



Knowledge for
Creating and Sustaining the
Build Environment

ACADIANA CHAPTER

Construction Specification Institute

The Addendum

The Acadiana Chapter normally meets the third Monday at Don's Downtown, 301 E. Vermillion St.-Lafayette.
Fellowship Begins at 6:00pm with meeting starting at 6:30pm. Guests are welcome

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Hosted by: Kyle Gotliebson
[Acuity Brands, Inc.](#)

Program: Daylight Harvesting-
Lighting Control Applications

- The course will provide a basic understanding of daylight harvesting including: terminology, applications, zoning, and circuiting
- The speaker is a Lighting Control Specialist with 12 years of experience in advanced lighting control systems and is currently Sales Manager for Acuity Brands in Region 6 (South-Central US).

Date: Monday, February 21, 2011

Time: 6:00 PM. – Social

6:30 P.M. – Dinner

Location: [Don's Seafood and Steakhouse, Downtown, 301 E. Vermillion, Lafayette, LA 70501](#)

DINNER IS \$13

PLUS TAX AND TIP

-NEXT ON THE AGENDA-

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 21, 2011

Topic and speaker

TBA

Links to:

[MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM](#)

[CSI Acadiana Roster](#)

(check your status)

[CSI Nat'l Website](#)

(correct your status)

2010-2011 Chapter Officers

PresidentJeff Addison, CSI
Vice Pres.Chad Abell, CSI, CDT, AIA
SecretaryDarriel Green, CSI
TreasurerKen Johnstone, CSI
DirectorCarl Schexnayder, CSI
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Committee Chairmen:

AwardsJeff Addison, CSI
Programs Jeff Addison, CSI
MembershipAngelique Hernandez,
CSI, AIA
Publications.....Brent Frick, CSI, AIA
Elec. Communications...Brent Frick, CSI, AIA
CertificationsWayne Domingue,
CSI, CCS, AIA

Important Content Information

- Letter from Sheryl Dodd-Hanson
- perSPECTives 112, 113, & 114
- Editor's note
- 'fyi' Final Reminder of Code Changes

Articles of Interest-

- [Misuse of Contract Retainage](#)
- [Contractor Recovery for Owner Interference with Scheduled Early Completions](#)
- [Congress quietly considers letting states file for bankruptcy](#)
- [Is your company ready for the social media revolution](#)
- Convince Me
- perSPECTives 112, 113, & 114

CSI News and Information

- Letter to Members from Sheryl Dodd-Hansen
- CSI-BR Spring Seminar Schedule and February Newsletter
- CSI 2011 Gulf States INVITE

-editor's note-

I would like to give a well deserved **THANK YOU!!** from all of us to Mrs. Angelique Hernandez for her continued efforts in updating and maintaining our website. Please take a moment to visit our website and peruse the updated content

In recent days, I have been inundated with friend requests for Facebook, My space, Linked-in, and so forth. As may of you already know, I am a member of Linked-in and many of you are connections of mine. For that, thanks. However, my reluctance to joining these social media sites is two-fold: (1) I don't feel it necessary to put into cyberspace my personal information (at least not how it is done by some on these sites), and (2) I would like to understand the professional benefits to doing such a "web-page". We already have business websites, emails, telephones, etc. When does it become overkill? When does ...

...I started the above paragraph in my preparation for this newsletter. During the time I was writing my thoughts above, I received an email from a colleague (Mr. Sheldon Wolfe, RA) asking very similar questions. In lieu of utilizing my very poor transcription of thoughts to words, I thought I would add his thoughts to this newsletter. Go to **Convince Me** to read the article and ask the question: What can (or does) social media do for (to) your business?

-fyi-

Final reminder within this newsletter:

Hello Everyone,

Just wanted to send a friendly reminder that as of January 2011, the following codes are in effect for the state of Louisiana:

IBC 2009, IMC 2009, IRC 2009, IFC 2009, IEBC 2009, LSPC 2000 (Louisiana State Plumbing Code), NEC 2008

Helpful Hint:

Please note, per IBC chapter 16, wind design information is required to be detailed on plans submitted for permitting. Please provide the following information (when applicable), if you haven't already been doing so, to help reduce plan review turn-around times:

- ___ Basic wind speed (3-sec gust) design of proposed constructions [IBC Fig 1609 or ASCE 7-05 Fig 6-1];
- ___ Wind Importance Factor [ASCE Table 6-1];
- ___ Occupancy Category [IBC Table 1604.5 or ASCE 7-05 Table 1-1];
- ___ Wind Exposure Category [IBC Section 1609.4.3]
- ___ Applicable Internal Pressure Coefficient [ASCE 7-05 Figure 6-5];
- ___ Design wind pressures for the design of exterior Component and Cladding materials:

Should you have any questions about Louisiana building code plan review options or Third Party Provider (TTP) plan reviews for permitting, please feel free to give me a call or email. Additional information can be found at www.craigocodeconsultants.com

Brian Craigo, MCP
Craigo Code Consultants, LLC.

-articles of interest-



From the Editor, Bruce Jervis, Esq.

[Misuse of Contract Retainage](#)

Contract retainage is largely a matter of contract negotiation. There may be statutory or regulatory mandates on some public works contracts, but it is generally a matter to be determined by the parties themselves. Consequently, one sees a wide variety of arrangements. The retainage may be ten percent, or five percent, or some other percentage. The percentage may be reduced at certain milestones in the work. The retainage may be partially released upon substantial completion. It's all up to the parties.

This flexibility was taken to an extreme in a recent Minnesota case. A municipality awarded a contract for street and utility improvements in a new residential subdivision. The improvements were to be funded by special assessments paid to the municipality by the developer. The developer was required to furnish collateral to secure the special assessment obligation. . . [read more](#).

From the Editor, Bruce Jervis, Esq.

[Contractor Recovery for Owner Interference with Scheduled Early Completions](#)

Contractors sometimes schedule their work for completion prior to the contractually stipulated deadline. This is the contractor's prerogative. The deadline is the last permissible date for completion, not the required exact date. But what if the contractor is delayed by the project owner and is unable to achieve its scheduled completion? Should the contractor be allowed to recover delay damages?

The basic rule is that if the contractor actually scheduled early completion, the schedule was realistic, and the contractor would have met its schedule but for delay caused by the project owner, the contractor may recover delay damages. Precedent is divided as to whether the contractor is required to have notified the owner of its scheduled early completion date. In a recent case, a contractor which failed to achieve scheduled early completion claimed extended field overhead and unabsorbed . . . [read more](#).

[Congress quietly considers letting states file for bankruptcy](#)

Lawmakers are cautiously looking into rewriting U.S. law to let state governments file for bankruptcy protection. If such a measure were approved, states would be able to walk away from overwhelming debt, including state-issued bonds and pension funds' obligation to pay retirees, The New York Times reports. [The New York Times \(free registration\)](#)

[Is your company ready for the social media revolution?](#)

Before diving into a social media program, it's worth asking whether your corporate culture is trusting enough to make the most of the technology. Jay Baer and Amber Naslund offer 38 questions to help leaders determine whether their organizations are ready to harness the power of the social Web. Above all, trust your instincts: "If you think your company might be dysfunctional, it almost always is," they write. [SmartBrief/SmartBlog on Social Media](#)

We've all heard countless times about the amazing technological changes of the twentieth century, going from horse-drawn buggies to a car in every garage and landing on the moon, from telegraph to cell phones, from dirt roads to superhighways, from fresh food to frozen, and so on. Many of those changes resulted in improvements in business or in our standard of living, and are so much an accepted part of our lives that we take them for granted.

In communication, the last century saw a remarkable increase in speed and convenience. Everyone in the US has known about telephones as long as they can remember. A few of the old crank phones were around for a while, but the rotary dial phone was common in the '50s, the touch-tone phone came along in the '60s, and cell phones in the '70s.

But while phones have been great for oral communication for nearly a hundred years, getting documents from one place to another was a problem well into the second half of the last century. There wasn't much choice; sticking paper in an envelope and entrusting it to the post office was about it. And then came the fax.

I remember seeing Steve McGarrett getting faxes on Hawaii Five-O. The facsimile machine (fax) would create an image - usually of a ne'er do well he was tracking - on a spinning drum, a process that seemed to take half an hour to complete. Faxes were common around the world in the '80s, when faxing by computer came along.

Although the fax machine must have been a hard sell at first - "Great! I can get a copy of a document anywhere almost instantly! But who else has one?" - there were very good, and explainable, reasons to have a fax, which soon became an indispensable part of business. It was days faster than mail, and though the early machines were expensive, the obvious advantages increased demand, which led to lower costs and improved performance.

The cell phone has a similar history. The benefits of being able to contact someone nearly anywhere, or of being able to make a call without first finding a phone booth, were obvious, and demand again led to lower costs and improved performance. The advantages, again, could be explained.

And then we have the Internet and e-mail. Again, a tremendous improvement in ability to communicate. Virtually instantaneous transmission of documents, audio, and video at little cost. Although there was a lot of hype about the Internet, its benefits were easy to explain. I was an early participant, and a promoter, as the benefits were so obvious.

In contrast, the proponents of cable and satellite TV promised a wonderful future, full of educational and cultural programming, free of advertising. The supposed benefits were based on assumptions. The reality? Instead of four or five TV channels, we now have hundreds of channels of re-runs, "reality" shows, game shows, and other drivel - along with advertising.

The fax, the cell phone, and the Internet offered substantial improvements in communication, and were obviously useful in doing business. Today, we're being told how important it is to use social networking, and that to survive, a business *must* use it. But, unlike the fax, the cell phone, the Internet, and e-mail, there has been no clear benefit associated with the social network.

Let me make a distinction here; I'm talking about business. I like satellite TV because I like to watch movies, and I have a Facebook account because that's where my kids put pictures of their kids. Much of the fun of Facebook comes from the free-for-all commentary in response to comments and pictures, and the ease of posting both. But does that work for business? While a website will always deliver the desired message and image, Facebook, and, increasingly, LinkedIn, are chaotic, with the last visitor defining to the next visitor what the group is.

If anything, the use of LinkedIn and Facebook groups for business has confused communication by increasing the number of places to store and look for information, and Twitter's tweets are more of an annoying buzz. I'm not saying that these things don't have a place; I just haven't seen a good example of their use in business. While I am interested in what my friends are doing, on a business level I don't need to see personal details - when they feel good, when they have a headache, what the dog's latest trick is, and so on. When I go to Facebook, that's what I expect, but I don't want to see it when I'm doing business.

So far, random thoughts are what social networking seems to be about. I recently read an editorial in *Structural Engineering & Design*, which talked about the magazine's expansion into social media. In the same issue, the following were offered as "Top tweets" on the magazine's website:

- "Managers fear tighter budgets..."
- "George Washington University tests materials..."
- "Cleveland casino to break ground in 2011"
- "...bridge collapses..."

- “Will [one building be taller than another]?”

Not one of these offered information that was of immediate interest, or would affect most readers soon enough to warrant the use of their time to read them. I looked through more tweets on the magazine's website, and again found nothing critical; everything there could have been handled in a monthly update. A bridge collapse may be interesting, and might be of immediate concern to a very small number of people, but the date of the tweet was a day after the collapse, so it wasn't exactly breaking news.

While writing this, I revisited the magazine's Facebook site. Virtually everything on the wall was a tweet, with a couple of Thanksgiving Day greetings, and a "hi everybody". There were several photos from a meeting, magazine covers, and no discussions. In short, it was mostly material that would appear in the magazine. The magazine is published both in print and on paper, so the Facebook site adds little that isn't already available.

A real concern is the fragmentation of communication. If I want to know more about something mentioned by *Structural Engineering & Design* should I go to the website, the LinkedIn site, the Facebook site, or Twitter? Does each have a unique function? If the same information is repeated everywhere, what is the point of having multiple sources? And if it's different, how will I know where to go? Who is making sure that it's current and correct? Of course, if Mark Zuckerberg has his way, there will be only one answer!

Many organizations and companies are struggling with these issues. Unfortunately, the unsubstantiated claims - “You *must* use Facebook!”, “You won't survive if you don't tweet!”, and so on - exacerbate the problem. I am not a Luddite; my experience with computers goes back to punch cards and FORTRAN, and I was an active and early promoter of websites and e-mail. I have created and maintained websites; e-mail and the Internet are essential to my job; and I have LinkedIn, Facebook, and even Twitter accounts.

CSI has about 120 websites, about forty-five LinkedIn groups, and half a dozen Facebook groups. About fifteen of the websites are down, and many of the remaining sites promote activities that are two or more months old as "coming events". The most recent comments in many of the LinkedIn groups are months old, and some go back more than a year. Isn't CSI the organization that promotes "say it once in the right place"? With information appearing in so many places, will it be clear, complete, concise, and correct? And isn't current important? It's better to have a static website with basic information than to have one that shows that no one cares about what is available.

Convince me! Would we not be better off with an organized, consistent Internet presence? If it's so important to be involved in social networking, shouldn't we be everywhere? If you click on the "share" icon on many websites, you get over three hundred options - should we use all of them? If we continue to create new groups in other networks, who will manage the content? Who has the time to follow all of them? At the moment, the lack of activity on nearly all of these websites and groups is not an enticement to participate; instead, it indicates a lack of both purpose and interest.

I do *not* object to progress; I believe that most advances in technology and communication have valid uses. However, I also believe in use of the appropriate tool for the job at hand. I don't kill flies with a shotgun, and I don't see the value of telling the business world that I'm at a great seminar or that I had a hard day at work.

I do think it's possible to have a website as a formal source of information, and a more casual presence on Facebook or LinkedIn. Having a group for people studying for an exam, as suggested by Joy Davis, is a good idea, and I'm sure there will be more. But, instead of making vague claims about why we simply can't survive without social networks, show us a real benefit. Don't put up new websites and groups just because it's easy; figure out what you want them to do, make a plan to achieve the goals, and keep them current and active.

Please - convince me!

© 2011, Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, CSC

Follow me at <http://swconstructivethoughts.blogspot.com/>,
<http://twitter.com/swolfearch>



PER-SPEC-TIVES

OTHER PERSPECTIVES, OPINIONS, EXPRESSIONS, IMPRESSIONS, THOUGHTS AND IDEAS ABOUT THE NOBLE PROFESSION OF SPECIFICATIONS WRITING-- OPEN FOR, AND SEEKING DISCUSSION

No. 112

HOW DO WE GET TO THE “NEW ARCHITECTURE” ?

by Ralph Liebing, RA, CSI, CDT
Cincinnati, OH

Design drives architecture because it sets the parameters, expression, flavor and style of the project.

BUT how do we successfully get from there to a truly realistic, sustainable and “correctly” constructed project? We will need new data and new techniques [from where] for construction? for specifications/, etc. and not merely “cutesy”. Flash-bang-done new software programming and presentation displays that serve a lot of glitz but little substance.

Are we getting better at solving construction problems and solutions? THAT, friends, is our primary question! That and the question of whether we or anyone else really cares!

What’s going on; to me, is a continual process of barely “adequate” design prowess festooned with some of the latest colors, motifs, design inspirations, fads and the newest of materials. Has light wood framing for homes, REALLY changed, for the better, with less cost and commensurate benefits? Are we doing things differently to benefit our work, our projects, and the overall construction community? Does sustainable and LEED have enough “kick” behind it to make a true factor and contribution? Is it value, overall, and beneficial to better construction, in a more timely manner and at lower costs? Is there a correlation between increased value and better construction, or do we do things the same way and just use a “recently developed cladding finish?”

Just seems we are doing so much-- e.g., BIM, LEED, sustainable construction, new chemical solutions from slick finishes to tight joint sealants. But do they really impact the design and provide for bright new direction or adjournments on the “ol way”? Of course, some projects are just “so wonderful” just because a small group of certain architects are involved [the “starchitects”]. So we come out with glitzy and odd concoctions of strange shapes in solutions that defy nature and really present no collections of styles of motifs. A little confusing! Since the primary goal of the academic, professional education seems to be to ignore all but the visual appearance and not anything with longevity, wearing or building life!

So, are we all on the same line? Are we all seeking the same levels and goals of excellence, but via very different paths? Are all construction workers [inc. professionals] trained and educated to the same or similar standards [i.e., how not to build to the same standards, etc., but not creating an on-going situation with lots of paper devoted to rules, guidelines, directions, instructions, etc., but no truly coordinated effort to educate all personnel to the same technical standard for each job level.

It may be that we simply have given up and subconsciously decided to go forth and not solve basic problems. Not one wants to claims responsibility for the gaps; no one wants, or knows, hw to really solve by bringing good heads together-- include :don’t care” here, too. Odd that an important profession is allowed to continue as is and with recognition that beneficial fundamentals are not taught, instilled and emphasized early on in a discipline manner-- we all want to be different.

Just don’t understand the lack of will to even talk about this, and to take some minimal action the rectify it.

Fellow CSI Members:

I am seeking your consideration and vote for the privilege of serving CSI as Institute President-elect in Fiscal Year 2012 and then President in Fiscal Year 2013.

The Institute Nominating Committee interviewed me for the position of President-Elect for FY2012 and decided to nominate Greg Markling to run unopposed. With all due respect to Greg and his skills and talents, I have long believed that the members should have a choice in the selection of the President of the Institute.

Institute Bylaws provide a petition procedure for being included on the ballot. This is CSI's way of allowing for nominations from the floor. The requirement is to obtain signatures from a minimum of 2% of the members from four regions.

With the assistance of members from many chapters, I submitted a proper petition in December that has been validated by the Institute. My name will be on the ballot and my candidate information is on the Institute website: <http://www.csinet.org/Main-Menu-Category/Communities-2109-14280/CSI-Biz/Election/Institute-Board-Candidates/Candidate-for-President-elect.aspx#DoddHansen>.

I am gratified to note that more than 300 people from across the country signed petitions to nominate me for this office.

Here's a quick summary of my qualifications and vision for CSI:

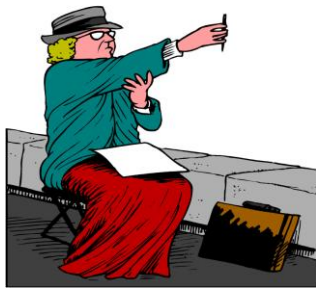
- In almost 20 continuous years of service at the chapter, region and Institute level, I have worked my way up through various offices, including, among others:
 - President of the Sacramento Chapter (1997-1998)
 - Secretary of the West Region (2002-2005)
 - Chair of the Institute Certification Committee (2000-2001)
 - Chair of the Task Team for a Body of Knowledge Analysis for the CDT exam (2008)
 - Creator of a plan and recruiter of a task team to define the knowledge base for a manager of building information (BIM) and projects using the Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) process (2008)
 - Chair of the Governance Reform Implementation Task Team (2008-2009)
 - Vice President of the Institute (2006-2008)
 - Currently Secretary of the Institute (2009-2011)

- I believe that CSI can achieve the goals and objectives set out in the FY11-15 Strategic Plan by:
 - Increasing membership through effective recruitment and retention;
 - Promoting financial stability and increases in resources to accomplish our work;
 - Pursuing effective promotion of existing, as well as timely development and distribution of new, programs, for education, certification, technical products, and industry standards.

I look forward to having the opportunity to continue my service to CSI. Thank you for your consideration.



Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP
Construction Specifications Institute - Secretary
The Dodd-Hansen Consulting Group - cBIM3
Consultants in Architectural Resources Management and Technology



PER-SPEC-TIVES

OTHER PERSPECTIVES, OPINIONS, EXPRESSIONS, IMPRESSIONS, THOUGHTS AND IDEAS ABOUT THE NOBLE
PROFESSION OF SPECIFICATIONS WRITING-- OPEN FOR, AND SEEKING DISCUSSION

No. 113

HAVE YOU NOTICED WHAT HASN'T CHANGED? --- THE REALITY OF THE "THIRD" CONTRACT DOCUMENT

by Ralph W. Liebing RA, CSI, CDT
Cincinnati, OH

Despite the variations due to nuances in the many available project delivery systems, there usually will be a "set" of three Contract Documents-- the Agreement [Contract] between Owner and contracting entity; the complete set of drawings; and a Project Manual [perhaps in the form of several bound booklets] that contains the specifications in addition other pertinent project documentation.

The Agreement, of course, draws a lot of attention as it is the instrument that prescribes the exchange of money in return for a project correctly and completely finished, in accordance with the associated "plans and specifications". Oddly enough while the "specifications" are included [as part of the definition of "contract documents"] they all frequently maligned, discounted, and virtually if not actually ignored, by any or several of the project parties [contractors, sub-contractors, suppliers, manufacturers, code officials, etc.]. So why the effort, time and money to produce them?

Plain and simply, there are integral parts of "contract documents" [by definition!] and actually inseparable from the drawings. Specs are not subject to personal likes or dislikes; to actual dismissal, or game-playing; they're not some type of mystical process, musings or writings, but rather are directly linked ancillary documents to the drawings-- complementary and supplementary! Besides, how does one "ignore" a definitive part of an entity that provides added and expanded information to the work?

Literally, one cannot execute any project without BOTH the drawings and the SPECIFICATIONS.

Hence, it's wholly improper to consider any separation or obviation of the specifications with regard to any phase of the project. No project can be built with graphic pictures [i.e., drawings] alone, even if they contain voluminous notations]. Certainly it would take volumes to describe in narrative form, how a project is to be built and what materials, methods and systems are involved. Fundamentally, the situation is one of location of information. It is not a matter of preference, option or choice-- it is one of pure necessity in the communication of the requisite information from the design office to the contractors and their on-site and trades personnel.

In a very quirky turn, in the face of legal entanglements, almost without exception it is the specifications that receive first mention and scrutiny, by the attorneys and the court involved. Being "people of words", the courts and attorneys turn to the specifications, in lieu of the drawings, for the answer to all of the pending questions. Often they will try to resolve or "try" situations based on specifications information, only, as improper a scenario as possible.

Even in the face of this unnecessary dilemma, the specifications remain maligned, and treated in an off-handed manner. And even more so by the contractors, manufacturers and suppliers to the project who ignore or fail to grasp the depth of information contained in specifications. In fact this information is vital to their benefit too, and is information that is not capable of being shown in a graphic manner.

The same misperception is a wide-ranging one too often held by fairly modest clients to large corporations. They share a collective thought that specifications are needless documents, serve no real purpose on the project, and merely are an added and unnecessary cost in the fee paid to the professional for their production. This perspective of cost-cutting is so instilled that the counter arguments that point out the loss of control over the work, the loss of legal recourse, and the lack of definitive information necessary for the faithful and correct construction of the project are marginalized, minimized, ignored, or simply overlooked.

Within the group of major commercial, institutional and industrial owners, the perception of major cost reductions by eliminating specifications needs to be addressed as highly risky myth.

While difficult to quantify, the value and benefit of specifications can be linked to insurance information, risk management, quality control, and value given for dollar spent. There is a distinct and irresolvable gap on construction projects where even the most prestigious client will spend far too much money to solve a situation that could easily have been avoided via good specifications.

Design professionals need to discuss their deliverables with their clients and create full understanding and confidence in what they produce as being fully in the very best interest of the client-- Fortune 500 corporation or small local entity.

Too often the view is taken that the vast, but nonetheless valuable, minutia of the project requirements can be enforced by sheer force of will, status or prestige of the owner. Such a view, since it operates outside contractual bounds, leads directly-- and frequently-- to conflict, confrontation, claims, and

disputes, up to and can eventually include litigation. And all that may be forestalled by having well-founded, well-crafted and well-coordinated documents in effect.

In large part, many owners/clients do not realize, understand or tend to minimize the concept of supplementary and complementary documents-- the common relationship of Contract Drawings and Specifications. There is a lack of regard for, or a misunderstanding of the premise that some things are better written out than depicted, and vice versa [as outlined in the chart above].

Some companies and corporations instruct their outside professionals to use the "standards" the corporation has in effect. Here, in this age where corporate-level central engineering functions have been abandoned [for cost cutting measures] these standards often are obsolete, out of date, or needlessly parochial. Further, they are, more times than not, not in specification format or language, and at best can be used [in part] as input to Part 2 of specification Sections. They usually lack the general and execution aspects of the work. So, again, while the materials selected may be valid [for the sake of uniform plant or system wide use] and for products the client is quite specific about, there is no background, or back-up to ensure proper, correct and quality use of those products. And all this has a direct bearing on project cost.

The result is that the client/owner is left exposed and without real leverage and recourse in handling the smallest of items, much less the horrors of litigation [where things get far out of hand]. Perhaps the perception is that the situations are easily resolved if enough money is thrown at them, and, in the case of large corporations, the money amount is inconsequentially small.

Construction, though, should not be allowed to degenerate into a "push-and shove" contest, where the might of one party is pitted against others. A relatively small but skilled subcontractor should not be exposed to ridicule, and less than full payments or extremes of opinions about the work, when in fact, there is no specific indication or information about the material, the work, the processing of it, or the results required/intended.

Reality shows that no result in construction should be left so open-ended and so undefined that only a clash of opinions remains in lieu of a viable and rapid source of resolution! The construction world needs to know, now!, that there are THREE [3] contract documents-- and while not necessarily "equal", they are inseparable, and none of them, singly, or in pairs can produce a properly constructed Project.

It takes ALL THREE OF THEM, ALL OF THE TIME! There is a message here, friends-- not that you don't know, but rather that WE still have work to do that will enhance what we do and what comes to be via our work. Seems a task to be undertaken that all is well worth telling and "sharing" with our whole industry-- with added benefit to our cause, work, dedication and continuing effort.



2011 SPRING SCHEDULE

Scheduled sessions support preparation for the CDT, CCCA and CCS Exams*

CEU's: *Each Session offers 2 LU/HSW credits credits for participating registrants!!!*

Cost: *Currently CSIBR is offering these sessions at no charge to CSI members!!!*

Venue – 8 AM to 10:30 AM at *Ecovia* unless announced otherwise

14734 S Harrells Ferry Road Baton Rouge, LA 225.612.1907

Limited Seating - Reserve your seat with Steve Tubré at Steve.Tubre@cox.net

SESSION 1 - Saturday, January 29, 2011

General Conditions - AIA A201, 2007 edition
CSI's CDEP Session A201: General Conditions of the Contract for Construction

SESSION 2 - Saturday, February 12, 2011

General Conditions - AIA A201, 2007 edition (cont'd)
CSI's CDEP Session A201: General Conditions of the Contract for Construction

SESSION 3 - Saturday, February 26, 2011

Specifications Principals and Contract Document Organization
CSI's CSEP Session 1 – Fundamentals and Methodology

SESSION 4 - Saturday, March 12, 2011

Roles and Responsibilities of Owner, A/E and Contractor
CSI's CAEP Session 1 – Construction Contract Administration Overview

SESSION 5 - Saturday, March 26, 2011

Roles and Responsibilities of Owner, A/E and Contractor (cont'd)
CSI's CAEP Session 1 – Construction Contract Administration Overview

Session Leaders: Sit L. Wong, AIA, CSI, CCS and Steve C. Tubré, CSI, CCCA

Address all communications to Steve at 225.709.4941 and Steve.Tubre@cox.net

Current CSI Exam Period - Monday, March 28, 2011 through Saturday April 9, 2011

*Sessions consist of CSI CDT, CCS and CCCA Education Program PowerPoint presentations and group dialogue. These sessions are not a substitution for reading recommended exam materials. This program is intended to support and benefit exam candidates and professionals to the betterment of the building industry in and for our community. CSIBR may schedule and announce supplemental sessions supporting individual CSI certification exams prior to the exam period.





PER-SPEC-TIVES

OTHER PERSPECTIVES, OPINIONS, EXPRESSIONS, IMPRESSIONS, THOUGHTS AND IDEAS ABOUT THE NOBLE PROFESSION OF SPECIFICATIONS WRITING-- OPEN FOR, AND SEEKING DISCUSSION

No. 114

DOES ANY BODY REALLY PAY ATTENTION?

by Ralph Liebing, RA, CSI, CDT
Cincinnati, OH

It really is amazing some of the situations and dilemmas we get into! Seems that no matter how hard you try, they still occur-- all too often! And often unneeded and bordering on the silly.

You sincerely try to approach your work with the best you got-- valid information; wide and substantiating research; applied experience; well-founded specifications writing; best of intentions; intelligent approach to reasonable solutions for your clients, and still.....does anybody really pay attention? A product representative bemoans the fact he is not in your specification-- but his/her technical binder in your library is 5 years out of date [missing two mergers, and a rather substantially revamped product line!]. Paying attention?

Project Managers come by late in the game and ask IF you included this or that-- which was done as SOP early in the game. It is merely part of the standard, routine and usual situation-- why would you change it [you're not dumb and can retain and know what needs to be included] Oh, well! They're satisfied and while no "award" is in sight, you did do your job. But.... did anybody pay attention? Or do they simply accept what you give them with full confidence?

You challenge a Project Architect over some aspect of the work, and come out looking [or at least feeling] like a worm-like creature; slimy, wiggly, and somewhat useless. Why? You tried to straighten out a situation, provided decent, credible reasoning and resolution, only to be dissed by someone who "knows better", plays better defense with seemingly stronger "tools" and talks louder because of higher status, or firm conviction. [Keep that file, though, this may/will be re-visited again-- soon!] Why didn't anybody pay attention, first off?

Why do we do so much re-work, where we do; undo; re-do; revise; undo; modify; and finally abandon or move back to the first solution? Wasn't anybody paying attention someplace along the line? If the keynote on the detail doesn't synch with the specifications, are the specifications wrong?

A real revelation is the final, close-out client meeting, when the owner tends to diss the design professionals because the project didn't turn out exactly as first developed and approved. Huh? There was \$100 million spent and the Owner finds out, NOW, that the project is not as desired? Didn't anybody pay attention-- to the numerous changes of scope, owner required change orders, shifting of logic, re-thinking of configurations, re-setting priorities, needs lists, re-visits to "done" decisions [and subsequent undoing], etc. au nauseum! Guess nobody thought to pay attention to the "small leaks" in the dam before it burst from "thinking overload"!

Was anybody paying attention when we moved to new, zippy software for document control and storage [i.e., storing that which is already stored], only to convolute our entire process and upset our norm [as in "fixing that which is unbroken"]? Creating all new simply because some software designer had a nightmare that turned into a new wave of doing old things-- better????? Better for whom? [think profit for software folks--designer, manufacturer, seller, distributor, and them other folks in the cave, who without paying attention merely "pay the freight" but can boast use the latest software].

Department meetings have evolved into long discussions about what needs to be done because new software is about. So we review what has been done [for years?], adjust our policies [again!] and change our operations to meet the parameters and nuances of the software. [what drives what?] Little is discussed about "the department" overall, so it would seem that the design and the document production efforts are really functions of the software and not vice versa-- what?

Yep, just plain gripping here, but all the same is this not all true—at least to some extent? We are so busy that we outsmart ourselves often times, and really messing ourselves up. Nothing is straight line any more, and even if it did happen to be, we would find a way to make it different, crooked and skewed. And guess what-- chances are, nobody would really pay attention anyway!! [too busy working on their own mess!].

We KNOW our work is essential and works to the good of all, but I guess being taken for granted is the reward we get. Few pay attention feeling and assuming that our work is right and will do its job.

Wonder why that tends to be so ignored and such a secret?

2011 Spring Seminar

Baton Rouge Chapter
Construction Specifications Institute



Knowledge for Creating
and Sustaining
the Built Environment
www.csinet.org

Friday February 25, 2011

8:00 am to 3:00 pm

LaHouse on the Campus of LSU

Breakfast (available)

8:00 - 11:00 **Changes in the 2009 International Building Code**
Ken Green, CBO, MCP; Owner/Manager—Green Consulting & Development, LLC

- Understand how to locate changed items in the 2009 IBC
- Know what the most important changes are in the 2009 IBC
- Understand those changes and their implications
- Identify changes in the corresponding NFPA 101

Reference hand-outs included

*The 2009 IBC is now
in effect in Louisiana!*

11:00 - 12:00 **LUNCH** Network | Speak to Presenters | Food by



12:00 - 1:00 **Sustainable Design Strategies & LEED Overview***
Matthew Edmonds, ASID, IIDA, LEED AP; Co-Owner & LSU Professional-in-Residence
Interior Design Department—Geaux Green Design Commercial Design Interiors & LSU

- Develop a clear understanding of various features of universal sustainable strategies using the LEED Green Building Rating System as an outline
- Review and discuss the intent, requirements and potential technologies and strategies of sustainable design
- Review case study examples to reinforce the implementation of sustainable and LEED strategies
- Review strategies to incorporate sustainable initiatives into existing facilities (LEED Operations & Maintenance)

Reference hand-outs included

*Please note... this presentation is not affiliated with the USGBC.

Qualifies for 1 LEED General Credit!

1:00 - 3:00 **LaHouse Technical Tour**
Claudette Reichel, Ed.D.; Professor and Extension Housing Specialist—LSU AgCenter – LaHouse

Examine first hand and learn about many elements of the LaHouse Resource Center that demonstrate ways to integrate five benefits – resource-efficiency, durability, healthy environments, and practicality – in sustainable Gulf Region high-performance housing and framed construction, including:

- 4 energy-efficient and hazard-resistant building systems and foundations
- 3 HVAC solutions for energy savings with RH and indoor air quality control
- 5 energy-saving, hurricane-hardy attic and roof configurations
- Best building practices and products for rain, moisture and termite control
- A wide variety of green and low maintenance materials, products and technologies including 10 types of windows and doors, Energy Star lighting fixtures, finishes, etc.
- Universal design, automation and functional features that accommodate diverse and changing needs
- Demonstration of DOE Builders Challenge, ENERGY STAR, Healthy Home, Green Building, as well as Fortified for safer living program guidelines

Qualifies for 2 SD Learning Units!

Registration: \$125 CSI Members | \$150 Non-CSI Members

All registrations must be received 24 hours prior to the Seminar.

Cancellations received less than 24 hours prior to the event will not be refunded. **Limited seating—please register EARLY.**

Breakfast & Lunch included - Doors open at 7:30 AM

Please mail completed registration form and check to:

CSI Baton Rouge

Attn: Melody Howard, CSI 225.923.3181 nw2@bellsouth.net

8316 Kelwood Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

For Program questions, contact:

Steve C. Tubre, CSI, CCCA

225.709.4941

Steve.Tubre@cox.net

11-0107



Qualifies for **6 AIA/CES Learning Units**

HSW / CEH / PDH

including **2 SD Learning Units**
and **1 LEED General Credit**

2011 Spring Seminar

Baton Rouge Chapter
Construction Specifications Institute



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and Sustaining
the Built Environment
www.csinet.org

Friday February 25, 2011

8:00 am to 3:00 pm

LaHouse on the Campus of LSU

2858 Gourrier Avenue Baton Rouge, Louisiana (225) 578-7913

2011 Spring Seminar Registration Form

Changes in the 2009 International Building Code
Sustainable Design Strategies & LEED Overview
LaHouse Technical Tour

Name:

AIA#

(required for AIA continuing education credits)

Firm:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Fee Amount Enclosed: \$

(check, cash or money order)

Registration: \$125 CSI Members | \$150 Non-CSI Members

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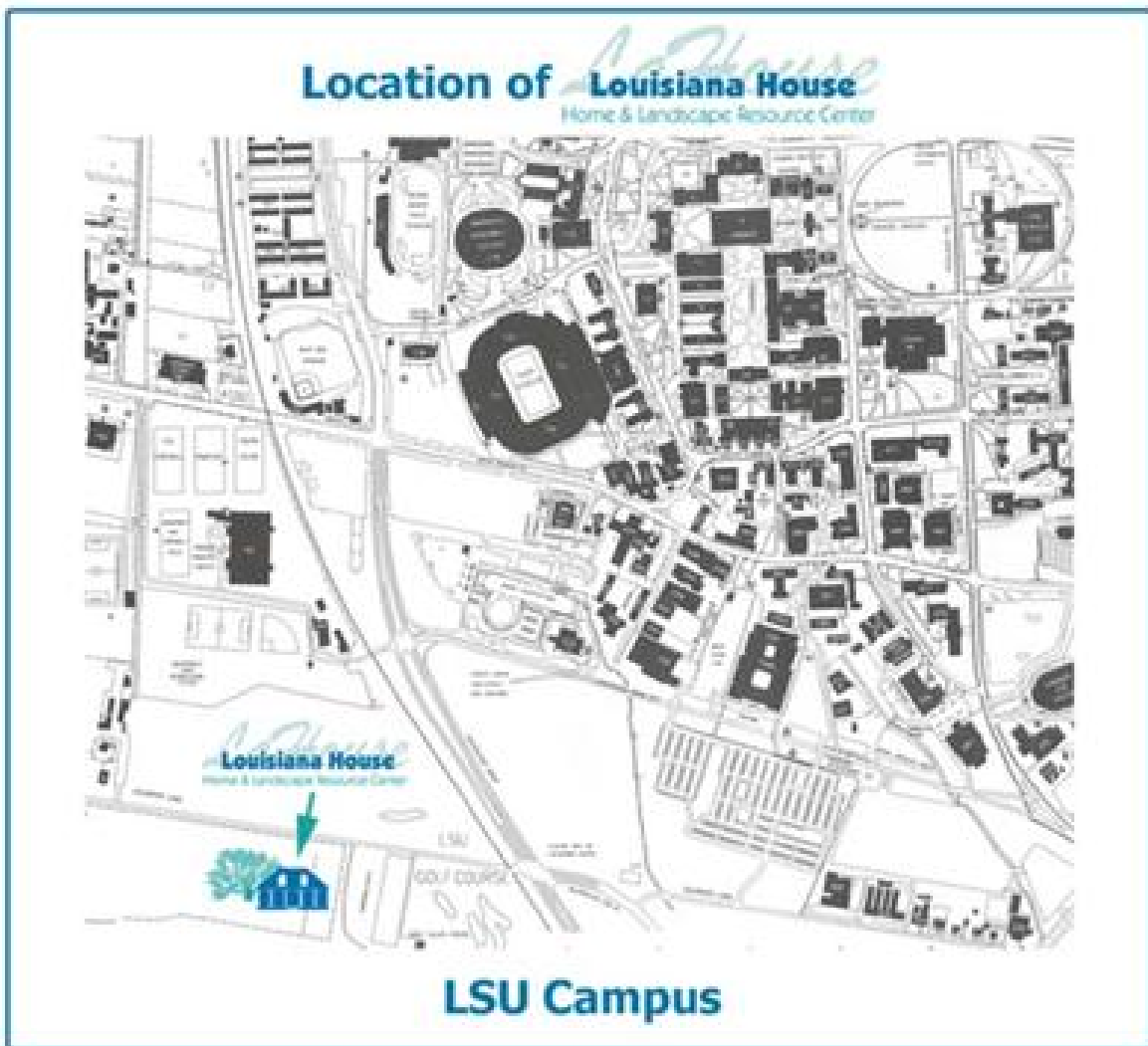
225.709.4941

Steve.Tubre@cox.net

11-0107



Qualifies for **6 AIA/CES Learning Units**
HSW / CEH / PDH
including **2 SD Learning Units**
and **1 LEED General Credit**



LaHouse Resource Center is located at the southwest edge of the LSU campus in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It is at 2858 Gourrier Avenue, between Nicholson Drive and River Road, adjacent the LSU golf course (near the intersection of Nicholson Drive and Burbank Drive).

From I-10 East -- Exit to Nicholson Drive at the Mississippi River Bridge; fork right, turn left onto Nicholson toward LSU. Pass Tiger Stadium. Then turn right onto Gourrier Avenue.

From I-10 West -- Exit College Drive, turn left (south) and continue straight to Burbank Drive. College Drive will change name to Lee Drive. Turn right onto Burbank Drive. The street name will change to Gourrier Avenue after you cross Nicholson Drive.



GULF STATES REGION CSI 2011 CONFERENCE

Friday, April 29 & Saturday, April 30, 2011
Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel, Mobile, Alabama

Join us in Mobile!!!

**The Birthplace
of
Mardi Gras**



Preliminary Agenda:

Friday, April 29, 2011

7:20 am Open	Golfers leave hotel (tee time 8:00 am)
11:00 am – 5:00 pm Seminars	Registration Open
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm open	GSR Board of Directors Meeting
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Opening General Session
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm Seminars	Mix & Mingle-Hospitality Suite

Saturday, April 30, 2011

8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Registration
9:00 – 11:50 am	Dual Track CEU
8:45 am – 3:00 pm	Table Tops
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 – 2:50 pm	Dual Track CEU

6:30 pm Meeting	Dinner at XXXX	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	GSR Annual
8:00 pm – until Suite Open	Hospitality Suite Open	4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Hospitality
Awards		6:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Dinner &
Suite Open		9:00 pm	Hospitality
Note: Registration form will be posted by 2/3/11 at: http://gulfstates.csinet.org		to be determined	GSR Water
Ballet			

Gulf States Region

Below are the chapters that make up the Gulf States Region of CSI.
Click on the map to view the leaders and officers of that chapter, and other chapter information

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CSI - The Construction Specifications Institute, founded in 1948, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of construction technology through communications, education, research and service. CSI serves architects, engineers, interior designers, landscape architects, specifiers, contractors, subcontractors, building officials, suppliers, product manufacturers, attorneys, and others in the construction industry.

The Addendum is a bi-monthly newsletter by the Acadiana Chapter CSI. Addendum does not approve, disapprove or guarantee the validity or accuracy of any data, claim, or opinion published. Opinions expressed by authors do not necessarily reflect the views of CSI. Product information or services included do not constitute an endorsement by CSI. Appearance of products or services, names, or editorial copy does not constitute an endorsement by the Gulf States Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute

Membership Fee:

\$240 Institute (Professional/Industry/Associate)	\$35 Chapter	=	\$230/yr.
\$115 Institute (Intermediate- <3 years experience)	\$35 Chapter	=	\$150/yr.
\$ 27 Institute (Student)	\$-0 Chapter	=	\$27/yr.

Visit our Acadiana-CSI website: <http://www.csiacadiana.org/>