



Knowledge for Creating
and Sustaining
the Built Environment



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Portland Chapter - The Construction Specifications Institute

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Table of Contents:

December Meeting	1
President's Message	2
Perky's Notes	3
What Do You Say	4
Certification	5
Contacts	6

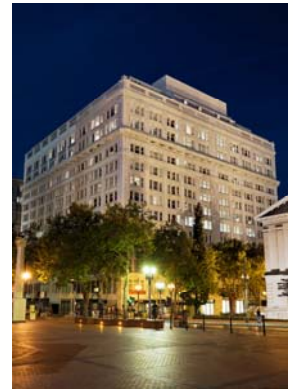


CSI Holiday Celebration at

the
NINES

525 SW Morrison Portland Oregon

Tuesday, December 9



Celebrate the Holiday Season with us at The Nines, Portland's newest hotel, at the top of the historic Meier & Frank Building, next to Pioneer Square in downtown Portland. We will meet at the new Atrium on the eighth floor for a mini-tour. We'll move into the new Georgian Room for socials, dinner and a short presentation.

Hear the story of The Nines from the folks who really know: Don Eggleston, CSI and Gary Golla of SERA Architects, Blake Patsy of KPFF Consulting Engineers, and Phil Dobbin, Hoffman Construction's superintendent.

The Nines is a Starwood "Luxury Collection" Hotel with 331 guest rooms located atop Portland's landmark Meier & Frank building, above Macy's department store; now known as Macy's at Meier & Frank Square.

. Here's a sampling of what you'll experience:

- Tour the Atrium, a Guest Room, the Grand Staircase, and the Ballroom.
- Enjoy fine dining in the Georgian Room.

See and hear The Nines Story: an innovative seismic design saves this unique historic structure; Macy's and the hotel share the building; creating a seven-story, light-filled atrium within the structure; surprises and challenges faced by Hoffman Construction; delivering a luxury-level LEED Silver hotel with minimum impacts on the construction budget.

Register now to assure a place for you and your guest. **(limit 80)**

No host bar – Cash only



\$65.00 per person - Member

\$75.00 per person - Non Member, walk in

Table of 8 \$500

5:00 PM tour from the atrium,

6:00 PM dinner & program

Register at www.portlandcsi.org

Questions: Jane Phifer, 503-805-2500, jane@portlandcsi.org

thanks to our sponsor



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Russ Pitkin, CSI, AIA



In the hard economic times that face all of us, and apparently will be with us for some time to come, everyone is looking at their budgets and evaluating whether or not to continue to support certain items currently in their budgets. Decisions will be made on the basis of perceived value for monetary cost. Many budget line items will be scrutinized to understand their true value and whether or not they weigh in over or under their cost.

CSI membership will undoubtedly be one of those line items. Are we getting value for our Institute membership dues? Is CSI important to what I do? I believe you will find the answers to these questions vary among everyone, are mostly subjective, and are predicated on the value you individually place on being a member of a national association dedicated to creating standards and formats to improve construction documents and project delivery. It also should include the meaning of certifications, networking associations, knowledge gained through those networking associations, and then, of course, the educational opportunities that touch on the specific hot topics de jour, that add to the value of membership.

If my high school Latin serves me well enough, an old Roman saying, *Manus Manum Lavat*, translated literally means hand washes hand, or more normally translated, one hand washes the other. Other similar sayings are meant to convey a message, to get the job done right, both are needed. When working with product representatives, contractors, engineers or architects, there is an exchange of knowledge that aids in getting the job done right from the correctness of the documents until the final acceptance of the project. All of the associations and combined knowledge are what it takes for the project to reach fruition.

CSI is the only association that brings all these associations together in one organization. So is CSI important to what you do? You bet it is, especially in these difficult economic times when working more efficiently is important to every aspect of the work we do.

So are we getting value for our Institute membership dues? Everything that we do is so intertwined with communication and The Institute has struggled over the last couple years of transitioning, as any company would in transition as they get business done and reorganize at the same time; and have evolved into a much stronger, more dynamic and efficient organization. The Institute, for their part, is providing more for the dollar now than in previous years by adding many new services and tools to make you better at what you do.

To help with green product information and choose products that fit your project, the Institute has launched a new tool, GreenFormat™ which debuted at Greenbuild in mid-November. Demonstrations and education sessions were held throughout the week of Greenbuild giving it plenty of exposure to the sustainable construction community. This new CSI Format for critical building product sustainability information is a web-based tool to save designers and constructors time, with the results organized by MasterFormat and are spec-friendly. CSI is offering manufacturers free on-line product listings for a limited time.

To help you track your required continuing education hours, the Institute christened the Continuing Education Network which will track continuing education hours for any number of different organizations associated with the building industry. The first issue of the CSI CEN Learner Source came out in November. This newsletter is meant to keep you up-to-date on the latest CSI CEN news, highlight upcoming continuing education events, help you to more easily administer your continuing education information, and educate you about new or enhanced functions in the online system.

The Institute also tries to get its members recognition through its award programs. The Excellence in Construction Information Award was approved and will debut in 2010. It will recognize the innovative efforts of construction industry professionals in the preparation of written construction documents, and the processes and tools used to create them. The award is an expansion and enhancement of the previous Specifications Competition Award. The award will be jointly administered by CSI and Specifications Consultants in Independent Practice (SCIP).

The Institute has worked to improve the awards program. The Michelangelo Buonarroti National Award criteria was amended. The CSI Board approved expanding the pool of individuals eligible to serve on the Michelangelo Award Panel of Judges to include distinguished leaders in his/her field, and widely known for individuals recognized for their skills and level of competence. The Board also approved additional flexibility for the Panel of Judges to determine the form of the statue or plaque that is presented.

The Institute has innovated, improved, and initiated programs for educational opportunities and recognition for exceptional performance, all the while working to get you the best value for your membership dollar. When you stop and think about it, the governance modifications alone will make the organization more efficient and effective when finalized. Yes the Institute has done much to help and improve the way we get business done through its transitioning period.

PERKY'S NOTES

By: Perky Kilbourn, CSI



Topic - How do you define "Green"?

Before reading this article you should visit www.pharosproject.net.

The presenter was Eden Brukman, LEED AP, the Research Director for Cascadia Region Green Building Council.

Eden Brukman started her remarks by explaining that the Pharos Project was supported by:

1. Healthy Building Network.
2. U of Tennessee Center for Clean Products and Clean Technologies.
3. Cascadia Region Green Building Council.

The Pharos Project, as explained in www.pharosproject.net, is a consumer communicating tool with three areas or wedges.

Social - Community

Environment - Resource

Health - Pollution

Within each area or wedge was more information on specific attributes. It reminded me a lot of the Spec Data Program only with the additional information being the "Green" certification of the product. This "Green" certificate of a product would identify potential LEED credits.

Quoting an e-mail message from Eden which I received after writing these notes: "Please help your readers understand material selection protocol is about *so much more* than LEED credits. Ideally, the lens for each product will communicate the comprehensive impacts - moving away from the focus on a single attribute issue. Thinking big picture, the Social/Community issues are vastly more significant than, say, if a product contains recycled content, for example."

Members of the construction industry are trying to help owners construct buildings which are "Green" by using "Green" products. Portland Chapter CSI is trying to introduce its members to sustainable architecture which is also known as "Green" building.

A handout was available about Cascadia Region Green Building Council. They are convening the continent's deepest-green building professionals on May 6 - 8, 2009. Quoting their literature, ". . . two days of kinetic dialogue and unbridled imagination to catalyze revolutionary change."

One of their goals is to invent creative solutions to challenging global issues which include climate change, habitat loss, persistent toxic chemicals and social inequality. In addition, they want to activate communities to work together and create sustainable cities. Finally, they are also focusing on restorative design, with its living building challenge and the desire to create livable communities.

WHAT DO YOU SAY? .. News and views from the Specifiers Share Group

By: Fred Herbold, CSI, CCS

Firestopping

DateLine: November 13, 2008, ZGF, Portland, Oregon: Specifiers' Share Group, hosted by ZGF, attends a Firestopping presentation prepared by HILTI, and presented by Don Bates, CSI.

Consider the elements of Life Safety in buildings:

- Detection and Alarm

- Fire Suppression (fire sprinklers)

- Egress system

- Fire-Smoke Containment and Compartmentation.

The last two are interrelated and are both dependent upon fire and smoke proofing at penetrations and joints in fire resistive construction.

Firestopping (which includes smokestopping) is the name of the tested products that provide fire and smoke tight seals in various types of fire-resistive construction. Firestopping has been divided into two groups: 1) those for penetrations, and 2) those for joints.

Penetrations are of two types: through penetrations and membrane penetrations. An example of a membrane penetration is a drain pipe connected to waste piping inside a gypsum board fire wall; only one side (one membrane) of the wall is penetrated by the pipe. Most penetrations are through-penetrations, they go in one side and come directly out of the other side. If the fire wall consists of two membranes like gypsum board construction, both membranes must be firestopped at through penetrations.

Joints in fire-resistive construction are usually designed to accommodate movement of some kind, contraction-expansion, wind-sway, or seismic. Joint firestopping systems are categorized by their capability to stop joints of various widths and movement. The length of the joint is unlimited.

The 2006 IBC and 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code require that firestopping systems be tested. Penetration firestopping must be tested according to ASTM E 814 or UL 1479. Joint firestopping systems must be tested per ASTM E 1966 or UL 2079. An advantage of requiring compliance with UL is the materials will be labeled and the system is listed and published by UL. What we called "fire safing" or just "safing" between exterior curtain wall and edge of floors is now called "Perimeter fire-containment system" by UL. The 2007 OSSC requires testing per ASTM E 119 with special conditions or testing per ASTM E 2307.

Test results are listed as various "ratings" and for movement by "class". Here is a summary taken from Master-Spec® Supporting Documents:

F-ratings indicate that the firestop system withstood the fire test for the rating period without the following taking place: flames passing through openings, flaming of any element on the unexposed side of the firestop system, and any openings developing that permit water from the hose stream to project beyond the unexposed side.

T-ratings indicate that heat transmitted through the firestop system during the rating period did not raise the temperature of any thermocouple on the unexposed firestop system surface or on any penetrating item by more than 325 deg F above its initial temperature.

The Code requires minimum F- and T-ratings of 1-hour but not less than the rating of the associated construction.

L-ratings indicate the amount of air leakage through the firestopping during testing and indicate how well systems resist the passage of smoke. L-ratings are required by the 2006 IBC for penetrations in smoke barriers. Smoke barriers may or may not also require fire-resistance ratings according to the 2006 IBC. However, because L-ratings are assigned after F- and T-ratings as part of the same test, firestopping with an L-rating will also have F- and T-ratings.

W-ratings indicate the ability of cured firestopping to resist the passage of water under a 36-inch pressure head, which is approximately equal to 12 inches of water standing on a firestop assembly. The 2006 IBC does not require W-ratings.

W-rating can be used to provide temporary weather protection in high-rise construction, for example, install W-rated firestops every third floor to protect interior construction below. W-rating might be considered to protect valuable property below from fire sprinklers above.

Movement Classes I, II, and III in Underwriters Laboratories' (UL) *Fire Resistance Directory* coordinate, respectively, with entries in UL 2079. Class I systems are for expansion and contraction joints, Class II systems are for wind-sway joints, Class III systems are for seismic joints, and Class II and III systems are for combined movement joints involving both wind sway and seismic movement.

Continued on page 5

SPRING 2009 CERTIFICATION CLASS

By: Michael Madias, CSI, CCS

The holiday season activities will soon be upon us and may lead to temporary distraction. If you have any thoughts of taking one of the CSI Certification Exams, get registered now so you can focus on the merriment and madness that will surely follow.

We're talking professional development here. Completing any of the Certification exams raises confidence and credibility. Invest in yourself and invest in your employees. It's a smart thing to do.

The Portland Chapter is trying to organize a separate study group for candidates interested in taking the CCCA exam. The Construction Contract Administrator program strengthens knowledge of the construction process and contractual relationships, and by passing this exam candidates will have the ability to administer construction contracts as prescribed by CSI. If you see the benefits of taking this exam, contact mike@beautifulbuildings.com.

WHAT DO YOU SAY? .. *Continued from page 4*

Building codes do not currently address movement class or movement capability in fire resistive joint systems. The design professional should select the proper Class for the project conditions.

Other Considerations: Sound transmission ratings are available with some systems. Both STC and ITC can be critical at some penetrations and joints in residential construction. Exposed material should comply with the appropriate burning characteristics Class of ASTM E 84. Healthy building specifications always require joint materials with VOCs less than 200 grams/liter.

Quality Assurance and Control: Typical good practice applies to this work including: Require products from a single manufacturer but be ready to review a substitution for several with skepticism.

- Require installation by a single firm but be ready to review a substitution for several with skepticism.

- Require a Firestopping Schedule submitted with all types of conditions, substrates, systems, UL Listing, ratings, and other data specified.

- Require a pre-installation meeting.

- Require coordination of inspection and approval by Authority Having Jurisdiction prior to covering or finishing.

Installer Qualifications: FMG introduced a system of qualifying installers, but it has not been widely

accepted. UL is introducing a similar system, let's wait and see. For now, it may be best to specify "experience" and the following:

Installer Qualifications: A firm with individuals employed on this Project who have been trained by the Manufacturer for installation of systems required for this Project.

Specifying firestopping in a single Section 07 84 00 – Firstopping combines penetration and joint fire-resistant systems. It simplifies the creation and enforcement of firestopping, particularly when performance specifying method is used.

Some specifications systems like MasterSpec® provide Sections that separate penetrations from joints. They use MasterFormat® Section 07 84 13 – Penetration Firestopping and Section 07 84 46 – Fire-Resistive Joint Systems.

In closing, with thanks to Don Bates, CSI, here are some notes about currently available firestopping products.

Firestop sealants are available in "paintable" formulas for exposed conditions. Further, there is a choice of colors including off-white.

HILTI and others now offer a pre-firestopped concrete floor sleeve for through-penetration piping that is UL listed. The firestopping is intumescent and the annular gap is closed by a thin rubber membrane. Additional material will be required if sound or water resistance is necessary.

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Puget Sound, Seattle, WA (Second Thursday)

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Mt. Rainier, Tacoma, WA (First Thursday)

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