



March 10th Meeting Evolving Specifications – What's the Future?



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Principal of Conspectus, Inc.
President SCIP (independent specifiers)
Immediate Past-President Philadelphia Chapter CSI
Thought Leader CSI's Specifying Practice Group

Just as drawings evolved from linen to electronic models as BIM so must specifications evolve. The traditional MasterFormat specifications served an industry organized by design discipline and construction trade. Today, these distinctions blur as design and construction teams become more collaborative. BIM supports collaboration, while traditional specifications encourage segregation.

Traditional specifications hinder design and construction teams from tapping the power of electronic data describing each construction project. **Instead, consider new forms for specifications to meet the ever changing project delivery systems springing from today's electronic capabilities.**

Replacing MasterFormat specifications with UniFormat project descriptions (or dynamically switching between the two formats) allows models, specifications and estimates to be aligned, all under the same organizational system.

The future is never certain. So come ready to share your opinion, too.

Sponsored by The Blue Book

Location: Cefelo's, Carnegie, PA
5:00 Board Meeting 5:30 Social
6:15 Dinner 7:00 Program

Cost \$35
Reservations: MAZell@NationalGypsum.com
(412) 951-8715

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Region Conference

March 2015

The **Middle Atlantic Region Conference** will be hosted by the Philadelphia Chapter, **April 30 - May 3, 2015.**

click here for more info

The **Leadership Orientation Seminar (LOS)** will be in York, PA, **August 14 & 15, 2015.**

Pittsburgh Chapter will host the **Middle Atlantic Region Conference in 2017.**



DETAILING INNOVATION

CSI Philadelphia invites you to join us to engage with leaders from across the region and nation in a conference aimed at sharing the latest innovations of the building and construction industry.

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Jerry Yudelson
President
Green Building Initiative
[Friday Luncheon]

AND



Francis Rabuck
Futurist, Visionary, Communicator
Technology/Strategy Research Analyst
[Saturday Luncheon]

Conference venue is the **Best Western Concordville Inn**, Concordville, PA nearby to the beautiful Brandywine Valley and Kennett Square

Visit **www.marc2015.org** for more info



CSI 2015 Mid-Atlantic Region Conference
April 30-May 3, 2015



Highlights from the Board

March 2015

FEBRUARY 10, 2015 CEFALO'S RESTAURANT, CARNEGIE, PA

PRESIDENT:

LOS (leadership orientation seminar) schedule for August 15 in York, PA.

HOSPITALITY:

Looking for help on the committee especially for the Holiday Gala. Considering new event for holiday party. Discussed ways to increase design professional attendance.

PROGRAMS:

April is student outreach with possible participation of Chatham U. students. Considering a May plant tour.

CERTIFICATION:

Ray Nunamaker of StructureTec Group purchased one CDT Home Study course.
Exams start March 30, 2015.

TECH/ED:

Josh Telenko considering doing a presentation on estimating. FedEx Ground / Chuck Kovach requesting certification course.

AWARDS:

Region Awards have been selected. Thornton to inform winners to encourage them to attend Region Conference in April.

LONG RANGE PLANNING:

In a holding pattern presently.

CHAPTER ELECTIONS:

President Vernon to discuss nominees with immediate past presidents. Nominations in March.

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Member Profile: Dante Amato

March 2015

What is your company and what is your position?

The Blue Book. I am a Private Project Consultant.

Tell us about your job.

My job is broken into two main parts:

1 - I help architects, owners, and GC's communicate with the construction industry through the use of The Blue Book's database of construction projects. Construction projects are listed accurately and completely which helps keep the entire construction industry informed.
2 - I sell The Blue Book's construction management software packages; Building Blok & One Team. Our software helps with, tracking and managing RFIs, change orders and submittals etc.

What part of your job do you most enjoy?

I enjoy breaking through the "salesman v. prospect" dynamic and truly becoming a valued partner with each of my customers.

If you weren't in your current job, what would you be doing?

I would be a chef or traveling around the world... if I had the \$\$.

What is the funniest/oddest thing that has happened in your professional career?

One time I told a customer that the cost of his service was going up 10% and he looked me straight in the eye and told me, I quote, "you are out of your 'f***ing' mind". I knew at that point I had arrived as full-fledged salesman.

What year did you join CSI?

2014.

"When confronted with a problem or challenge there are three things you can do: You can do the right thing, the wrong thing or you can do nothing. By far the worst thing you can do in nothing."

Why did you join CSI?

I joined CSI because of the great networking opportunities and I need to learn more about the spec writing and product selection side of the business.

What people influenced you most?

Personally - my mom and dad. Professionally - in my first job out of college (I'll spare you the details) I met a wise old man who taught me the importance of finding the all-important work/life balance. As I moved into the commercial construction industry, I'd have to say my managers both with The Blue Book and at McGraw-Hill Construction (Dodge).



Member Profile (cont'd)

March 2015

What do you see as the value of CSI membership?

My role as a Private Project Consultant is actually a new venture for me and The Blue Book. The knowledge and experience the CSI group has collectively will help me as I move forward in this role.

What CSI certifications have you earned?

As of now, none but let's talk.

What would you want somebody considering CSI membership to know?

The Pittsburgh Chapter is a very friendly group of people. CSI as a whole is a great source of information for anyone who is connected to the construction industry.

Person you learned the most from:

My mom.

Tell us about your family.

I am married (21 years) with two children ages 17 and 13. Getting ready to send my oldest off to college.

What's your favorite city?

I just visited Denver and I have to say, it is great city. I'm originally from Philadelphia so better at least give honorable mention to my home town. Sorry Penguins fans.

What's your passion?

Cooking, Soccer and Traveling.

What's a true sign of success?

Happiness, being content, keeping stress at a manageable level. Money is important but it is not the only thing. I believe you are successful when you have the time and resources to spend with family and friends and you truly enjoy those times.

Best advice anyone ever gave you:

When confronted with a problem or challenge there are three things you can do: You can do the right thing, the wrong thing or you can do nothing. By far the worst thing you can do is nothing.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I am one of seven children.

I have a bucket list a mile long, but at the very top of that list is I want to spend a year or two living in Italy.

Member News

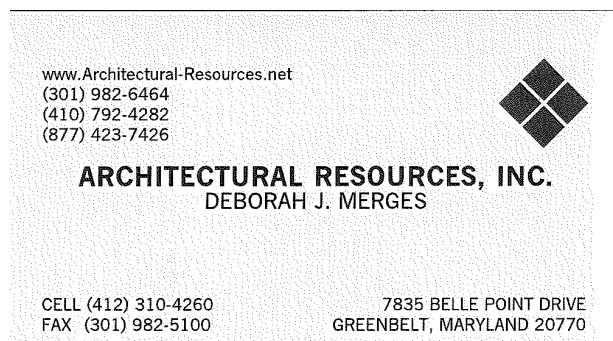
March 2015

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

35th	Nicholas Lardas	Niko Contracting Company
21st	Duncan Penney	Michael Baker Corp.
20th	Scott Cruttenden	Cruttenden Construction Services
19th	Robert Sechler	Hill International
14th	Michael Lipchik	Mike Lipchik, CSI, CDT
9th	Tom Derubeis	Arch Aluminum & Glass
9th	Marc Zell	National Gypsum Company
9th	Richard Strayer	Maffei Strayer Furnishings
8th	Deborah Merges	Architectural Resources, Inc.
6th	David Glorioso	Allegion
5th	Eric Matyskiela	M&G Architects and Engineers
3rd	Jeremy Perchinsky	Chicago Metallic
1st	Ray See	Bridges & Company

NEW MEMBERS

Not Available



April 14th Meeting

March 2015



Are You Smarter Than A Specifier? Flaunt your knowledge of the construction industry! contestants will be chosen from the audience and asked three questions. Just like the show, contestants will have a partner to call upon for help. If you know the answers, you just might be smarter than a specifier!

This program explores construction specifications knowledge in a fun game show-styled program. Learn about the variety of construction types often encountered, and expand your appreciation for the collaborative resources available to the design team's communication tools.

5:00 Social

5:30 Board Meeting

6:15 Dinner

7:00 Game On!

Location: Cefalo's in Carnegie.

428 Washington Avenue

412-276-6600

Cost: \$35

Reservations: Marc Zell by Friday April 10. MAZell@NationalGypsum.com 412-951-8715

SketchSpec Competition

March 2015



Do you know what this is?

And if you do, could you write a specification for it?

If you think you can write a specification for a fictional object or structure, we invite you to enter CSI Pittsburgh's "SketchSpec" competition, whereby contestants will be asked to write a single specification section that best describes the object or structure.

Entries will be evaluated on conformance to CSI format as well as content and creativity.

Entries will be judged by a panel of individuals from another chapter in our region.

The competition is open to all members.

Topic: To be announced. (it just might be a duck blind!)

March 10 2015 meeting - Submission forms will be available.

May 2015 meeting - All entries due.

June 2015 meeting - winner announced.

For information contact Courtney Watson

cwatson@wondoor.com

724-691-0934

CSI Academies

March 2015

The CSI Academies

April 16-18, 2015
San Francisco, CA
www.csinet.org/academies

Early registration (By Feb. 27): member \$510/non-member \$610
Final registration (By April 9): member \$645/non-member \$745

The CSI Academies teach construction industry skills that can improve your performance.

- ◇ Product Representatives Academy (PRA)
- ◇ Contract Administrator Academy (CAA)
- ◇ Construction Specifier Academy (CSA)

Early registration (By March 19): member \$510/non member \$610
Final registration (By April 9): member \$645/nonmember \$745

Conversations You Won't Find Anywhere Else

Only CSI brings together specifiers, architects, contract administrators, and product representatives to discuss these issues:

- ◇ Exploring Ethics in AEC (PRA)
- ◇ Manufacturer Specifications Review: Do Your Guide Specifications Meet the Standards? (PRA)
- ◇ Big Projects: Data Mining for Success (PRA)
- ◇ Collaboration for Tomorrow (PRA)
- ◇ Meeting of the Minds: An Effective Pre-Construction Conference (CAA)
- ◇ Punch Lists: The Beginning of the End (CAA)
- ◇ Flexing the Specs: How Specifications Change with Delivery Methods (CSA)
- ◇ Informed Consent for Specifiers - Is There a Doctor in the House? (CSA)
- ◇ Now That I Have BIM, Why Do I Need Specs? (CSA)

Learn more about these sessions at www.csinet.org/academies.

CSI Certification Exams

March 2015

Registration for the spring 2015 CSI Certificate/Certification Exams is now open.

The new registration deadline and extended exam window are:

Registration deadline: March 13, 2015

Exam window: March 30, 2015 - May 9, 2015

By opening registration now and extending the exam window, CSI is allowing candidates the 8-12 weeks of study CSI's Strategic and Maintenance Certification Committees recommend. To keep registration easy during this truncated registration window, CSI will have only one registration deadline, and candidates will pay only the early registration exam fee. There will be no "final registration deadline" or associated higher price.

To register, candidates should visit www.csinet.org/certification. They'll be directed into CSI's new web portal (portal.csinet.org), where they will first log in, and then select an exam under "Apply for New Certifications" on the right. Candidates who do not already have a profile with CSI will need to create one before they register.

Candidates who register online are processed faster than candidates who fax or mail in applications, which can affect their options when scheduling their exam at a testing center. I strongly encourage your candidates to register online.

We encourage candidates to focus their preparation using the appropriate Candidate Handbook and CSI Practice Guide at this time. Certificate/Certification support materials, including study workbooks updated for this exam cycle, will be released through CSI's online store shortly. CSI will announce the release of these materials in CSI Weekly, in CSI's social media channels, and by email.



Chapter Leadership

March 2015

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