



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

JANUARY PROGRAM

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Hosted by Duro-Last
[Duro-Last](#)

Program: Beyond Cool & Sustainable – Five E’s of High Performance Roofing

- Industry groups and government agencies continue to define objectives for cool and sustainable roofing.
- These actions, combined with economic factors, are creating demand for a new class of high performance roofing systems (HPRs).

Date: Monday, January 17, 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**

Links to:

[MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM](#)

[CSI Acadiana Roster](#)

(check your status)

[CSI Nat’l Website](#)

(correct your status)

2010-2011 Chapter Officers

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Vice Pres.Chad Abell, CSI, CDT, AIA
SecretaryDarriel Green, CSI
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Programs Jeff Addison, CSI
MembershipAngelique Hernandez,
CSI, AIA
Publications.....Brent Frick, CSI, AIA
Elec. Communications...Brent Frick, CSI, AIA
CertificationsWayne Domingue,
CSI, CCS, AIA

-NEXT ON THE AGENDA-

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 21, 2011

Topic and speaker

TBA

Important Content Information

- Spring Seminar Registration Form (CSI – Baton Rouge)
- perSPECtives 110 & 111
- Editor’s note

Articles of Interest-

- Are Liens Tainted by Prior Inaccuracies?
- The Lien Release Standoff
- Software helps calculate buildings’ indirect emissions
- 3 Easy Steps for Setting Goals
- How to ensure your social media team stays focused
- Concrete from shale sand is more durable, less permeable
- BIM can help cut life-cycle costs for building owners
- Researchers to test steel buildings in earthquake conditions
- App turns iPad into a tool for Contractors
- Transition to BIM tough but worth it
- Construction sector woes hurt economic output nationwide

CSI webinars

- Advanced Construction Specifications 3-Part Series
- Update on Commercial Building Energy Codes and Implications for Designers and Specifiers
- Creating Success with Effective Proposals

-editor's note-

It is my hope that the New Year finds you well, with prospective work lined up, and a positive outlook, both personally and professionally, on this upcoming year. As we prepare for this New Year, I will do my best to offer the CSI-Acadiana membership with a variety of news and informational articles that will peak the interest of everyone. Your board is also working on providing some very unique guest speakers for this year. This will broaden the pallet of past pursuits and (hopefully) increase membership. Please make the time to read the “perSPECTives” included in this issue. I hope you enjoy.

-articles of interest-



From the Editor, Bruce Jervis, Esq.

Are Liens Tainted by Prior Inaccuracies?

Most state mechanic's lien statutes include a provision invalidating liens which have been willfully exaggerated. The purpose is to protect project owners against contractor overreaching. Contractors should not be allowed to overstate the amount they are owed in order to gain leverage through a larger security interest in the property.

Does this mean that any front-loading or misrepresentation should invalidate a subsequent lien? A Florida court recently answered this question in the negative. A project owner sought to have a lien dismissed because the contractor had allegedly been submitting progress payment requests which included amounts it had not actually paid to subcontractors. The owner said the subsequent lien was tainted by fraud and had to be removed.

The Florida court rejected this argument. The contractor had not violated the lien statute itself. If the owner's logic prevailed, contractor lien rights would be impaired. "The purpose of the liens would be . . . [read more](#)."

From the Editor, Bruce Jervis, Esq.

The Lien Release Standoff

The conclusion of a construction project presents a familiar impasse. The project owner doesn't want to release final payment until it is sure there are no prospective mechanic's liens out there. The contractor doesn't want to waive its lien rights – which secure payment – until it has actually received payment. The solution is a “closing” of sorts. The parties exchange lien waivers for

final payment. But sometimes the process breaks down. [Continue reading "The Lien Release Standoff" »](#)

Software helps calculate buildings' indirect emissions

Green-building techniques make a big difference, but if an eco-friendly property is built in the wrong place, it may still indirectly be responsible for high levels of emissions, according to this article. A range of software and online tools allow designers to figure out whether a planned property is likely to attract public-transit commuters or individual drivers, and thus to examine the building's environmental impact.

"This is a new frontier in carbon accounting," says Autodesk manager Emma Stewart. [Chicago Tribune](#) (12/27)

3 easy steps for setting goals

A simple but effective way to set goals for next year is by writing down one key objective and three tangible results that will be achieved from it, Charlie Judy writes. Simplicity is the key to making it work, he writes. "It fits on a quarter of a page, it's fewer than 75 words, and it's something you can sink your teeth into." [HRFishbowl.com](#) (12/23)

How to ensure your social media team stays focused

The ability to select and pursue carefully defined goals is a social media manager's most important attribute, writes Andy Smith. To achieve and sustain that kind of focus, it's important to set goals that are clear, actionable, measurable and personally meaningful. "Too often in business the stated goal is to increase sales or maximize profit, which may be clear but is hardly motivating," Smith writes.

[SmartBrief/SmartBlog on Social Media](#) (12/27)

Concrete from shale sand is more durable, less permeable

Daniel Cusson is leading a research team that has developed a stronger concrete material that uses shale sand, making it less permeable. This new material can last up to 60 years, he says. It will be used for improvements on the \$75 million Seaway International Bridge near Cornwall, Ontario. [CBC.ca](#)

[\(Canada\)](#) (12/23)

BIM can help cut life-cycle costs for building owners

Building information modeling technology can help building owners avoid unpleasant surprises when construction is complete. Eight percent of the total life-cycle cost of a structure occurs once construction is complete -- making the modeling of data management, energy efficiency and other building functions an imperative. The one obstacle is that BIM and facilities-management tools have yet to be integrated.

[Daily Commercial News](#) (12/20)

Researchers to test steel buildings in earthquake conditions

Researchers at Johns Hopkins University received a three-year, \$923,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to study how earthquakes affect mid-rise, cold-formed steel buildings up to nine stories high. The grant will help them develop computer models and use shake tables to test how the buildings react to seismic events. "The old approach was to just make sure the building didn't fall down in an earthquake..." said lead researcher Benjamin Schafer. "Now, we're focusing on what you can do to bring it up to a higher level of performance to make sure that the building can still be used after an earthquake, when desired." [The Gazette \(Johns Hopkins University\)](#) (12/13)

App turns iPad into a tool for contractors

An iPad application called "Architectural Product Master" lets developers calculate the thermal values of a range of building materials -- eliminating the need to request thermal values maker by maker. The app by

YKK AP America also includes a design manual that lets architects specify a performance level; the application then makes recommendations for source materials. [Daily Commercial News](#) (12/16)

Transition to BIM tough but worth it, says contractor

BIM may be easy but, for many contractors, the transition to using the technology is not. That was the message from one contractor who initially struggled but finally successfully made the jump to using building information modeling technology. "If you have a fast-track project with a lot of problems to fix, ultimately it all comes back to the quality of the documentation you started out with," said Steven Anderson, a design systems manager with the firm Atkins. [Construction Week](#) (12/1)

Construction sector woes hurt economic output nationwide

A declining national gross domestic product has its roots in the construction downturn and weak manufacturing sector. Thirty-eight states saw economic output contract last year, including California, Texas, Arizona and Nevada -- four states that suffered acute downturns in construction. [Reno Gazette-Journal \(Nev.\)](#) (11/18) , [San Antonio Express-News](#) (11/18) , [Los Angeles Times](#) (11/18) , [American City Business Journals/Phoenix](#) (11/19)

CSI webinar: Advanced Construction Specifications 3-Part Series

Jan. 27, 2 p.m. ET

This 3-part course explains how Construction specifications are an essential part of Contract Documentation to facilitate clear communications between team members. Learn how to specify appropriate quality; how to describe and enforce your design intent, how to coordinate specifications with drawings. Learn hints, tips, tricks and key language for preparing professional specifications. Understand the preparation, use and maintenance of Master Guide Specifications and the process of preparing and assembling a Project Manual. A brief survey of Division 01 General Requirements and the effects of varying Project Delivery Methods on the Specifications are also considered. [Learn more, or register.](#)

CSI webinar: Update on Commercial Building Energy Codes and Implications for Designers and Specifiers

Feb. 15, 2 p.m. ET

Designers and specifiers face increasing challenges to stay current with energy and sustainability related requirements for commercial buildings, both when finalized and published, and during development -- the time when designers and specifiers can best affect new versions. This session provides an update on the current provisions for commercial buildings in the ICC's International Energy Conservation Code and ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1. We will also look at other initiatives related to green construction codes and gain insight into where they may go in the next decade. We will focus on what designers and specifiers need to know in applying these documents and how to document compliance. [Learn more, or register now.](#)

Jan. 28 -- Early registration deadline for spring exams

Registration is now open for the spring CDT and advanced certification exams (CCS, CCCA, CCPR) March 28 - April 9. The early registration deadline is Jan. 28, and the final registration deadline is Feb. 25. [Learn more, or register now](#)

CSI Webinar: Creating Success with Effective Proposals

Thursday, January 13, 2-3pm ET

Register Now!

Speaker: Kimberly Kayler

Credit: 0.1 CSI CEUs, 1.0 AIA LUs

Cost: Member: \$75.00 Non Member: \$95.00

Description:

Regardless of your experience, a poor proposal can lead you to lose a job that should have been yours! Increase your chances of securing the work you want by knowing what message you're sending your prospective clients. Kimberly A Kayler, CSI, CPSM, has decade of high-level experience serving engineering, architecture and construction firms as a corporate marketing executive. In this program, she'll help you review your proposal efforts, from a go/no-go decision-making process, to deciding what to include in a proposal. You'll leave this session with a strategy as well as tips about formatting and proposal layout, common mistakes, and language blunders that you can start using today!

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will learn the importance of a Go/No Go process and how to create one for their firm.
2. Tips will be shared from owners about common mistakes and pet peeves found in proposals.
3. Attendees will learn how to avoid common language blunders.
4. Participants will gain insight on how to make their proposals distinctive in today's competitive marketplace.

Register Now!

Have questions about CSI Webinars? [Read the FAQs](#)

Train your entire team with one registration fee-participants are charged per site/telephone connection-not per person. Space is limited and is on a first-come-first-serve basis.

All Registrations must be received 48 hours prior to the Webinar. Telephone dial-in and web log-in instructions will be forwarded to you 24 hours before event.

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



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

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

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.**

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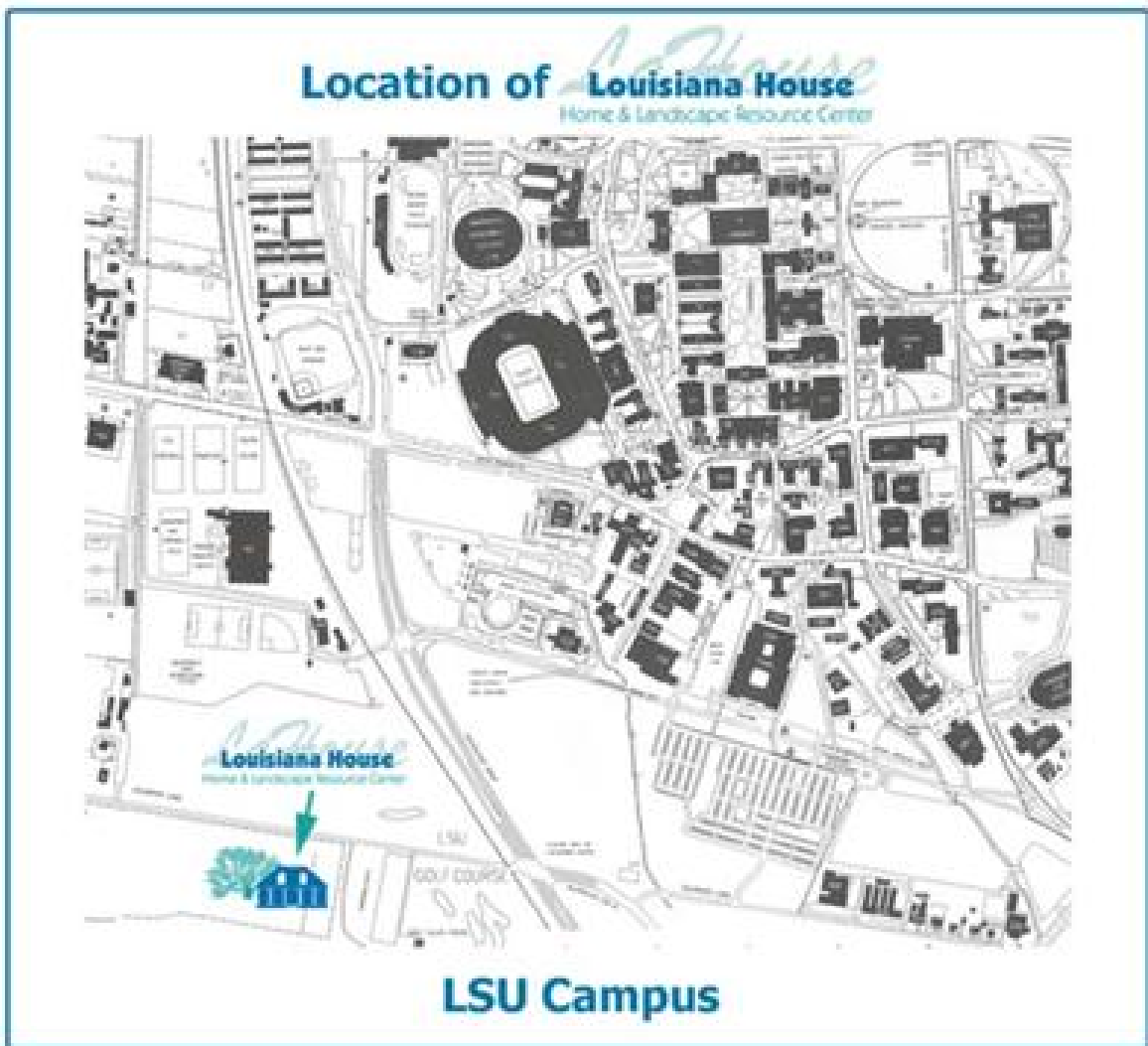
225.709.4941

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.



PER-SPEC-TIVES

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

No. 110

THE CURIOUS STATUS OF THE “BIG THREE”

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

Undeniably three “documents” in construction are interlinked, interrelated, and both complimentary and supplementary one to another. Yet still today, one is all but ignored by architects, one is a maze of compressed information, mixed with symbols and abbreviations to form a graphic display, while the third, while still produced, is roundly maligned, often ignored, and too often misunderstood because of the lack of will, understanding, or stubbornness!

CONTRACT-AGREEMENT; DRAWINGS; SPECIFICATIONS. The three, combined, create the “contract documents” for construction project.

Contract/Agreement: Legal document [pre-printed and standard, or specific for project] that explains all parties obligations and duties, and the amount of money to be paid by the Owner to the Contractor, for work accomplished in accord with other documents.

Drawings: Graphic drawings and depictions of portion of work to be done, and work that is applicable over large extents of project; some written material that refers to and augments or explains written material in the specifications.

Specifications [Project Manual]: Booklet[s] containing extensive amount of added or explanatory material, required to be combined with drawings to facilitate construction of the entire project; may have added information not on the drawings, (and vice versa); cannot be eliminated since it is interrelated to the other two documents, all in which act in concert to explain the work being required by the Owner [via the design professional’s documentation] for a complete and finished project ready for use and occupancy.

It is difficult to understand why, when all the project information is bundled in these three documents, various parties like to selectively choose one or two of them and rather blatantly ignore or “stumble over” the third. Granted the contract/agreement is the more complex and difficult to deal with, but then the architect and engineers usually are not involved with it, i.e., do not write or fill-in the standard version-- tasks best left for owner’s attorney, who can modify the form as desired by the owner and to the owner’s best interests. So for all intents and purposes there are really two documents left for the design professionals.

We come to the old saw that contractors are not word people [like attorneys], and that they fear that we [professionals] convolute things in the wording to confound, confuse and “trick” them into work they overlook or misconclude. Have we got time for this? Do we have an “educational moment”, here? Yes, we do!

Leaving the drawings on the side for a moment, we-- each of us and CSI collectively-- have responsibility, and golden opportunity to unravel this faux mystery and create a new litany for specs, and new information and approaches, that remove the threats [real or not] that the contracting community has. Why let the angst, that has been for years, just lump along, unchallenged, and unapproached, when in fact it is the contractors who are doing the “big stuff” with BIM, etc., and getting heavily involved with the lingering and massive minutia of construction.

Eventually we are going to have to do this too, so why not start getting our act together [and not just on BIM] to create the new horizon-- we might wind up having our horizon of tomorrow at our back! Where we are inert, our work is inert; where we do nothing others may well fill the gap [e.g., how did BIM get started; did we do it?]. The need is for creative action; to match the times; to create futuristic programs to orient, educate, and assimilate and to inform in such a way that the construction process becomes BETTER, and we are truly players at the table.

The curious status of the “big three”?

Slipping due to reclusiveness; and we very well may be losing! Then what?



PER-SPEC-TIVES

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

No. 111

RULE; AXIOM; GUIDE; REASONED/CONSIDERED OPINION?

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

"..... MasterFormat is organized by project type rather than work results. If it's for an industrial or processing project, it goes in the 40s. If it's part of an "architectural" project, it goes in Divisions 02-33. So for hoists, we would now have "architectural hoists" in Div 14 and we would have "processing hoists" in Div 41 (would have to put some adjective in front of hoists if we are going to have them in two places).....We can reverse the logic. We have a processing plant that includes some elevators to move people. Are we now going to put those elevators in the 40s instead of Division 14 because we don't want to use any conveying equipment out of an "architectural" division for our processing project?I would propose what is really going on is that we have that old way of thinking continuing to linger - these are my divisions and those are your divisions and we shall not ever cross over those lines.....The logic to locate hoists in Division 41 of course relates to the fact that material handling is a category of work results in which there are many different types of devices and equipment that can be used. They have been located in a separate division to allocate an adequate amount of space. It doesn't matter what type of project they are being used in.....Why locate handling equipment in the 40's? They probably relate most strongly to other subjects in the 40s, but that doesn't mean that they are not used in all types of projects just as elevators are used in all types of projects.....To accept this logic, one has to get over the old time thinking that divisions are organized by professions or project types. It's time to get over it and use the designated location for any work result we have in our project, no matter what project type it is or what division it is in....."

What is most important in specifications-- strict, unwavering adherence to a prescribed format, or a litany of provisions that generally relate to each other in the whole of the project? I pick no fight, but I do wonder how many times each day, someone locates some information, in a spec that does NOT adhere to MF04. My guess would be, many times. Some do this routinely, confident in their experience and receiving no repercussions; others, unsure, ask for help and usually recite something in the order of the quote above.

Are *reasonable*, and *flexibility* dead or dying? What is "wrong" with using a simple, seemingly reasonable change that seems utterly appropriate? Are those naughty "specs police" out again on the "motors"? Or is this all about absolute right and wrong, simply for the fact of being right or wrong because that is the way it is written in some voluntary pamphlet? Correctly, it IS the advisable method, but there are other solutions and no great unchanging axiom is violated.

Seems the primary point is that the correct information be conveyed, in clear and understandable terms, fully usable by the trade personnel, and adapted to the exact project conditions! The need for this communication, of a sort that be unparalleled in other work and professions. Perhaps not instantly life saving or threatening [like medical information], but such has an impact on what is done, properly well, and in a timely manner. It is a measure of excellence that starts with us-- spec writers-- in the professional office. It is our dedication, knowledge, innovative and knowledge that demands that we keep faith with what we are doing, and how well we do it. We may well exceed the effort of our drafting/CAD/BIM personnel, in that our products contain much more information, often times, than the drawings-- and importantly so!

Too often sniffed at by principals, ignored, disregarded by juniors, and treated off-handedly by managers, our mission still involves [in part] merely updating and mentoring our staff colleagues, not to justify our existence, but for their realization that what we do-- and what they NEED! -- is 1], required in one fashion, 2] necessary to another group, and vital to the project works overall. Our specs do what no other devices, instruments or documents do-- so how can we, in good conscious, short-change, minimize, gloss-over or poorly construct such essential contributions to the project work? Our best effort coupled with the mediocre work of others doesn't work well and will be problematic. But we don't necessary control others and what they do; neither should we reduce or limit our work just to getting something out and let the field personnel guess and interpolate what we intended! A problem that needs solving, now, with our full direction, explanation and understanding/instructions for others. We NEED all three contract documents, in their best form.

And much more, WHY? Simply, must resolve, clearly, complex solutions to complex problems! That needs our best and also provides a masterful learning point and cursor for the young ones who need to develop their understanding and habits!-- using RULES; AXIOMS; GUIDES; REASONED/CONSIDERED OPINIONS?-- and common sense! We need to develop and convey information, not make new and different procedures project by project!

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:

\$195 Institute plus \$35 Chapter = \$230/yr.

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