



Specifications



DINNER MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2012
5:30 – 8:30 PM

Castagnola’s Restaurant
286 Jefferson at Jones Street

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Cost is \$10 for members of the San Francisco Chapter, \$45 for all others.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRE PRE-PAYMENT.

Place: Castagnola’s Restaurant **Time:** 5:30 PM - 6:45 PM Social Hour
 286 Jefferson, San Francisco 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Dinner & Program

Parking: Parking is available at the Fishermen’s Wharf Parking Lot at Jefferson and Taylor. Castagnola’s validates your parking for up to 3 hours. Also accessible using BART, ferry, and Muni.



President Linda Stansen

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE OCTOBER 2012

Construct was a really good show this year in Phoenix. The quality of the education sessions has steadily been improving over the past few years, and this past Construct was no exception. Along with quality improvement, there has been a subtle shift in structure to provide learning objectives which are useful and can be required for counting sessions for CEUs. We all need these units to maintain our professional credentials and I welcome the shift. It makes reporting easier in my opinion.

On the topic of Construct, I want to acknowledge two of our members who were elevated to the status of Fellow of CSI. Bryan Varner and John Guill have both been very active and supportive of CSI at a number of our local chapters. Both are very deserving of this honor. Congratulations!

And before I leave the subject of continuing education, I have asked the board to work on developing a self-report certificate for each of our dinner meeting presentations. We hope to be able to have a certificate available at the end of our meetings to anyone who requests one via Cvent. Our target roll out is the beginning of 2013. I will keep you updated on progress.

Last month I mentioned an Ambassador Program that was being reinstated. Dave Ingram and David Rausch did a presentation to DPR and report that it was very well received. The attendees – about 20 of them –were particularly interested in the CDT preparation lessons and exam. We hope that this may lead to an influx of new membership. And thank you very much to Dave and David for investing their time on behalf of our Chapter.

One other effort we will be putting forth shortly is having a board member call each of our members to check in on their needs, opinions, and suggestions for our chapter. Please be expecting someone to call in the next month or so, to say hello and get your personal feedback on how we are doing serving you as a Chapter and looking for ways that would improve CSI SF for you personally. Quality feedback is the only way we can really improve as a Chapter, so don't hesitate to let us know what you would like CSI to do for you!

Linda Stansen
 President
 San Francisco Chapter, CSI

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

November 14 – Dinner Meeting

December 12 – Holiday Party

January 9 – Dinner Meeting

February 13 – Dinner Meeting

March 13 – Dinner Meeting

OUR MEETING PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ONLINE VIEWING!

You'll find a link on our website
<http://sanfrancisco.csinet.org>
 On the top toolbar



San Francisco Chapter Construction Specifications Institute

VOL. XLVIII NO. 10 | OCTOBER 2012 | NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER | CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE



Scott Rowe and Bob Sharman at their tabletop display



September speaker Craig Boucher



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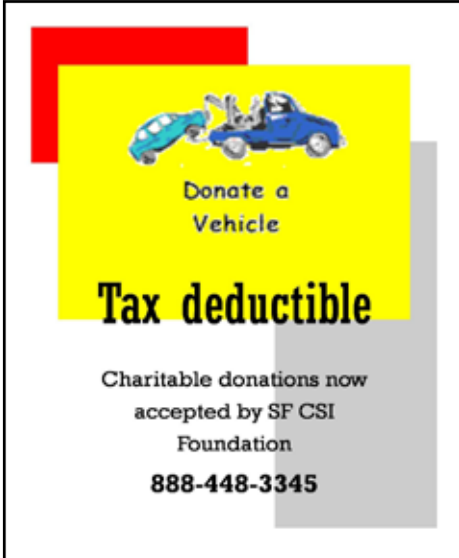
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Friday, November 9, 2012, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
XL Construction, 851 Buckeye Court, Milpitas, CA 95035

Cost: \$95 before November 1, \$115 after November 1
Contact: 408-297-0288 x14 or maia@mba-architects.net

Santa Clara Valley chapter is proud to present a unique opportunity to get education and interact with Industry experts on new tile standards, products, and installation materials and methods. If you specify and select stone, glass or ceramic tile, you will be interested. Gregory Mowat, FCSI, CDT, CTC, CMRS, CFC with 22 years experience in construction forensics, and David Bonasera, CTC, CSI, an expert in selecting and applications of natural stones, will both lecture on the new TCNA Standards and new Glass tile Standards.

The 2012 TCNA Handbook has increased in size and scope significantly from former editions, and special emphasis in materials has separated stone, glass and ceramic tiles. Substrates, tolerance for flatness depending on size, membranes, and wet areas will all be discussed. In the category of natural stone, a wide variety of treated and enhanced products is now coming into the market. We will learn the intricacies of installation techniques and appropriate uses of these products. Stone sealing, care, and maintenance will be discussed, as will different types of stone, and matching natural stone types and qualities to their appropriate uses

Finally, Dan Curtis will provide a live on-site demonstration of the correct installation of a shower pan.

For more information go to www.csiscv.org or email Julie Brown, julie@jkbspecs.com.

**PUBLISHED BY THE
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EDITORIAL POLICY

1. To inform members of the Chapter and Institute goals and activities directed toward these goals;
2. To inform members of the Chapter and Regional activities, Board actions; and
3. To provide a forum for all members.



ARE SPECIFIERS WEAK IN FAITH?

By Sheldon Wolfe, Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter

We started this series of articles with a question - What happened to the master builder? - and went on to talk about how the architect no longer is the master builder of old, for a couple of reasons. First, the continual increase in construction products, methods, and computer technology makes it virtually impossible for any one person to know all there is to know about construction, or even a significant part of it, and, more important, there was a conscious effort to divorce architects from hands-on experience and technical knowledge. Finally, as we will see, architects themselves have, through contract documents, reduced their importance, at the same time increasing the importance of the contractor.

Because of a CSI Specifiers Practice Group discussion in a couple of weeks, I'm moving this subject forward; we'll get back to changes in contract documents later.

About a hundred years ago, when AIA produced the document that eventually would become the familiar A201, much more work was done in the field. Reference standards had yet to be developed, and industry organizations did not yet offer the industry standards that are common today. And, because the architect was in control of the project, specifications were required to tell the contractor all that had to be done.

Since then, a lot has changed. We now have countless codes, industry standards, and reference standards, which, together, set minimum requirements for just about everything. Much more work is fabricated off site, in controlled factory conditions, making today's materials and products far more reliable and consistent than they were a century ago. We often hear about the great quality of bygone days, and there is some truth to that, but the reality is that today's work is generally superior.

All of these things suggest specifications should be shorter, and I believe that to be true. However, specifications are longer than ever, and seem to grow with each new version. The main reason is redundancy, a result of the specifier's lack of faith in the documents we use.

Let's start with the conditions of the contract, specifically the AIA documents, probably the most commonly used. Other general conditions are used, but they often are similar to those published by AIA.



Signing in; Steve Teeple and Eric Patricio



Steve Teeple and Paul Miller



Tim Maliepaard and Jim Patmont

Continued on next page



Ben Miller, Myron Kadillak, Dave Ingram

Continued from previous page

Read what is said about the responsibilities of the architect and of the contractor. In essence, the architect is responsible for showing what the building should look like, and what materials should be used where, and the contractor is responsible for pretty much everything else. Note there is nothing that requires the architect to tell the contractor, or manufacturer, or installer how to do their jobs. In fact, it states “The contractor shall be solely responsible for and have control over construction means, methods, techniques, sequences, and procedures and for coordinating all portions of the Work...”

This makes sense; the contractor knows more about how to run a job, the manufacturers know more about their products, and the installers know more about their work than the architect can possibly understand. So why do specifications delve so deeply into these matters? Why do they tell the contractor how to schedule, how to install, and how to coordinate?

There are good reasons for some of this. For example, it may be that part of a project has to be done first, to allow the owner to move from one area to another, but beyond that, it is the contractor’s job to figure out what gets done when.

In addition to the conditions of the contract, we have Division 01, which, properly used, can eliminate many of the requirements commonly found in specifications. In Division 01, we specify those things that apply to everything: selection of materials, storage, handling, installation, following manufacturers’ instructions, compliance with standards, acceptance of conditions, and so on.

With just those basic requirements, we’re well on the way to reducing the length of specifications. It requires faith, but it is logical, defensible, and enforceable. The basic rule is, if it’s in the conditions or Division 01, take it out of the section. Think of it as “specification by exception.” Rely on the documents, and all you need to worry about is how what you want differs from the standards or the manufacturers’ instructions.

Part 1: Use “related work” as intended, a way to help the reader find something that normally would be expected in this section but is not.

Part 2: Remove substitution requirements. If you have specific products in mind, state what they are. If you’re open to competitive products, specify the performance. Don’t specify those things that are not essential, and may not be the same for all products.

Part 3: Unless you know more about installation than the manufacturer and the installer, there isn’t much to say, except for quality control requirements.

Continued on next page

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Julie Barrett and Bob Mosblech



Continued from previous page

Know your reference standards. If you specify insulation as ASTM C578, Type IV, there is no need to go on and specify the thermal resistance, compressive strength, water absorption, or vapor permeance. On the other hand, if the standard you are using has options, be sure to indicate which are required.

When you specify more than necessary, you enter into the “means and methods” area, and, in so doing, you assume the contractor’s responsibility. If something goes wrong, the contractor can say, “I did what I was told” and you’re on the hook.

With faith in the documents, it should be possible to specify almost anything in half a page (at least for architectural products, though I suspect mechanical and electrical specifications also can be reduced). Using roofing as an example, if I state the wind loads, the required fire-resistive rating, the type of membrane, applicable standards, required options, warranty, and field quality control requirements, what else do I have to say? The manufacturer’s instructions cover all the related materials, and how it gets installed. Here’s where the exception part comes in; if the manufacturer’s standard flashing height is four inches, but I want eight, I say that.

The result? Easy to write, easy to bid, easy to enforce.

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Jim Patmont and Betsy Porter

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Tim Maliepaard, Linda Stansen, Bryan Jones



Mike Semple, Paul Miller, Dave Ingram



Richard Blach sells tickets for the wine raffle

WEST REGION CORNER

By David Willis, CSI CDT CCCM
President West Region, CSI

How is everyone doing? I know for myself time is flying by. I am beginning to wonder what I have gotten myself into. Craig Mount, you have my fullest appreciation for the job you have done in the past two years.

We have many things happening in the coming year, one of which we have all ready accomplished such as the excellent Leadership conference recently held in Walnut Creek on August 3. My sincere gratitude goes out to Valarie Harris, Neal Drell, Craig Mount, and Eric Camin for organizing the conference. A big thank you to all the presenters including Bob Siegrist, Joy Davis, Brian Cournoyer, and Laura Macaulay. This was a well attended leadership conference; and I have heard that the Southern California conference is already in the planning stages tentatively for August 2013.

Up next is the West Region Fall Board Meeting, to be held at the San Jose Airport Radisson Hotel on Saturday October 20, 2012. I have decided to convene the meeting at 10:00 A.M. to accommodate those board members flying in to San Jose so an overnight stay would not be required. For those of you wanting to book a room, they have a very good rate of \$79.00 plus tax, for Friday evening, October 19. There will be no formal speak out but for those of you coming in Friday, there will be an informal gathering at the hotel. Since we do not have to deal with the budget at this meeting, we should be able to cover the agenda and be done around 4:00 as usual.

Ed Buch will be sending out an agenda in the near future. If you have any questions about the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Before you know it, the Bi Region Conference will be upon us. As you all know, the conference will be held June 12 through 16, 2013, at the Davenport Hotel and Tower in Spokane Washington. It is very important that we let the Spokane Chapter know how many West Region folks to expect. I have promised a head count from the West Region after our fall board meeting. I am asking all region board members to canvas their chapters for potential attendees to the conference and to bring that information to the Board meeting in San Jose.



Myron Kadillak wins the next to last bottle

Continued on next page



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I was not able to attend the Institute Conference in Phoenix, but I have heard nothing but good things about the conference. Thank you to all West Region members who attended.

I want to also thank Eric Camin for taking the reins in Phoenix and for heading up the Region Caucus.

The Cal Poly Student affiliates to the Fresno Chapter will be holding their first member meeting on September 27 at 6:15 P.M. at the school. I do not have the venue yet and I apologize for the late notice. I plan to attend and will give a report at the fall board meeting.

By the time you read this I will have attended the Orange County Chapter Pro-Fair September 24th and the LA Chapter dinner meeting on the 25th. Then it is on to the Cal Poly meeting on the 27th. I have promised to visit each chapter during FY 13. My next trip will be to the Hawaiian Islands for the Hawaii Chapter's Annual Pro-Fair. Hopefully I will be able to bring back some good ideas to help other chapters with Product show issues.

I would like to ask all chapters to send me your monthly dinner meeting schedules and notices so I can plan ahead. I very much enjoy visiting the chapters and want to fulfill my promise of visiting you all this year.

Regarding the standing committees for the West Region, I want to thank Marni Vincent for recently stepping up to the Certification Chair, as well as John Guill, with Duane Johnson's guidance, for filling in the Academic affairs Chair.

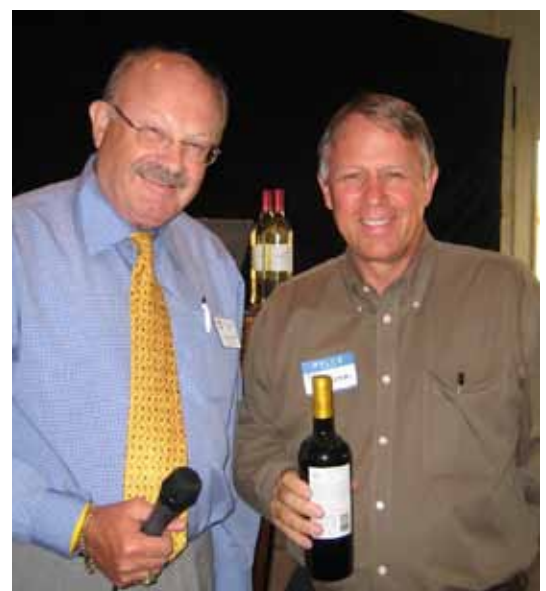
I guess that is about enough for now. Please feel free to contact me any time regarding questions on the Region. On behalf of the executive board, we remain at your disposal. Thank you!



A bottle of wine for Ben Miller



Jim Patmont, Jennifer Chambers, Myron Kadillak



A bottle of wine for Tom Absher



Vivian Volz and Mike Semple



Linda Stansen buys tickets for the wine raffle from Alan Tokugawa



Tim Maliepaard presents the last bottle to Julie Barrett

CSISTERS

By Vivian Volz

In the months running up to CONSTRUCT 2012, a group of CSI women started an online conversation, led by Lynn Javorosky, FCSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP. In a CSI group discussion on LinkedIn, Lynn asked, “A few of us are curious; are women still facing subtle discrimination on the job? Can we help each other?” 101 comments later, a movement has formed.

The group was announced on LinkedIn: “In honor of Mary Alice Hutchins’ pioneering of women’s membership in CSI, women members of CSI have formed a group – CSIsisterhood – to provide a constructive and supportive environment for professional and personal growth for women in the construction industry, and specifically, CSI members. The group is open and inclusive, offering encouragement and mentoring to women and supportive men.”

At CONSTRUCT, a small group of about thirty women gathered to discuss what direction the group will take. The event was part celebration, with a light mimosa brunch, and part planning meeting. Ideas such as meeting by webinar in a Practice Group format and continuing the conversation in the already-formed LinkedIn group were discussed. Several members of the San Francisco chapter were present and participated in the conversation. Six copies of JP “Perky” Kilborne’s biography of Mary Alice Hutchins were auctioned, with proceeds benefitting future activities of the group.

Hoping not to become too formal and rigid, the group continues to explore ways to connect and support women in the design, manufacturing and construction areas of CSI. Online conversations and one-on-one mentorships seem to be the main goals in the short term, with a larger gathering at next year’s CONSTRUCT in the works.

If you are interested in experiencing CSIsisters yourself, please contact Vivian Volz, Linda Stansen, or Anne Whitacre.



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA REGIONAL MATERIALS DATABASE

San Francisco CSI Green Committee

The Regional Materials Database lists over 400 manufacturers of building products and materials that are manufactured within a 500-mile radius of San Francisco, California. At \$125 for non-members and \$100 for members, it can save hours of searching for locally-made materials for your projects.

And now, by popular demand, two new discounts are available. If you were an Early Adopter of the Database and have your copy of the 2005 version, dig it out. It includes a key that gets you \$75 off the purchase of the current version. And if you are a student your price is \$25, member or not.

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Jim Patmont wins a bottle of wine in the raffle



Enjoying dinner



Mike Semple, Julie Barrett, Bob Mosblech, Linda Stansen



Lively discussions



San Francisco Chapter Construction Specifications Institute

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Photos from CONSTRUCT 2012



San Francisco members at the West Region Caucus



Bryan Jones works the booth



Tim Maliepaard, Bryan Jones



*Mike Young and Sheryl
Dodd-Hansen*



San Francisco Chapter Construction Specifications Institute

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Photos from CONSTRUCT 2012



Matt Crawford, Ed Buch, Jim Balboni



Tim Maliepaard, Michael Chambers



Matt Crawford, Tim Maliepaard, Vivian Volz, Julie Barrett, Greg Mowatt



New Fellow John Guill at the Awards Gala, with guest and Julie Barrett





San Francisco Chapter

Construction Specifications Institute

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Knowledge for Creating and Sustaining the Built Environment

CSI membership is composed of a cross-section of the construction industry - architect, engineers, contractors, developers, manufacturers, suppliers and representatives from allied industries. Chapter activities reflect the unbiased concerns of the entire industry - not one section of it. Members through the Chapter, Region and Institute have the opportunity to contribute their views and experience to the improvement of specifications and other contract documents.

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Nominations	Unassigned		

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Long Term Planning	Unassigned		
Strategic Communications	Vivian Volz	415-244-6756	vivianvolz@comcast.net