

# T H E A D D E N D U M

The Newsletter of the Metropolitan New York Chapter of the Construction Specification Institute, Inc. Volume 59 Number 7 March 2011



## Meeting Information

# 2011

### **Wednesday March 9, 2011 Energy Usage and Savings**

Annie Moore's  
50 East 43rd Street  
New York, New York

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### **Wednesday April 13, 2011 Tour of Columbia's Northwest Corner Building**

Annie Moore's  
50 East 43rd Street  
New York, New York

#### INSIDE THIS MONTHS ADDENDUM

PAGE 2 - THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
PAGE 3 - CERTIFICATION CLASSES  
PAGE 4 - NE REGION CONFERENCE  
PAGE 5 - CONFERENCE PROGRAM  
PAGE 6 - REFLECTING FOR A MINUTE  
PAGE 7 - WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND  
THE NORTHEAST REGION CONFERENCE

## *Energy Usage, Savings, and Changes in LEED-Certified Buildings*

From the builder's perspective, what does it mean to have a LEED-certified facility? Mr. Bowman will speak on the impact of sustainable design on the construction industry as experienced by those who actually do the construction. Tishman Construction is a leader in the field of sustainable construction practices and are proponents of LEED certification for their clients' buildings.



Speaker: Ronald H. Bowman, Jr., Executive Vice President, Tishman Construction.

Date and Time: Wednesday, March 9, starting at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour. The program and dinner start at 6:30 p.m. and the program usually ends around 7:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Location: Annie Moore's Restaurant, 50 East 43rd Street, New York, New York. We meet on the Lower Level.

Cost: Program includes dinner and is free to those in the design and construction industry, including students. Please register in advance (it's FREE!)

[www.brownpapertickets.com/event/117547](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/117547)



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## President's Message



We had a great joint meeting with the local chapter of the Door and Hardware Institute on February 9. Aaron Smith, Director of Sustainable Building Solutions at Assa Abloy, spoke on the Future of Hardware Specifying to a crowd of nearly 80. At the meeting about 6 new members signed up and one of them was awarded his first year's dues for free, courtesy of Assa Abloy. We welcome all of our new members. Bert Korteling, Membership Chair, has been doing a terrific job getting new members and retaining our current members. He's been recognized by the Institute for his efforts, and we certainly appreciate those efforts on the Chapter level.

Our March meeting promises to be as rewarding an experience as last month's. Ron Bowman, Executive Vice President of Tishman Construction, will be speaking to us on Energy usage, savings and changes in LEED-certified Buildings, a particularly relevant topic these days as fuel costs rise and construction work starts to pick up again. Once again, the dinner and the program are free to those in the design and construction industry. Let your friends in the business know about this and invite them to attend with you on March 9.

Our Chapter is sponsoring a special program for interior designers and architects on March 10 (postponed from last month due to extreme weather forecast). We want to reach a group that has not been particularly well represented in our membership, and a part of our industry that has not always taken specifications seriously. I want to thank Angela Centanni and Tandus Flooring for putting the whole thing together and hosting the event. Thanks go also to

### Committee Chairs:

		2010 - 2011
Academic Liaison	Scott Tobias	(845) 427-0853
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House	Arnold Kravitz	(718) 982-5594
Membership	Bert Korteling	(917) 587-2814
Planning	Arnold Kravitz	(718) 982-5594
Product Show	Scott Tobias	(845) 427-0853
Program	Tor Sundlin	(973) 340-3666
Technical	W Jacquette Jr.	(212) 663-3167
Golf Outing	Anthony Drummond	(516) 480-8085

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Armstrong Ceilings, LumaVisions, Benjamin Moore Paints, and Decorating With Fabric for being sponsors.

We have a lot to be proud of here in the Metropolitan New York Chapter of CSI, including pride in our past. Our Chapter's 60th Anniversary is being celebrated all this year. I hope you've noticed that we are plastering this all over our web site! The plan is to have a large event in September to which the entire construction community will be invited. We will have a more intimate affair in June at our annual business meeting and awards night. The Co-Chairs of the Anniversary Planning Committee are Anthony Drummond and Arnie Kravitz. Contact them if you have an interest in working on this. Michael Bean is working on putting together a presentation on the history of the Chapter which will debut at the June event. You can help him out by sending him photos, old Addendums, or some remembrances that you have written down.

And finally there is the issue of leadership and the future of our Chapter. There are some great opportunities to hone your leadership skills in this organization. Being on a committee—or even chairing one—is a great start and gives you the opportunity to get to know your fellow members. The Board of Directors and the officers of the Chapter are welcoming of new ideas and energy, so please contact Bill DuBois or Arnie Kravitz about volunteering for a leadership position. The future of CSI really is in your hands!



Linton D. Stables, III, CSI, CCS, LEED® AP

Chapter President

## Time to Get Yourself Certified

*Metro New York CSI offers classes to help you pass*

The Certification Committee of the Metropolitan New York Chapter of CSI is offering a series of classes to help those who have signed up for the Spring CDT certification exams. A Certified Documents Technologist (CDT) is someone who has been tested on the knowledge of contracts, documentation, and concepts of construction procurement.

Luis Rosario-Lliveras, Chair of the Certification Committee, invites you to attend the classes, free of charge, starting on Thursday, February 3, at 6:00 p.m. in the offices of Perkins Eastman, 115 Fifth Avenue, New York. The classes will continue on Thursday nights at the same time and place for eight weeks.

To sign up for the classes please [e-mail Luis at lrosario@optonline.net](mailto:lrosario@optonline.net).

### Sixty Years!

We are going to be sixty years old this year, and we are nowhere near even thinking about retirement! **The Metro New York Chapter** is the oldest chapter in CSI, and we are going to celebrate in a big way! We will keep you posted on upcoming events. In the meantime, if you would like to help, please contact the Anniversary co-chairs [Anthony Drummond](mailto:adrummond@koroseal.com) (516-480-8085 or [adrummond@koroseal.com](mailto:adrummond@koroseal.com)) and [Arnie Kravitz](mailto:akravitz@besam-usa.com) (718-982-5594 or [akravitz@besam-usa.com](mailto:akravitz@besam-usa.com)). If you are interested in unearthing the history of our Chapter contact [Michael Bean](mailto:mbean1313@gmail.com) ([mbean1313@gmail.com](mailto:mbean1313@gmail.com)).



## Invitation

You are invited to participate in the FY2011 Northeast Region Conference. The Region Conference will be held on May 5-7, 2011 at the Holiday Inn Enfield-Springfield, 1 Bright Meadow Blvd, Enfield, CT 06082. Although there are some similarities to previous Region Conferences, you will also find many differences.

This Conference has been organized by the Region and the Conference Committee consists of people from several Chapters who believe in having an annual Conference for the Region. The intent is to provide the opportunity for a variety of activities and interests.

The Conference theme **“FIND YOUR PLACE”**, is just one indication of the variety of opportunities you will find. The Conference Technical program is intended to provide an opportunity for participants to earn continuing education credits (5 AIA LUs) for those that require them for Professional Registration, CSI Certification renewal or AIA Membership renewal.

We are planning a “Welcome Reception” on Thursday Evening, complete with Table Top Exhibits where Sponsors and other vendors will have the complete attention of the Conference participants for approximately 3 hours to promote their products and services. We are opening this reception to CSI Members and their guests that have not Registered for the Conference to increase the visibility of the sponsors and vendors as well as providing an opportunity for potential CSI Members to

become acquainted with our organization and the benefits of membership.

Friday will be “CSI Day” where the Institute and Region issues are addressed and our FY2010

Awards will be presented. During the morning sessions, you will have the opportunity to hear and ask questions about activities at the Institute level from Walt Marlowe, CSI’s CEO; Paul Bertram, FCSI, CDT, LEED AP, CSI President-elect and our two NE Region Institute Directors Howard Levine, FCSI, CDT and Denis Lemieux, CSI, CDT, LEED AP.

There will also be an opportunity to discuss and ask questions about Region activities. In the afternoon, we will be holding a “Train the Trainer” session on Membership Recruitment/Retention. We will be having our traditional Scholarship Auction on Friday evening followed by the Region Awards Banquet. We hope you will accept this invitation and join us in early May.



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## Region Conference Program

### Thursday May 5, 2011 (minimum of 5 AIA Continuing Education Units)

7:00 – 8:30 am Breakfast in hotel, free for up to 2 people for each hotel room

8:00 am - 4:00 pm On-site Registration Open

8:30 – 8:45 am – Welcome and Conference Overview

8:45 – 10:00 am – First Technical Session Period (3 concurrent sessions)

10:00 – 10:15 am – Break

10:15 am – 11:30 pm – Second Technical Session Period (3 concurrent sessions)

11:45 – 11:55 pm – Allowance for movement between activities

11:55 am – 1:45 pm – Buffet Lunch with presentation by CSI President-elect Paul Bertram, FCSI, CDT, LEED AP – “Envelope First Energy Efficiency” (1 AIA CEU)

1:55 – 3:10 pm – Third Technical Session (3 concurrent sessions)

3:10 – 3:25 pm – Break

3:25 – 4:40 pm – Fourth Technical Session (3 concurrent sessions)

4:40 – 5:15 pm – Free Time

5:15 pm – 8:15 pm Reception/Mixer/Table Tops/Cash Bar Mixer open to all Conference Registrants as well as any other CSI Members and guests that would like to attend. Attendees that are not Conference Registrants will be expected to “Sign-in” and leave a Business Card. Dinner on your own – An opportunity to have dinner with old or new friends, Restaurant Menus including reservation information will be available at “Conference Registration” desk.

### Friday, May 6, 2011

7:00 – 8:30 am Breakfast in hotel, free for up to 2 people for each hotel room

8:00 am – 11:30 am - On-site Registration Open

8:30 – 9:45 am – Institute Update – Walt Marlowe, Paul Bertram, Howard Levine & Denis Lemieux

9:45 – 10:00 – Morning Break

10:00 – 11:00 am - Annual Meeting

11:00 – 11:50 am - Region Forum (Note: No Break between Annual Meeting and Region Forum.

The exact time of end of the Annual Meeting and start of Region Forum will be based on activity)

12:00 – 1:45 pm – Plated Lunch with Motivational Speaker, Richard Tosti

1:45 – 3:00 pm - Membership Recruitment/Retention – Train-the-Trainer Workshop (For Chapter Presidents, Presidents-elect, Membership Chairs and others that are interested)

3:00 – 4:00 pm – Chapter Presidents/Presidents-elect Meeting (Intended for only Presidents, Presidents-elect and Vice Presidents)

4:00 – 6:00 pm – Free Time (Note: Entire afternoon is Free Time for those that are not involved in the other afternoon activities.

6:00 – 7:30 pm - Scholarship Auction/Cocktail Hour

7:30 pm - Banquet - FY10 Service and Honor Awards Presentation followed by entertainment

### Saturday, May 7, 2011

7:00 – 8:30 am Breakfast in hotel, free for up to 2 people for each hotel room

8:30 am – 12:00 pm – Region Board Meeting (Board Members & Committee Chairs) Major Items on Agenda – Report on success of Leadership Mentoring Program; Report on Future Region Conferences; Election of Region President and Region Secretary; and FY2012 Region Budget.



EUCLID CHEMICAL

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## REFLECTING FOR A MINUTE

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

By pure circumstance I laid the specs book I was reviewing next to the Bible on the coffee table. Odd, I thought afterwards, but yet there is a grand comparison between the two— similarities in some aspects very close and parallel. HmMMMM!

Of course, the bible pre-dates my spec [I didn't cut and paste that far back!] but the overall concept of both runs close— they each are trying to set a course and direct a path olfaction for a successful end. One perhaps more personal, but still a formula or plan outlined for set forth to good purpose and lasting use.

Specs, I submit, are roughly as old as the Bible, it is just that early-on they were not written [think of the reproduction house that had to chisel-cut 100 copies for distribution in Biblical times!!!!]. So, at that time they simply had to be verbal instruction accompanied by gestures, motions and direction-pointing— hands on! But still, what specs do with words only [for the most part] today WAS necessary and was done in ancient times. Project information changed over the centuries if you think of how complex the drawings had to be for the stone cutting on gothic cathedrals and the massive amount of information required for them [compared to Biblical work alone].

Yet despite all these years, all the discussion and innovations that has occurred, the legitimization of specifications as one of the Contract Documents, there is still rigorous on-going discussion. Why? And, too, we might add that while the specifications have been improved many fold by such as we, there is an embedded mind set [among many worldwide] that specifications are, 1] unneeded, 2] cumbersome, 3] overly restrictive, and 4] punitive, overbearing, mysterious and fraught with “traps” meant to ensnare the contractors. And Owners see them as unnecessary added cost!

We, the overall, from beginning of time congregation of spec writers evidently have failed— not in our work but in presenting ourselves, our work and our cause in a distinct and convening manner— more of accepted

necessity with full understanding, impact, compliance and use. Since the mid-1920s [and even before] there has been an open and active push for better, simpler and more streamlined specifications. Although, as you well know, much progress has been made, even though, construction methods and materials and systems and equipment and electronics have been increasingly complex and convoluted, we still tend to flounder in some areas; quibble in others, and flat dispute and argue in still others. the parts we've missed and evidently will continue to miss— is the one where we are more public with our effort [within the construction industry and elsewhere] and the development of future specifications practitioners to form a pool of available personnel. This, of course, is encased in an effort BEFORE CSI expertise in the academic and allied fields. This new effort would foster better understanding, more innovation, and a more concerted use of the documents by eliminating the foolish game-playing over words, who-does-what, and the other tomfoolery of construction.

Oh, yes, the simple task of remarketing and expanding CSI to non-members too, who in turn can make our members look better and produce better projects. For example, if we use the example of Professor Goldwin Goldsmith in 1935, specifications were taught in colleges [in his case, Texas; this was not true in every school but a good point to start from and expand ] and was a rigorous and important experience for the

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students. Now goldsmith's book was re-printed until 1961, but since he died in 1962, there has been no "refreshment" of the text. BUT, the real point is what has happened to Goldsmith's direction, instruction and intention since then.

Of course, CSI has been created and developed, but on a different premise and with no direct relationship to his idea of teaching the topic in the schools. Some firms were able to create and foster highly innovative and influential policies and procedures, many of which exist today in CSI's philosophy, teachings and documents. All well and good, but Goldsmith's concept, to me, needs, vitally!!!! to be re-created and installed in a universal manner, not for CSI [who can do—and should do the task!—, etc.] but for the good on the professions and construction industry!

But what remains is the lack of insight, lack of foresight and possibilities, lack of understanding by both CSI and the schools, no professional direction and support, lack of concerted effort nationwide for a universal course synopsis, a result that lingers, un-nourished, benign, neglect and rather summarily dismissed. But deeply capable of making an important impact! Shouldn't we at least try with a new energy and fresh synopsis?



## Why Should I Attend the Region Conference?

Twelve choices of technical sessions that will provide continuing education credits.


Meet and socialize with "old friends"

Make "new friends".

Opportunity to get product and service information from sponsors and vendors.

Meet and discuss information with counterparts from other Chapters.

Learn about Institute and Region issues from Institute and Region representatives.

 <p><i>The global leader in door opening solutions</i></p>	<p><i>Scott J. Tobias, AHC, CDT, CSI, LEED AP</i>            Director of Architectural Development</p> <p>Tel: 845-427-0853 * Cell: 854-742-4827 * Email: stobias@assaabloydss.com            Visit us at <a href="http://www.assaabloydss.com">www.assaabloydss.com</a></p>		
	<p>Product selection and consultation</p> <p>Pre-bid meeting</p> <p>Factory-trained technical support</p>	<p>Product Research</p> <p>Electronic access control consulting</p> <p>Product design review</p> <p>Submit review</p>	<p>Field hardware surveys</p> <p>Punch-list creation</p> <p>Specification writing and hardware schedule</p>

## Maintaining your Membership

Just a reminder to keep your membership active and contact information up to date. Running through our current list of members, there are many of you who have been long time members that have or are very close to having your membership expire.

If those of you could take a minute and let us know

how we can help, or to express your concerns, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Bert Korteling CSI Director/Membership Chairman Metropolitan New York Chapter CSI - [bkorteling@xypex.com](mailto:bkorteling@xypex.com) 917-309-7196

# Metropolitan Chapter CSI Monthly Schedule for FY 2011

October 13, 2010 - How to Make a Killer Presentation  
November 10, 2010 - Technology Design Principles in Modern Buildings  
December 8, 2010 - **Holiday Italiano!**  
January 12, 2011 - ~~Construction Jeopardy!~~ Snowed out  
February 9, 2011 - The Future of Door Hardware Specifying  
March 9, 2011 - Energy Usage, Savings and Changes in LEED-Certified Buildings  
April 13, 2011 - Tour of Columbia's Northwest Corner Building  
May 11, 2011 - Construction Jeopardy!  
June 8, 2011 - 60th Anniversary Membership Meeting and Awards Dinner

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## About CSI

CSI is a national association dedicated to creating standards and formats to improve construction documents and project delivery. The organization is unique in the industry in that its members are a cross-section of specifiers, architects, engineers, contractors and building materials suppliers. The organization has 146 chapters and more than 14,000 members. Monthly Chapter meetings allow members the opportunity to communicate openly with their counterparts and exchange information for successful project management. CSI is renowned in the industry for its rigorous certification programs for professionals seeking to improve their knowledge of accurate and concise construction documents. CSI provides continuing education, professional conferences and product shows. For more information, visit [www.csinet.org](http://www.csinet.org), or call (800) 689-2900.

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