training for learning professionals without burdening potential billable time of senior staff.
- Better understanding of roles and obligations of other project team participants.
- Tested certification for best practices of professional practice.
- Participation across the industry from architects and engineers to contractors and materials suppliers.
- Over 20 hours of classroom training and review at very low cost.
- To each CSI Vermont member who passes, CSI Vermont will refund the early registration fee for the CDT exam, a \$235 value.
- Architectural Interns (IDP) earn 40 supplementary education elective hours for passing the CDT certificate program.

### **How to Participate**

Join CSI if you are not already a member (recommended).

- Sign up with [Rebecca Leet](#) for the CDT study course
- [Register](#) to take the exam by January 28 for lowest fees.
- CSI Membership is \$37 for students, \$140 for less than 3 years industry experience, and \$290 for professionals.

You can join CSI at <http://www.csinet.org/> or contact Vermont Membership Chair [Brian Leet](#) for assistance.

### **Additional Information**

As a CSI Member your cost will be:

CDT prep study course \$50

The Project Resource Manual text and CD \$236 (or borrow the PRM from your office or colleague)

Examination (\$235 – fully reimbursed by Vermont CSI on a pass)

Total savings of \$454 relative to non-member participation

If you are interested in studying for CCS, CCCA, or CCPR exams, you may attend those particular classes with relevant topics on a pro-rated basis.

More information on all of the CSI certifications is available on the [CSI website](#).

We aim to build an interdisciplinary team for success on the exam and to foster professional relationships.

While we hope you will commit early, the class will welcome new participants past the January 11th start date.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a happy New Year!

Vermont Chapter CSI

[John Kamencik](#), Chapter President  
[Rebecca Leet](#), Chapter Vice-President and Education Chair

## Better Buildings (continued from pg.1)

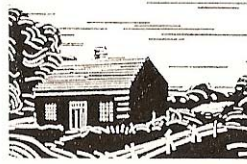
practitioner of sustainability and regeneration. Mr. Reed will explore the idea that making buildings, cars, products, and processes more efficient is simply the starting point for achieving sustainability. He will address practical concepts in integrating technical and living-system design and will discuss how we can be participants with a place rather than assuming we can only do something to a place. A principal in three firms, Mr. Reed has consulted on more than 200 green-design commissions and dozens of LEED projects.

Conference participants will be able to earn continuing education credits from a range of professional organizations, including Construction Specifications Institute, American Institute of Architects, and Building Performance Institute.

In addition to workshop sessions, conference attendees will have access to more than 50 exhibits and demonstrations of cutting-edge, energy-efficient products and services for the construction industry. Also featured throughout the conference will be displays of construction and major-renovation designs receiving Efficiency Vermont's "Best of the Best" awards.

As in past years, the conference's popular Wednesday-evening reception will offer an opportunity to connect in a casual atmosphere. This event will feature complimentary hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and more. All are welcome at the reception, free of entry charge, including those unable to attend the conference.

Groups registering four people for the conference will receive a free fifth registration. Special pricing is available for lodging accommodations at the Sheraton Burlington. For more information, visit [www.encyvermont.com/conference](http://www.encyvermont.com/conference) or call 877-248-9900.



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## **WE WANT YOU...**

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

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## **CSI Acquires BSD**

CSI has acquired [Building Systems Design, Inc.](#) (BSD) -- the next logical step in CSI's commitment to providing useful products that advance CSI's mission and improve how construction is done by individual practitioners and in firms around the world.

BSD was founded in 1983 to produce cost estimating software for use on personal computers, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as its first client. In 1996, BSD launched the initial version of BSD SpecLink®, an automated specification writing system that is now in its third generation as BSD SpecLink-E. The company recently introduced BSD LinkMan™-E, a product that links SpecLink with the industry's leading building information modeling (BIM) software, Autodesk's Revit. Plans include extending LinkMan's interoperability to BSD CostLink®-E, a new generation cost estimating product that is now in development.

CSI will continue to develop and maintain industry standards in an open and inclusive manner, using consensus-based processes. All interested industry organizations will continue to have access to CSI's intellectual property, serve on CSI committees and task teams, and license CSI's formats for use in their products.

CSI members will directly benefit through increased access to BSD's master specifications software and additional building information management tools through special discounts on the purchase of BSD products and services. Special BIM and interoperability-related education sessions will also be available to CSI members as a result of the acquisition.

*For more, see the full article on [www.csinet.org](http://www.csinet.org)*

## **Special thanks. . .**

. . . to our sponsors, **Vulcan Supply** and **Camara Slate** for a successful and informative fall learning program.

## **CSI Vermont Chapter: FY2011 Officers**

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## FY2011 Vermont Chapter CSI Events

*Plans for programs in FY2011 are being finalized;  
Watch for updates in this space and via e-mail!*

Oct 28, 2010 **Copper and Slate Roofing**

By Larry Stearns and Shawn Camara  
Material Presentations  
LIVE DEMONSTRATION  
Vulcan Supply, Milton, VT  
Thursday, October 28th, 2010  
10:00am – 5:00pm

Jan 27, 2011 **Changes to the RBES and CBES**

(2) AIA HSW CEU credits  
Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center  
South Burlington, VT  
Luncheon Program 10:30pm-1:00pm

May, 2011 **Green & Sustainable Conference and  
Trade Fair: Interiors & Mechanical  
Systems**

TBD

June, 2011 **Annual Vermont Chapter CSI  
Awards Banquet**

TBD

### Visit CSI on the World Wide Web

- The Vermont Chapter CSI website can be found at [www.csivermont.org](http://www.csivermont.org) . Lots of useful features are available including online registration for chapter programs, chapter documents, members, and much more. Bookmark it today and keep track of chapter happenings over the www!
- The North East Region CSI website can be found at [www.neregioncsi.org](http://www.neregioncsi.org) . See what the other chapters in the area are doing, and what the Region has to offer!
- The Mothership national CSI website, CSINet can be found at [www.csinet.org](http://www.csinet.org) . An immensely useful resource for anything and everything CSI, including certification, educational resources, information on MasterFormat and other organizational formats, news feeds, leader resources, and much, much more!

### VT Stats as of January 1<sup>st</sup>:

Total VT Chapter Members 52  
Associate: 10 (19.2%)  
Industry: 16 (30.7%)  
Prof Emeritus: 2 (3.8%)  
Professional: 20 (38.4%)  
Student: 4 (7.6%)

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## CSI NEEDS YOUR HELP: BE A LEADER.

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. Typically the monthly meeting is held on the first Tuesday of each month. Contact our new President John Kamencik at [jkamencik@futurefloorsinc.com](mailto:jkamencik@futurefloorsinc.com) for more

### 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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