

RECALL; REFURBISH; REUSE

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In one of my other lives, I was some 15 years into being a Building Code Official in a major jurisdiction in Ohio. But I was aware of specifications, having been in private practice (in yet another life) and with some experience in writing specifications.

Also, there was a lot of hashing around at that time (not long after the Kansas City Hyatt disaster) on how building codes and specifications should best interrelate. Of course there was still the on-going "discussion" which was more mundane—building codes or specifications! I knew better and tried (!!!!) to convince those I was in contact with that BOTH were indeed important!

That situation along with a "minor" interest in case law and its impact on the code situation brought me to the point that I wrote a paper and submitted it to CSI. Kindly and patiently they suggested that it be converted into a monograph that could be added to the series they had available at the time (early 1990's).

Hence the publication of REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS, CSI Monograph No. 01M060, (now long gone into oblivion and the abyss of lost documents).

At the time, being on the code-side, I was not into MasterSpec, or MasterFormat, etc., so I was presumptuous enough to include the proposal for a new specifications Section called Regulatory Requirements, Section 01060 (this was in the 5-digit days). The basic idea was to bring the some discussion of code information to the fore and make it both more important to the design professional and address the concerns of the code professionals.

The idea at that time was to include an expression (i.e., listing) of the code documents that were involved in the design of the associated project, which would therefore require compliance in the actual construction through inspection cycle. This was to be an "official" listing to be retained in the archives of the code agency for the statutory time, and would be available to anyone, including those involved in litigation.

Well, to say the least, the monograph didn't appear on the NY Times bestseller listing, and in fact, I am not sure if any copies were sold at all. As my life then changed several times, I lost track of the work until I guess CSI "lost" it from their list of publications. I thought it a good piece and kept it forwhatever!?

Having heard Gerald Katz's educational session at the convention the other year, and seeing his happy face (happy to appear again this year???) and his kind distribution of his work, I thought I'd "lay" my piece on him. Gentleman that he is.....strike that- Brilliant gentleman that he is, he replied:

"Thank you for sending me a copy of your monograph. I enjoyed reading it.

I am sure it would come as no surprise to you to learn that the issues you addressed when you wrote this in 1992 still affect the design and construction professions today."

With that glimmer of hope, I then passed it along to CSI, to see if they could find any residual interest in the hallowed halls for the piece. The response was a possible posting it on the web site, and I should produce an article about it, and make reference to its continued existence, just in case anyone was interested.

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That done--above-- for recall, refurbishing and reuse!

Give me an e-mail (I have the piece electronically, and updated to MF04) if you need sleeping pills to sleep (I offer no guarantee), or if you have a smidgeon of interest. In any event, I do recommend it! Some old stuff remains valid.

Applause, fine--but money is.....well, nicer!!