Knowledge for Creating and Sustaining the Built Environment

METROPOLITAN NEW YORK CHAPTER
The Construction Specifications Institute

The Newsletter for the Metropolitan Chapter of the Construction Specification Institute, Inc. Volume 60, Number 11, July 2012

The Summer Addendum

2012 Metro New York CSI / Long Island CSI Golf Outing Sept 18th 12:00 PM

Great News!!!
Foursomes and sponsorships are going fast! We are well on our way to selling out this year. Please, if you are planning on playing this year, or want to sponsor a hole or prize package, get your orders in now. You can pay by credit card online at
www.metrony.csinet.org
Or you can send checks to;
Anthony Drummond
68 Barrett Ave
Bayport NY 11705
Or
Ken Raikowski

2012 Trade Show and Seminars Event

CONNECT NYC: PEOPLE, PRODUCTS & INFORMATION

As architects, builders, and product manufacturers we are always subject to many forces and influences. Economic cycles, architectural design trends, environmental concerns, codes and regulations, technology advances, education of new professionals, and current events all shape our industry and the buildings that we make.

There is a new emphasis on energy efficiency, new design and coordination tools in building information modeling, new construction products that reduce waste and improve the indoor environment -– all of these and more come to our attention every day, and have the potential to make us better at what we do. Adaptation is the keyword that links us to the future.

Continued on page 2- Trade Show

Upcoming Chapter Events

September 18, 2012
Long Island and Metro New York Chapters
Golf Outing
South Shore Country Club, Staten Island NY
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October 10, 2011
Metro New York CSI Trade Show,
Educational Day and Architectural Mixer

Trade show-Continued from page 1

The 2012 Annual Metro New York CSI Chapter Trade Show and Education Day will explore the ways in which you can contribute to better building. Come and learn with us, share your knowledge with us, and interact with others who share your quest for doing a better job of designing and constructing buildings.

Although it is too early to set the times for the speakers the Chapter will be able to offer an exceptional line-up for this year. The presentation s will be be able to provide AIA/CES HSW and CSI CEN Learning Units.

The 2012 Trade Show Speakers

Seth Pinsky, President, NYC Economic Development Council
"State of Construction in New York City"

Rowan Georges, Associate, SOM
"Sustainability Across the World"

Kathryn Mallon, Deputy Director, NYC Design and Engineering Division,
"Really Cool Engineering Challenges Working in the Largest City in the U.S."

Bill Walsh
"Healthy Building Network"

Joy Davis, CSI
"Social Networking for Architects"

Specification Panel Discussion
Scott Tobias as Moderator
David Stutzman, Conspectus
William DuBois, Gensler
Vince Coniglia, ASSA Abloydss

Wednesday, October 10, 2012
Seminars: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM,
Trade Show 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Architectural Mixer: 5:00PM to 7:00PM
Location: Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 19th Street, New York, NY
No Entry or Seminar Fees, Includes Lunch AIA/ CES HSW and CSI CEN Learning Units (Choose from 5 Seminars though out the day)

Chapter Award Announcement

At the annual Chapter meeting a number of the members were recognized for their dedication and outstand work that had accomplished during the past fiscal year. The following is the listing of award winner for this year.

Chapter Certificate of Commendation

Bill DuBois
Tom Lanzelotti
Ruma Som
Angela Centanni

Chapter Service Award, June 2012

Kenneth Raikowski
William Jacquette
Linton D. Stables III
Robert Crane
Bert Korteling
Russell Carpenter
Anthony Drummond
Susan Kaplan

Chapter Certificate of Appreciation

Luis Rosario
Clifford Marvin
Michael Bean
Dennis Italia
David Stutzman
Mary Hosley
Leah Meyer

Chapter President's Award, June 2012

Arnold Kravitz

Past President Scott Tobias, Chapter Director Arnie Kravitz and Treasurer Linton Stable III

WHAT IT IS, ……IS EDUCATION !

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

Education on a specific topic begins at an established point [the "proverbial 'Square One'] and progresses as added information and expertise develops. Many topics require pre-requisite fundamental information even more defined. These usually are highly technical topics, involving a wide breadth of information about complex issues and, with a flexibility of application to varied situations. Students, exposed to varied levels of knowledge and understanding, should be placed in progressively appropriate classes that recognize their current knowledge and understanding — i.e., incremental education! The concept is to build the process step by step as the individual student progresses in knowledge, understanding and expertise— and in the case of an architectural /engineering topic like specifications, on a "need to know" basis.

This is not a time-oriented process, but rather one that addresses the value of the topic and data to the individual. To provide either too little or too much information, or information with too low or too high a technical content, will lead to confusion, misunderstanding and a situation where the individual is unable to properly utilize the information and perceive it as a waste of time leading to disinterest, boredom and discarding of the information. From the very start the task is quite daunting in that information about methods and materials must be added in layers, and then selectively applied through a process of manipulation and adaptation to each project need— it is NOT just a process of learning problem solving via a formula or memorization of facts for later use. Short of having this information at hand forestalls creative resolution of the design concept.

Currently, the most egregious need, in the design-documentation sequence, is for the most fundamental instruction regarding drawings and specifications, and their interrelationship as Contract Documents. The current collegian instruction, such as it is now, is sporadic, uncoordinated, and lacking in well-founded knowledge and presentation. It is not inappropriate to speak in these terms, since there is no denying that design concepts [a primary development of architects] must be documented in a manner that facilitates their construction. Concept and conceptual language and terms need to be augmented and converted to those fully usable by the manufacturers, suppliers, fabricators and Constructors, on all levels.

There is no unified group or agency that directs its efforts solely at the content and quality of contract drawings. Many groups set standards, guidelines, procedures, and checklists, etc, but do not address pure quality of content. Computerized production of drawings is so prevalent today that it overshadows and obscures the fact that rapid production and ease of manipulation are not valid drawing criteria. It is the depth and quality of construction knowledge, its correct application, depiction and purposeful communication that counts foremost! But without a formal group, agency or instruction in production of contract [working] drawings, the quality can and has suffered. This is a task that is of grave concern requiring prompt and appropriate attention.

It is also important to understand that specifications are another, but fully equal, part of this discussion. Specifications writing may not become the primary task of the graduate, unlike the production of drawings. Indeed, few students and young professionals will engage it full time, while others may never write specifications. Hence, to provide highly detailed, technical specifications instruction too early will serve no useful purpose. Instead, the need is to understand the intent and content, the general legal implications of, and the context of specifications within the umbrella of Contract Documents. Form, style and processing of specifications are not fodder for the early education. As expertise in design, and the allied course topics evolve and progress, so too, specifications should be addressed in a generally commensurate manner. This development should have the goal of putting the basic tools of specifications in the bag of professional expertise of the full student body of prospective registered professionals, but not as a highly developed skill. The progression of the entry level student who has little knowledge or need for specifications instruction, to the newly registered professional, who should be able to produce specifications for any project he or she is capable of designing.

Between these two extremes lie the steps of increased skill, knowledge, and application where specifications can be addressed in an increasingly pertinent manner, but still well short of actual writing of the documents themselves. The progressive student body that acts as a general audience for the receipt of building construction information, professional skill, project documentation [drawings and specifications], and understanding of the function of same in overall project development. This student body relates to students, interns and new professionals. It can [and should] be developed, coordinated and taught by CSI members to ensure proper context, continuity of purpose, content and application. If nothing more, it does provide the new professional with a sound foundation in understanding and respecting specifications, but is functionally short of actual specifications production— that and related tasks are better taught in the established preparatory CSI Certification Programs, and can be utilized by the those who have completed that portion of Preliminary Education. In essence, this is acknowledgment that there is a need for information, instruction, discussion and mentoring prior to becoming a Construction Documents Technologist (CDT). That should [if there is to be true change] take place well before the student emerges as part of the professional staffing with an understanding that CSI exists and what its function is. This will offer more insight to the young professionals' work overall and the specifics of document production— both specifications and drawings. Every design concept comes to the point where it projects an image, and provides some indication of form, function, and interrelationships. This usually is in the form of information that closely resembles school projects— rendering[s], small-scale plans and elevations, perspectives, models [virtual or cardboard], etc. At this point, the project is an unresolved piece of work, unbuilt, unoccupied, and non-functional. Between this point and the full reality of a completed project lie two major efforts— proper professional documentation of the work, and subsequent skilled execution of that work.

KEVIN KEHOE ANNUAL AWARD

The Award Committee is looking for recommendations for candidates for the Kevin Kehoe Award.

Kevin Kehoe (1937 - 2008) was a treasured Industry member of the Metro New York CSI Chapter for twenty years. He was devoted to the success of the Chapter and contributed to the quality of the built environment through his extensive knowledge of his products. He assisted architects, designers, specification writers, and construction contractors with his expertise and his willingness to share his knowledge. To honor Kevin's contributions to society and to the Chapter, the Kevin Kehoe Annual Award is established to recognize an Industry member whose dedication and expertise most closely follows his example.

A Committee composed of Chapter members shall be appointed by the Metropolitan NY CSI Chapter President to recommend a candidate to the Board of Directors of each year for the Kevin Kehoe Award. A plaque for special recognition and a gift certificate will be given at the annual Metro NY CSI Awards Dinner.

Qualifications for nominees for the Award:
1. The nominee must be an architectural or manufacturer's representative.
2. The nominee must be an member of Metro New York CSI member in "good standing", but may not be an Award Committee member in the same year.
3. The nominee must be a strong advocate of the Metro New York CSI Chapter through volunteer work, participation and involvement with various events, and an avid proponent of continuing education.
4. The nominee must be willing to continue Kevin's legacy of educating the architectural and construction community, sharing knowledge and expertise, and providing effective marketing to the construction industry.
5. The award winner grants permission to the CSI Metro NY Chapter to publish his or her name and/or include a photograph in printed and electronic publications.

If you know of an member that is deserving of such an award contact Jeff Matles, Chapter President, at (845) 558-0123 or by E-mail at Jmatles@aim.com

The Board of the Metropolitan New York Chapter CSI hope you have a fun and safe summer

MEETING NOTICE

The September General meeting will be held on Wednesday the 26th.
The change of date is due to the conflict with the CSI National meeting
Please make note of this in your daily planner

Fall Advanced Certification

CCPR - Certified Construction Product Representative

Fall National Exam October 1-27, 2012
Exam Early Registration Deadline August 3, 2012
Final Registration Deadline: August 31, 2013

Getting your CCPR means:

- Making sales calls, presentations, construction meetings, and product shows more effective
- Knowing the key parts of product binders and other marketing collateral
- Understanding roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in the project, and how and when to communicate with them
- Understanding all phases of the construction documentation, and your role in each phase
- Speaking the same language as the design and contractor teams
- Getting listed in CSI's Certificant's Directory

"CSI Certification can mean the difference between being looked upon as a salesperson versus a confident expert in your field."— Tony Bartorillo, CSI, CCPR

Congratulations to the New Officers for FY 2013

Jeff Matles- President
William Jacquette- Vice President
Anthony Drummond - Vice President
Angela Centanni - Secretary
Linton Stables III - Treasurer
Thomas Lanzelotti - Director 2012
Robert Krane- Director 2012
Arnie Kravitz - Director 2013
Ken Raikowski - Director 2013
Linton Stables III - Immediate Past Presedent
Bert Korteling - Northeast Region Director