

KnowHow

the materials and specifications advisor

Journal of Specifications Consultants in Independent Practice

Issue Number 65 - Fall 2003



Slick Snapshot of Savvy Specifiers at Our 2003 Annual Meeting in Chicago

CSI Masterformat 2004 - Last Chances to Comment!

Milestones in the development of CSI MasterFormat 04:
September 19 - Major Stakeholder Meeting, Washington
October 19 - CSI Board of Directors meeting, Philadelphia
November 7 - Last day for receipt of comments/questions
November 15 - CSI Task Team finalizes MasterFormat 04.
(view at www.csinet.org/technic/mfrevision.htm#draft4)

Mark Your Calendars Now For The 2004 SCIP Annual Meeting:

Saturday, April 24, 2004 at the
Chicago Athletic Association Bldg.
In conjunction with the CSI Conv,
Chicago, Illinois. See you there!
Details to be published in January...

SCIP OFFICERS**2002-2004****President**

KERIN (DANE) DODD-HANSEN, CSI, CCS
 Dodd-Hansen Consulting Group
 4939 Country View Lane
 Fair Oaks, CA 95628
 OFC (916) 965-4727 FAX (916) 966-0556
 dane@dodd-hansenconsulting.com

Vice President

JOHN REGENER, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA
 Architect-Certified Construction Specifier
 6 Amberwood
 Irvine, CA 92604-3102
 OFC (949) 653-5743 FAX (949) 551-0658
 regener@cox.net

Webmaster

DAVID E. LORENZINI, FCSI, CCS, Assoc AIA
 Architectural Resources Company
 212 Brown's Meadow Court NE
 Leesburg, VA 20176-2328
 OFC (703) 443-2801 FAX (703) 443-2354
 deloren@scip.com

Immediate Past President / KnowHow Editor

MARK KALIN, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, LEED
 Kalin Associates
 154 Wells Avenue
 Newton Centre, MA 02459
 OFC (617) 964-5477 FAX (617) 964-5788
 mkalin@kalinassociates.com

Treasurer/Membership Chair

DAVID METZGER, FAIA, CSI, NCARB
 Heller & Metzger PC
 5100 Washington Avenue NW, Suite 515
 Washington, DC 20016
 OFC (202)364-2222 FAX (202) 364-9593
 davem@hellerandmetzger.com

Vice President

MICHAEL CHAMBERS, FAIA FCSI CCS SCIP
 MCA Specifications
 206 Greenview Drive
 Daly City, CA 94014-3404
 OFC (415) 239-6566 FAX (415) 239-6568
 michael@mcaspecs.com

Secretary

HELGA BRADY, CSI, CCS
 Architectural Specifications
 190 Avacado Street
 Encinitas, CA 92024
 OFC (760) 942-6555 FAX (760) 942-6556
 hbrady@helgabradyl.com

Specifications Consultants in Independent Practice is a nationwide technical resource organization that assists architectural firms, engineering firms, design professionals, agencies, facility managers, and manufacturers in acquiring specifications from qualified writers, and allows independent specifiers to enhance their professionalism by sharing techniques and industry developments.

Who is SCIP? 140+ Specification Consultants preparing specs for 6,000+ projects annually with a construction value in excess of \$50 billion.

KnowHow is the semi-annual publication of the Specifications Consultants in Independent Practice, intended to provide technical and membership information of interest to readers. Opinions expressed in KnowHow are viewpoints of the individual authors and should not be attributed to SCIP. Mention of manufacturer's names or trade practices is not intended as an endorsement of firms, products or construction techniques. Copyright 2003 SCIP. All rights reserved.

For a membership application form, go to www.scip.com/hmember.htm or Call David Metzger at (202)364-2222. Current membership categories include active members, retired members and correspondents.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, AIA, CSI, CCS, SCIP

SCIP continues to move ahead at a brisker pace than ever in our 35 year history. Our membership continues to grow and our activities expand. My objectives have been, and remain, to accomplish the following:

First, to continue and expand the programs initiated by Mark Kalin in an effort to increase SCIP's visibility and improve the image of specifiers within both the design professions and the construction industry.

Secondly to establish a range of activities and benefits that our members can participate in and gain from.

And third, to try to answer as many of the questions that recur every year at our Annual Meeting as possible.

In the effort to increase our visibility and the perception of specifiers, so far this year we have engaged in the following activities:

The CSI Show and Convention in Chicago, April 8th-11th, 2003: For the second year we had a booth on the convention floor, and although not as good a location as in Las Vegas, we still attracted a lot of interest. We presented the "2nd Annual Specifiers Forum" program and this time received very high marks from the participants. Our Annual Membership Meeting was held at the Chicago Athletic Association and Edith Washington, President-Elect of CSI, was asked to co-moderate the meeting. Our luncheon was sponsored by Centria Architectural Systems and the USG legal counsel gave a presentation on the current status of the Asbestos Crisis in America. The Board met following the Annual Membership Meeting.

The AIA National Convention in San Diego, May 8th-10th, 2003: As our first presence at this convention we chose to take Colin Gilboy of 4specs.com up on his offer to share a booth on the convention floor. Our Membership Meeting was small but dynamic. ARCOM hosted our luncheon and gave a presentation and discussion of the current evolution of MasterSpec. The Board held its second meeting of the year following the Membership Meeting.

CSI University in Philadelphia, June 27th-29th, 2003: A panel presentation "The Future of Specifications" was given as one of the 7 technical programs. Again our Program received a very positive response from the participants. At Edith Washington's request Mike Chambers and I met with Karl Borgstrom, Gary Betts and Edith to discuss future interaction between CSI and SCIP. At the conclusion of the meeting we agreed that Karl and I would begin discussing the framework for a Strategic Alliance between CSI and SCIP. The Board met at the conclusion of CSI University.

Additionally we are planning to have a presence and participate in the following upcoming national events during the remainder of this year:

Society of American Registered Architects (SARA) National Convention in New York, October 15th-19th: The activities we will engage in and our representatives have not yet been determined

GreenBuild International Conference and Expo (USGBC) in Pittsburgh, November 12th-14th, 2003: We have been invited to share CSI's Booth, and Doug Hartman (Chair of our LEED Committee) will represent SCIP while assisting Ross Spiegel with his presentations.

We will also be present and participate in the following regional events this year:

AIA Monterey Design Conference in California, Sept. 15th-17th, 2003: Represented by Mike Chambers and myself.

CSI West Region Conference in Kona, HI, September 25th-28th, 2003: We will be presenting a panel program entitled "Extreme Specifying" and we will hold our 8th Annual West Region SCIP Membership Meeting.

AIA Build Virginia, November 6th & 7th, 2003: Represented by David Lorenzini.

AIA Build Boston, November 18th-20th, 2003: Represented by Mark Kalin.

We are currently planning the national and regional events we will participate in during the next calendar year. They will include:

The CSI Show and Convention in Chicago, April 21st-24th: For the 3rd year in a row, we will have a booth on the floor and will present the "3rd Annual Specifiers Forum" as well as the "Future of Specifications. We will present one program each day of the Show (4 Programs) that will act as a connector to all of the programs in the Specifiers Track of education being presented. We plan to hold our Annual Membership Meeting again at the Chicago Athletic Association, but for next year we will have the Association hold a block of their hotel rooms for reservation for our members during the Convention. The Board Meeting will be held after the Membership Meeting.

CSI University in San Antonio: We will present a "Specifications for the Future" Panel Program. A Board Meeting will be held at the conclusion of CSI University. Participation in the following events next year is still under consideration and our actual involvement will be based upon the results of this year's events.

The AIA National Convention, Chicago, June 10th-12: Based upon the results of our participation at this year's AIA Convention, we plan to have a presence, but because of the proximity in both date and location to the CSI Show we have yet to determine what activities would be appropriate.

Construction Management Association of America (CMAA), National Conference and Trade Show: We are tentatively planning to have a booth and participate in other ways that may become available.

Society of American Registered Architects (SARA) National Convention: We will plan our participation based upon the results of our participation at this year's SARA Convention.

GreenBuild International Conference and Expo (USGBC): We will have a booth and Mark Kalin will be present two poster sessions on 'Real Green Specifications.'

In Las Vegas last year Mark Kalin began a dialog with Phil McDade, Ross Spiegel and Greg Balestrero that began the process that will lead to a formal alliance between SCIP and CSI. Unfortunately that process was interrupted last fall by Greg Balestrero's departure and the upheaval within CSI. The negotiations were put on hold and with the hiring of Karl Borgstrom, discussions began again. The meeting in Philadelphia between Mike Chambers and I representing SCIP and Edith Washington, Karl Borgstrom, and Gary Betts representing CSI again initiated the process to create a Strategic Alliance. Those discussions are continuing, with the principal issues being SCIP leading the effort to create CSI's "Specifier Community", directly participating in the annual Specification Competition and jointly presenting an Honorary Award and several other issues. In return SCIP would provide a leadership role among specifiers, conduct advanced education for specifiers and continue to hold our annual Meeting in conjunction with the CSI Show and Convention.

In May as a result of our interaction with ARCOM Master Systems at the AIA National Convention, the Board has approved exploration into the possibility of establishing of a similar strategic relationship with ARCOM, and to extend the invitation for discussions to both the Construction Sciences Research Foundation and BSD SpecLink, as well. I have also opened a dialog with the American Construction Inspectors Association (ACIA) who have also indicated that an alliance could be a good thing. These relationships would appear to hold considerable advantages to our membership. The discussions are continuing and I will be reporting on progress in the next issue of SCIPpingAlong. I expect that we will also explore a relationship with the U.S Green Building Council (USGBC) within the next few months.

Our Bylaws and Membership Committees continue to explore the questions of our organization and a proposal will be forthcoming for consideration of the membership before our next Annual Meeting. As an initial result of their discussions, Dave Metzger is looking into the issues of incorporation of our association and the need for insurance coverage of the board of directors and he is investigating these questions with legal counsel. They have also raised the question of the need of a planning process and a Planning Committee has been formed to develop the outlines of a Strategic Plan for our organization.

The Education and Events Committees are putting together meaningful programs that will continue to garner exposure for our organization in appropriate venues. The Communications Committee has proceeded with a redesign of the SCIP Website and is in the process of implementing changes that will create a much more dynamic site including more information resources and the capacity for membership interaction. Our Advertising Committee has developed a basic SCIP Handout and a Membership Pin that are available to members on request. Our MasterFormat, OMNIclass and Manual of Practice Committee continue its oversight of the development of these documents and will be reporting regularly in the future. Our LEED Committee is just getting started and any member wishing to participate should contact Doug Hartman. We are forming Specifications Competition and Honors and Awards Committees for interaction with CSI and any member wishing to participate should contact me.

I would like to thank our Sponsors for their continued support of our activities and efforts. Without their support and participation we would be unable to conduct many of our activities. They are:

McGraw-Hill Construction Information Group; Gary Beimers.
ARCOM Master Systems; Ted Smith.
4specs.com, Inc.; Colin Gilboy.
CENTRIA Architectural Systems; Patty Polombo.
Firestop Contractors International Association; Bill McHugh.
Graham Architectural Products; Raj Goyal.
Hufcor, Inc.; Jim Dunn.
Kelly Moore Paint Co.; Matt Crawford.
National Gypsum; Missy Merfeld.
Nystrom Building Products; Megan Burkhammer.
Pacific Polymers International, Inc.; Kim Grosch.
Santana Products Co.; Pat Comerford.

We have experienced an exciting year and look forward to more opportunities and challenges in the coming year.

* * *

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
CHICAGO ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, CHICAGO, IL
in conjunction with the CSI National Convention
APRIL 12, 2003

by Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Present: Dane Dodd-Hansen, President; John Regener, Vice President; Dave Lorenzini, Vice President; Mark Kalin, Immediate Past President; Dave Metzger, Treasurer; Tom Heineman, Bylaws Committee Chair; Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, Advertising Committee Chair; Henry Berg

Called to Order by President Dane Dodd-Hansen at 6:17 p.m.

Acceptance of Laretta Fiorentino's resignation as Secretary and confirmation of appointment of Helga Brady to complete the term (through June 2004). Sheryl Dodd-Hansen acting as Recording Secretary.

Proposal for SCIP to sponsor Mid-Atlantic CSI student design competition at CSI University in the amount of \$500.00. Motion discussed and passed.

Program at CSI-University June 27-28, 2003; panel representing SCIP includes Mark Kalin, Dane Dodd-Hansen, Tom Heineman, Mike Chambers, Dave Metzger. As lead speaker, Dodd-Hansen is entitled to one night's lodging, registration, and \$200.00 towards airfare from CSI; CSI provides complementary registration to the others. Discussion of SCIP providing up to \$500.00 stipend to cover costs of each. Passed.

Next Board meeting will be held in San Diego on May 10, 2003. Discussion of possibility of providing stipend for Board members; deferred to next meeting.

Discussion of possible changes to Membership; agreed that SCIP needs to define its purpose before changes made.

Manufacturers desire to have SCIP members participate in focus groups, in-house education (for fee or for recompense for educational sponsorship, or could be both). Tom pointed out that things like this are reasons why there needs to be a business arm of SCIP – to sign contracts and arrange for payment of fees.

Discussion of need to upgrade the website. Motion approved authorizing Webmaster Lorenzini to spend up to \$1,000 to upgrade website design.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

* * *

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
CHICAGO ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, CHICAGO, IL
in conjunction with the CSI National Convention
APRIL 12, 2003

by Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Present: Dane Dodd-Hansen, Mark Kalin, Mike Chambers, Paul DiBona, Henry Berg, Tom Heineman, Dave Lorenzini, John Regener, Laretta Fiorentino, Linda Stansen, Lynn Jolley, Marc Chavez, Linda Brown, Edith Washington, Dave Metzger, Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, Dean Walker, Joe Berchenko, Julie Brown, Ed Heinen, Martin Helly, Eileen Kopelson, Margaret Chewing, Mark Harold, Bruce Poulsen, Rebecca Foss, Anita Herrick, Nina Fair. Guests: Lee Kilbourn, Ted Smith, Dennis Hall, Chris Bushnell.

8:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. Informal discussions.

Meeting called to order: 10:45 a.m.

Introductions.

Dane Dodd-Hansen: Kudos to Colin for all his help. Mark Chavez says "You are my home page, Baby".

Break Sponsor - Nystrom: Morris Sykes and Megan Burkhammer. Proud to be a sponsor. Glad to see Babcock Davis specified. Understand that folks involved in SCIP are trendsetters, leading edge, looking for new products and applications. They are developing lightweight large panels, security hinges. Using independent specifiers for their own internal specs.

Breakfast Sponsor - Colin Gilboy: 4specs.com has a symbiotic relationship and is grateful to help from SCIP. Members can help by letting him know if there are problems; inform him of changes.

Sheryl Dodd-Hansen: Pleased to report that there was a public comment at the CSI Member Forum that the Specifiers' Forum was great - educational and entertaining.

Edith Washington:

Has been a SCIP member since 1992 - came in because of Betty Hayes. CSI responsibilities have kept her from SCIP meeting in the last few years.

CSI needs SCIP: CSI is working to not lose its focus (specifiers). Aware of problems with Spec Comp; looking for new guidance on revising guidelines to reflect current practice. Many are AKnowledge Managers@. Sorry she had to miss the Specifiers' Forum. She wants people to have a clear picture of who we are. She intends to call on people to participate. CSI needs a firm connection with SCIP. It's the dollar value of the work we do that impresses people, not the number of specifiers. Over the last 5-8 years there were misconceptions; CSI's core is still the specifiers. Dane mentioned >Master Specifier'; question from John Regener regarding how to recognize good documents. Edith says CSI's looking for solutions, working with CSC, McGraw-Hill, possibly to hold a major industry summit.

She's aware that CSI needs better marketing of Show; needs to market lots of things better. Problem with AIA here within three weeks of CSI Show next year; exhibitors won't do both!

MasterFormat 04 - major players are involved but need buy-in before publishing.

Treasurer's Report: Report distributed showing SCIP is in good financial condition.

Dane Dodd-Hansen: There will be a SCIP meeting next month at AIA Convention. Any bylaws or other important business will be by paper; so no one meeting holds or disenfranchises the others.

John Regener: Praise for MasterFormat Expansion Task Team and Dennis Hall. John's task on 4specs.com has been as official rabble rouser, but has tried to raise level of conversation from nastiness. We need to participate with task team to figure out how to use the thing. Work results - need to get familiar with term and work with it. Say what we want, affirmative expressions, not whining.

Dennis Hall: They try to implement constructive criticism. We who have highly vested interest in process need to be able to communicate! (Thanks from Dane to John for his measured, quality efforts. Edith asked for commentary.)

Bylaws: Tom Heineman reported that the Committee followed Membership Committee's effort. We need planning before we change bylaws - regarding membership, sponsorship, etc. Need policy statements.

Membership: Dave Metzger: Working on expanding concept of corresponding membership.

Advertising: Sheryl Dodd-Hansen: Handed out tri-fold brochure and copies of postcards. Thanks to Linda Stansen and Bob Woodburn for their input.

Dane Dodd-Hansen: Appointing new committees with these volunteers and others who may step forward at the San Diego meeting:

Awards: Jo Drummond, Linda Brown, Joe Berchenko

Planning: last three presidents of SCIP (Mark Kalin, Doug Hartman, Sheryl Dodd-Hansen)

Events and Education: Mike Chambers, Rebecca Foss, Henry Berg, Paul Dibona

Sponsorship: Dane Dodd-Hansen, Mike Chambers, Mark Kalin, Mike Smith

Communications: Dave Lorenzini, Colin Gilboy, Melissa Aguaiar, Lynn Jolley

Spec. Comp: Linda Brown, Mike Smith, Mark Harold

Unanimous vote to hold annual meeting in conjunction with CSI Show again next year.
Hold it at Chicago Athletic Association again? Yes. Obtain a block of rooms at special rates? Yes.

Business meeting adjourned.

Lunch Sponsor - Centria: Patty Palombo discussed two new products: Formabond - aluminum composite skins, which completes the puzzle for them, can provide any type of metal product now; and new substrate by Bethlehem steel, exotic but cost effective. Company likes to work on specs to get products into the marketplace. Provided folder with information and cd; sign up sheet for ecentria portal and interactive tool for information, pdf bulletins, and online chat.

Luncheon Speaker: Excellent presentation on the Asbestos Crisis in America by Stanley Ferguson, Senior VP and General Counsel of USG Corporation; questions and answers also with Robert Bell, USG's Director of Government Affairs and expert on mold and mildew, and Bob Grupe, USG's Director of Architectural Solutions.

Sheryl Dodd-Hansen was pleased to have obtained these experts as our speakers through her contact with a college friend, Richard Fleming, who is now CFO of USG Corp. USG has been a leader in the Asbestos Alliance and efforts to effect legislation to establish a trust fund so that those who legitimately become ill from asbestos will be compensated; bankrupting the major manufacturers would leave no money for future victims.

Asked whether mold and mildew will become the same kind of issue, the response was that there is less opportunity there for plaintiff's attorneys to encourage lawsuits as they have with asbestos.

It was interesting to note that in the US over 350,000 asbestos-related lawsuits and have been filed, while in Canada the number of lawsuits filed is zero.

Membership categories: What's the difference between independent and not? Do we need to change the purpose of SCIP? Then we'll know about membership categories... Some don't want change from the collegiality we have.

What's CSI not doing? Not educating specifiers, providing idp, specguides (which helped industry members teach professional members), technical stuff, where there's a disconnect between Chapter and Institute; CSI out-sourced the Specifier and it's smaller.

John Regener: the issues for specifiers are: productivity - product selection, document production, maintenance of resources; collegiality - mentoring, peer review, friendships; identity - who we are (there are some things you don't want to see made, sausages, specs.)

Mike Smith - There should be a standardized guideline for how architects should deal with specifiers, professional liability. There seems to be no peer review of articles in Specifier; need disclosures, tighter editorial review.

Why keep a binder library? To find name of local rep. Most are using Internet - but some sites are difficult to use; not consistent in quality. Registered sites slow you up, but the reason is there for their tracking. Bruce Poulsen regarding library - 80% of time websites are adequate; for the rest, need binder. Henry Berg: how do we communicate what we need? Endorse Colin's template?

Liability: Some have insurance; large range in cost and coverage; difference in being licensed, type of projects, location. Insurers have no loss history, so they don't know how to set fees. Be sure to close the communication loop in any hostility; make sure yours' is the last letter.

Masterformat: Edith says it's a work in progress. Mark Kalin's assessment is probably correct - that Divisions 1-14 will stay the same. Education needed and will be provided. This is an industry product and needs industry buy-in. We will not shoot ourselves in the foot.

* * *

BOARD MEETING
MARRIOTT HOTEL AND MARINA, SAN DIEGO, CA
in conjunction with the AIA National Convention
MAY 10, 2003

Notes by Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Present: Dane Dodd-Hansen, President; John Regener, Vice President; Dave Lorenzini, Vice President/Webmaster; Helga Brady, Secretary; Dave Metzger, Treasurer/Membership; Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, Advertising Chair.

Called to Order by President Dane Dodd-Hansen at 3:00 p.m.

Acceptance of Jo Drummond's resignation as Vice President and confirmation of appointment of Mike Chambers to complete the term (through June 2004).

Discussion of possibility of incorporating SCIP as a 501 c 6 not-for-profit corporation. Dave Metzger, Helga Brady, and Dane Dodd-Hansen will gather more information.

Discussion of possible proposed changes to Membership categories. Membership Committee to continue research and proposals. Dane will be discussing CSI's proposed "Specifiers Community" when at CSI University in June to find out what CSI has in mind and how SCIP might represent specifiers.

Discussion of Planning Efforts: Dane will be working with Mark Kalin, Doug Hartman, and Sheryl Dodd-Hansen on developing a long-range plan.

Discussion of Events: Organizations with which it might be worthwhile to have a relationship include the Construction Management Association of America, Society of American Registered Architects, Construction Sciences Research Foundation, in addition to ARCOM. Board members who might be attending specific conferences, such as the SARA Convention in New York in October, will research possible SCIP participation.

Discussion of relationship with ARCOM: The guide specifications require knowledge to use successfully; SCIP members have the expertise to help firms use the programs. ARCOM is interested in having SCIP members help fill the gap between the product and the end-product. Motion (Regener) to appropriate \$1,200 maximum for Dane's use for travel and related expenses to expand the relationship with ARCOM in the next six months; seconded and, after discussion, motion passed.

Discussion of Sponsorship Policy: Dane has asked Mike Chambers to put together a list of events at which SCIP might consider having representation. Discussed need for development of a policy for receiving sponsorship and a plan for use of funds. Dane distributed preliminary sponsorship information used to date; has gotten sponsorship from a number of firms that have been involved with SCIP over the years. John Regener pointed out that we have to be careful that our involvement with sponsors is not construed to be an endorsement of their product. As we become clearer on what we are doing, we could ask for more specific support, such as sponsorship/underwriting for specific events. Dave Lorenzini noted that we need a budget to get an overall view of what we can do this year.

Booth: Dane assigned Mike Chambers to research a shippable display.

Next Board meeting will be held in Chicago on April 24, 2004.
Meeting adjourned 5:15 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MARRIOTT HOTEL AND MARINA, SAN DIEGO, CA
in conjunction with the AIA National Convention
MAY 10, 2003

Notes by Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Present: Helga Brady, Linda Brown, Mike Chambers, Marvin Chew, Doug Day, Renee Doktorczyk, Dane Dodd-Hansen, Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, Dave Lorenzini, Susan McClymonds, David Metzger, Jerry Orland, John Regener, Anne Marie Storrs, Ted Smith (Arcom Systems), Chris Bushnell (Arcom Master Systems), Mary Fenelon (McGraw-Hill) Colin Gilboy (4specs.com)

8:00 am - 9:00 am: Informal discussions.

9:00 am: Meeting called to Order. Thanks to Michael Chambers for the picture below:



Dane Dodd-Hansen: AIA's Specifications and Technology PAI Advisors are invited for this afternoon. Also, Lee Kilburn contacted all of the Large Firm Specifiers' Roundtable members and invited them for this afternoon, as well. I also invited independent spec writers that stopped by our booth, many of whom had never heard of SCIP.

Marvin Chew: How many more SCIP members did you see at the booth that are going to come to the meeting today?

Dane: More than are here, I expect them to be filtering in.

Dane: Any issue on productivity or practice that we want to discuss?

John Regener: Edith Washington joined us in Chicago, she asked what Specifiers want? I came up with a list of what I thought we wanted. They are as follows:

Productivity ... Collegiality ... Identity

Dane: I will be emailing SCIP members asking you all what our concerns are as a group with our relationship to CSI? A formal strategic alliance with CSI has been considered by SCIP. CSI dropped the

ball in Chicago and we were almost not able to have that meeting. Thanks to Patty Palombo of CENTRA Architectural Systems we were able to go forward with our meeting at the Chicago Athletic Association in Chicago. We need a clearer understanding with CSI what our relationship and interaction with them is to be in the future. We need to clarify our relationship with them; yes we are CSI members but we are the advanced version of CSI.

Regener: Edith W. wants to establish a Specifiers' Community within CSI and she felt that SCIP could be that, however, I feel that we may have special interests that may not coincide with CSI.

Jerry Orland: It looks like CSI is asking that SCIP become a group represented under the CSI scope.

Dane: I disagree; I don't think they are asking for that, we are independent from CSI.

Jerry Orland: You brought up communication, identification. I wonder how many people have SCIP on their business card or on their letterhead. Right now, 90% of us don't have any indication of SCIP on any of our business literature.

Dane: Right now on the CSI membership roster there are only 6 SCIP members with SCIP noted after their name. At the Gala here on Thursday, SCIP was not introduced as were all of the other associations that are present at this CSI Convention. We should have been invited up; this is how we will be recognized.

Sheryl Dodd-Hansen: We all have to take responsibility to get SCIP attached to our names, throughout everything we do in our work. CSI has a search engine on their website called "Build Certified" that allows you to search members. Check it out, you will be interested in what you find. We should each redo our membership name listing with CSI and add SCIP to our name.

Dave Metzger: You can update your CSI membership anytime on the website.

Marvin: In Los Angeles most vendors know who we are. They know what SCIP is.

Dane: There are 24 Southern California and 24 in Northern California SCIP members; most of us are well known. In other parts of the Country they are less well known.

Marvin: When someone calls me looking for spec writers I tell them to look at the SCIP website.

Regener: In California there are 48 spec writers and an abundance of work because specs are considered required by clients, it's the standard of care in California. That is not necessarily true in other parts of the country.

Doug Day: When I first started in this business, the large firms had in-house spec writers but now they don't, it's all done by independents.

Regener: The issue of identity is an important one. Spec writers play a significant role, what is a spec writer and what is an independent spec writer?

Mike Chambers: I have been a SCIP member for 12 years, and in the past I have had no reason to put SCIP after my name but now I do. It's a value identity. In the last few years we are reevaluating what SCIP is, we are looking at education, sponsors. We have started to be recognized as an organization that has value; we are branding SCIP now.

Regener: With SCIP I am part of a network, I am not isolated. That's the collegiality portion of what we are, that I was talking about earlier.

Dane: John Carter brought up the "dumbing down" of the architectural community at the Las Vegas Convention last year. I started looking around and talked to universities to see what I could find. I tried to figure out why this might be occurring. In Chicago we discussed it. There are several main changes:

The volume of information.

California building code is now 7 volumes.
There is much more info than there used to be.

In 1970 we had 250 professional associations. Now there are 750 – 1200 industry associations which are generating info that conflicts with one another. I went to Colin, Gary Beamers, and McGraw Hill and found that in the 1970's we had about 500 manufacturers which were mostly all in Sweets. Today we have over 12,000. Sweets is down to 12 volumes from 16. Now there is so much information available from manufacturers, associations, etc. We have a "tsunami of information" in the design industry. The fees that design professionals receive has dropped 25% due to CA and D/build. In response to that design firms have gone from having departmental organizations to studio organizations. In those days, the departmental people were kept forever in a firm; they were the knowledge source, now the project architects are doing all of the work.

The promise of the computer has not been realized, CAD takes longer to develop drawings than hand drawn drawings of the past. The drawings may look good on CAD but the quality of the details and drawings has been falling. Firms cannot find spec writers. Some firms have been looking for more than 2 years. If you look at what we do, every Project Manual is an individual thing, but who is doing that in the firms? Let's examine ourselves individually; let's expand our horizons. We are information specialists.

Regener: I have heard lots about d/b being out there.

Linda Brown: I think people have confused deign/build with fastrack. In d/b the contract is between the owner and the d/b team. Problems arise where consultants don't go back and look at the Owner's requirements. In d/b the d/builder may be the contractor, the architect, a d/b entity, but as a d/b consultant, we have no contract with the owner. The owner is in the meetings and...

Linda Brown: In d/b as a specifier I can't work for the owner's architect and the d/builder's architect. Each team has their own specifier.

Mike Chambers: How do you have an owner's and a d/builder's architect?

Linda Brown: The owner has to convey their criteria, so they have their own architect to develop their drawings and specs.

Regener: Are we talking about increased documentation and increased need for documentation?

Linda Brown: It depends on the d/b quality of the d/builder. There are so many variation and so many various levels of documentation. It varies from project to project.

Regener: My impression is that there is greater documentation.

Doug Day: That depends on how they put it together.

Regener: Are we not talking about more need for documentation?

Linda Brown: We are but in reality we don't get it. For the last 30 years the architectural schools have gone away from the technical end of the business to being designers. They consider specs contractors' means and methods (engineers do). When you, as an engineer, contract for a full service proposal they consider specs an add. There is another aspect; the vast majority of d/b projects are in the private sector. In California there has been a lot of discussion about the development schools irrespective of it being a d/b project.

Doug Day: Schools and hospitals in California are different than anywhere else in the country.

Regener: It's (the documentation) becoming more complex that what we've done before.

Linda Brown: It's not more complex; it's just a matter of when it is required. Depending on the nature of the project, we might do sheet specs, outline specs, short form specs, or a full spec, it's whatever is required by that project is what we do.

Sheryl: Do you make a different proposal for each phase or do you try to get a full contract up front for what you do?

Linda Brown: It's not worth it to break it up.

Doug Day: It depends on the project; I'm doing Kaiser LA and there are 8-9 bid packages, some are full specs, some are not, some have to go to OSHPD.

Colin Gilboy: I need to get back to my booth on the convention floor. Just a few items; if you are doing a special project, please let me know if there are 10-30-50 vendors related to your project that you have done research on please feel free to share it with me and I will get it on the website to make it better for all of you.

Dane: Colin has set up a private discussion board on his website for the SCIP Board and for individual SCIP Committees which will allow us to have written documentation of what is discussed and how decisions are reached. These discussion areas are private and access is only authorized for members of the Board for Board discussions and for members of Committees and Board members for committee discussions.

10:15 – 10:45: Break.

10:45: Meeting resumed.

Dane: There are 3 things that I want to do as president: I want to develop our public identity; see if we can evolve into an identity that truly represents who we are. There are number of questions that are raised at each meeting which never get resolved. I therefore have named a bunch of ad hoc committees. These will not become official until ratified by our board. I want to expand the number of benefits we have as members; Arcom will be here this afternoon as will McGraw Hill; 4specs.com was here this morning. Dave Metzger has been looking into the questions of incorporation and insurance.

We now have "Pins" for members. I hope everyone got one; that is an item that has been discussed for 10 years now, and it's finally done.

For years we talked about having a brochure, now we finally have one. We have 1000 printed, we could have done 4 color but I decided that we did not want to spend that kind of money just yet since we may want to change it next year. My hope is that we will have the Advertising Committee revise and refine it in the future.

The advent of the Board and the Committee website has been discussed for years, if you go into the 4Specs.com website you will find the SCIP Board for member discussions. NOTE: This is not the Board's private discussion area.

Anne Marie Storrs: I have a question in response to the brochure and our logo: Is SCIP going to remain what it is or are we going to include in-house spec writers?

Regener: We have to decide who we are and what we want to be, I have thought that perhaps we may become the "Society of Construction Information Professionals".

Anne Marie Storrs: I feel with putting the brochure out there that we are making a statement. The only thing I am concerned with is that, I was excited that in-house spec writers are going to be invited, but I feel that the brochure is creating a separation between us and in-house specifiers.

Dane: Another name that has been brought up is "Specification Consultants in Professional Practice".

Mike Chambers: As the times have changed, we are now the only specifiers that are out there as an organized group, we have the opportunity to be the growers, educators etc., of specification writers. I am hoping personally that as we forward that we can find a real balance and maintain our real goal of providing quality specifications.

Dane: An employed person is involved in a beauracracy, very few in-house spec writers spend 100% of their time writing specs, many of them spend much of their time holding other peoples hands, not writing specs.

I want to explain why I invited ARCOM. Ted Smith and I have discussed the huge gulf that exists between their users and us. Ted acknowledges that their users need an intermediate source of knowledge, and that we, as SCIP members, can expand ourselves into being a source of knowledge instead of technical writers. We are knowledge managers.

Regener: This is where you and I have had some divergence. There are some people that are not at this level so we must decide if we should leave some people behind that are not operating at this level as SCIP moves forward to become knowledge experts. SCIP members are not all of the same.

We need to understand who we are and what we are about. Some people can remain the mundane spec operators that they are and others can move forward.

Mike Chambers: I am thinking of being a spec mentor, I have written so many specs over that last 20 years so I am looking at the opportunity of education, teaching the project architects to understand specifications, maintain masters, doing quality control, provide continuing education. It's a fascinating opportunity. I'm an oddball because I've been a full-time specifier and a full-time independent; we just need to figure it out so that SCIP is inclusive.

Regener: We need to provide the venue where we can be inclusive; we all have independent issue to deal with.

Mike Chambers: We are developing a network of people that work together; we help each other with specialty jobs, business development, running a practice. Right now...

Anne Marie Storrs: Let me ask, who is doing that now?

Mike Chambers: Right now, Doug, Dane, myself, and Helga. Doug did a hospital for me; that's his specialty. I would rather get the jobs then do them. Helga is getting started and needs help with that.

Anne Marie Storrs: The brochure is giving a perception that we are an exclusive group. Do we change that image now or do we get it out as it is and then change it later.

Linda Brown: This brochure says that I work for an architect only, not for an owner. It doesn't say that I can train people, that I am a mentor, etc.

Dave M.: It's a work in progress.

Dane: Let me stop this discussion, we are running out of time. Dave can you give us a report on our financial status?

Dave M.: We have \$8,300 in our bank account.

Dane: Out of our 160 members, just 3 don't have email; I sent them a note with their renewal forms that the membership roster goes out electronically, so if they don't have email, they are not getting it. Some members have asked to have it faxed, it's too much work, Dave and I are looking at getting it posted on our website.

Dave M.: At our meeting last year in Las Vegas we discussed opening our membership to in-house spec writers. Hans Meier and Robin Treston are on the committee with me and what we are suggesting is saying that we are proposing doing away with Correspondent Members. We are proposing to have one membership for independents and one for in-house also having another category for specialized spec writers, (i.e., roofing, etc.). One of our members wants us to have a category for manufacturer spec writers; I am against this. Also, if you are a professor at a university teaching specs but not writing specs you are not eligible.

Linda Marie: There are spec writers and spec coordinators. Spec coordinators should not be allowed to be members, in-house or out-house. I think there could be categories available, some able to vote, others not.

Dane: Tom Heinemen and his group are trying to update our bylaws to be commensurate with what we have. A full membership vote is needed to deal with this. In Chicago we did not entertain any votes because we are still formulating questions. This is where it starts to become important that we have meeting at different locations around the country.

Doug Day: When in the future and where are our official meetings going to take place?

Dane: In Las Vegas we voted to continue to have our annual meeting during the CSI Show. For now that's where our annual meeting is.

Dave M.: Also to vote on Officers and bylaws will be allowed to be voted upon by e-mail.

Marvin: To get back to your other topic, you were splitting membership up into 4-5 different categories. Will each membership type have different privileges?

Dave M.: We are trying to keep it as simple as possible.

Marvin: Then why have different categories?

Dave M. I was thinking of 2-3 categories. In-house, independent, and specialized. Whether or not that expands, we will see.

Sheryl: What's the point of including specialized spec writers? Are we including those who snuck in already?

Dave: Well, you could look at it that way.

Sheryl: Our bylaws say project manuals, not specs.

Dave L: Good point.

Sheryl: What's the advantage of including them? All hardware consultants I know are employed by the hardware companies.

Dave M.: Not ours, he is completely independent.

Sheryl: Ok.

Marvin: If we invite in-house spec writers to come, that would be fine, but could we possibly have too many people, causing us to not be able to have the roundtable format that we once had? The dynamic of the organization will change.

Dave M.: We definitely want to keep the roundtable format. If we get too big, perhaps we break up our meeting to have independents in the morning and all others later in the afternoon. I see us not getting any bigger than 300-400 members. Not all will show up to our meeting.

Dane: This is the first meeting we have had away from the CSI convention and I already have us set-up so we could have a meeting in conjunction with the Construction Management Association of America Convention in Washington, DC later this year.

Dane: David L. has been planning reconstruction our website.

Dave L.: I set up a web site map; it's my impression of what our activities are. The premise is based on our members providing content for the website. We have very little content in the 6-7 years we've had a website. I have come up with a new model. Moving info around and creating new committees. At the top level, public can come in, next level members, next committees, and Board Members at the final level. What we put in those levels is what I need input on. I have met with a website consultant that can help with the graphics and how you move or navigate through the site. We have a good understanding of how that should work now. We are deciding whether we should link discussion groups (i.e., 4Specs.com) to our website or possibly move them to our website. We are moving our hosting service currently; we need something that gives us the tools to do the coding that makes this stuff all happen. We will keep it simple, no java script etc. We want to create a membership database that we can sort by region, etc. Members will be able to update their own membership info. Dave and I will have a database that allows us to keep the membership up to date.

Dane: While Dave L. is working on all of this we will have a discussion group on 4specs.com for input, we will also have a questionnaire going out to get members' input on what content should be included. Dave, I think you are having this come together sometime this summer?

Dave L.: The amount of money that was authorized was \$1,000 for the basic structure. That will give us a home page, topic page and subtopic page. Not the content.

Dane: Moving along, I want to have Sheryl discuss the Advertising Committee.

Sheryl: We got it done, we didn't have a very good picture so we didn't do four color. What picture do we use to represent us? We just had to get something done for our booth in Chicago. If you read the inside, it actually does discuss what we do, it came from Julie Brown's rendition of Tom H.'s presentation of who we are from years ago. I am not doing a new one for this year but if you have ideas, you can volunteer you for the committee.

John Regener: Before the lunch break can we discuss the financial status of SCIP?

Dane: Dave has talked to his accountant to determine if we have the right status for tax purposes.

Doug Day: Are we incorporated?

Dane: No, that's one of the issues we need to discuss. And the Board is going to have to resolve this within the next few months.

Doug Day: On the agenda, why are 3 Committees underlined?

Dane: In Chicago we determined that these 3 new committees were needed. We are doing a program at CSI University; and in the West Region we will be at the California Council of AIA, Monterey Design Conference, Structural Engineers Association of California Convention at Lake Tahoe; and are presenting a technical program and having a SCIP Meeting at the CSI West Region Conference in Hilo, HI (all in September).

Doug Day: We are not funding anyone, are we?

Dane: No, we are not although we may do a seminar with several members from SF and Sacramento, and may need sponsors.

We are actively seeking sponsorship for SCIP educational activities and we need to determine a budget so we have an idea of what we need each year to do the education and promotion of SCIP.

Dave M: What does it mean that we will have more funding? How will it be spent? In the past it has been to support these meetings but going forward will it cover the educators airfare and lodging?

Dane: That is something the board needs to quantify.

Sheryl: Isn't that something that you have told the sponsors that you would spend their money on, to provide education and promote SCIP?

Dane: We have told them this and wrote up a description of how the funds would be spent and gave it to each of them and they are happy to participate and support us in this way.

Discussion of honors and awards took place at our Annual Meeting in Chicago. Master Construction Specifier is an award that we have looked at as something that CSI and SCIP could present together. This cannot be political; it must be based on true qualifications.

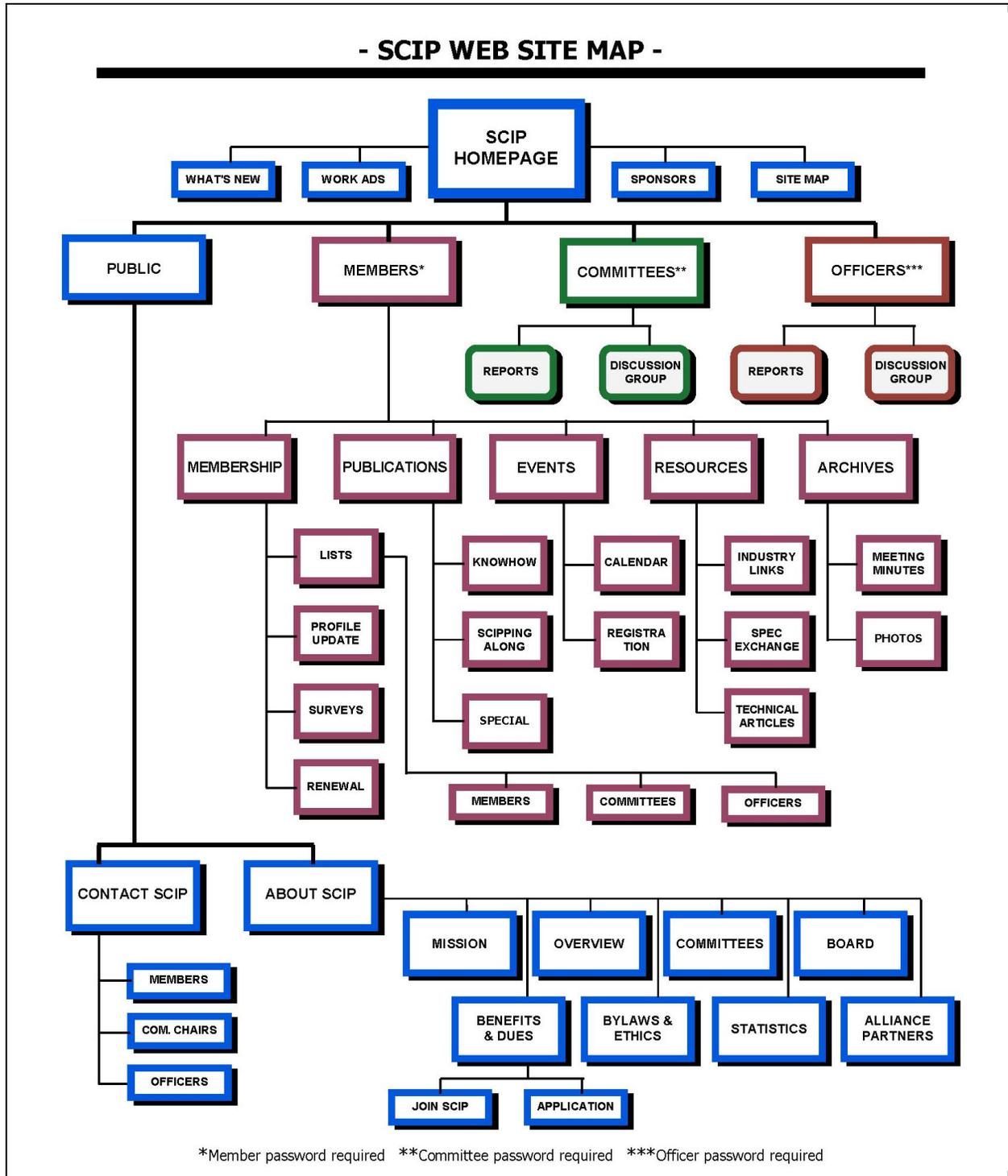
Linda B. and I have discussed our potential involvement with the CSI Specifications Competition. Another issue is our involvement in CSI's Specifier Community. Another issue is the development of Strategic Alliances with CSI and Arcom. I've also had interesting conversations with the American Construction Inspectors Association (ACIA) and the American Construction Estimators Association (ACEC). We want to get to the point where we are perceived as being important.

Dane: Any old business that needs to be brought up here? Any new business?

Jerry Orland: More and more we have to submit electronic copy to clients who are putting it on the net and using it. I use acrobat, we should consider what is the proper format for doing that.

2:00 pm: End of meeting. 2:00 - 2:30 Masterspec presentation.

* * *



Proposed SCIP
 Website. Comments?
 David Lorenzini
 deloren@scip.com

PREVENTING MOLD-RELATED NONDISCLOSURE CLAIMS

by attorneys with the law firm of Gordon Rees, LLP
as reported in ConstructionRisk.com with Kent Holland

Property owners and managers are increasingly faced with claims due to actual and potential indoor mold problems, raising the dilemma of what needs to be disclosed when leasing and selling properties. Although California's Toxic Mold Protection Act, signed into law on October 1, 2001, includes mold disclosure requirements for building owners, the requirements do not go into effect unless and until a California Department of Health Services taskforce first determines objective "permissible exposure levels," which has not yet been done.

The Department of Health Services cites a lack of funding to explain its inability to convene the taskforce and address the threshold question of whether permissible exposure levels for indoor molds are feasible. Despite the lack of regulations mandating mold-related disclosures, the California Association of Realtors recently added a specific question to its standard CAR disclosure form to inquire about the presence of mold. Moreover, given the media attention and substantial jury awards, the number of real estate non-disclosure actions involving mold has increased substantially.

Under California law, buyers and tenants of commercial property are traditionally deemed to be sophisticated and able to freely negotiate contracts with owners. As long as there are no material or fraudulent misrepresentations, commercial owners generally only need to be concerned with disclosing any "known material facts" that affect the value or desirability of the property, and there is no obligation to repair defective conditions.

Residential sellers and landlords generally need to be more wary of rendering complete written disclosures because even if they have no actual knowledge, residential owners are also required to disclose any condition that they "should have known." [See, California Civil Code §§ 1102, et seq. for more information.] Therefore, when in doubt, disclose, disclose, disclose!

For example, Owner X wants to sell his single family residence and is not aware of having any mold problems during the ten years he occupied the home. However, five years earlier, a pipe had burst; the kitchen had flooded; and water had leaked into the crawl space and other parts of the home. Professional contractors repaired the damage, and Owner X had no further problems. Now that Owner X is selling his home, should he disclose the prior flood? Yes. Should he disclose the repairs and subsequent inspections that were done? Yes. Should he disclose any reports he obtained? Yes. Should he even disclose the minor flooring defect he discovered when repairing the flood damage? Yes. And in the mold context, these same answers would also generally apply to a commercial property transaction.

The tricky question is whether to disclose the "potential" for mold due to the extensive water intrusion into the crawl space, wall cavities, etc. Although the parties in a commercial setting typically would be deemed to be equally aware that water intrusion can lead to mold growth, buyers and tenants may nonetheless claim ignorance and pursue a claim for non-disclosure. In the residential context, plaintiffs often claim ignorance as to the connection between water intrusion and indoor mold growth. Such plaintiffs may sue based on the lack of disclosure of water intrusion and/or mold and seek damages such as remediation and repair of personal and real property, bodily injuries, fraudulent concealment and misrepresentation claims, "stigma" and resultant "diminution of the home's value and/or breach of contract. These cases can be quite expensive to defend, and owners and/or realtors may not have applicable or adequate insurance to cover the costs of defense or judgments. Therefore, it is typically advisable to err on the side of disclosing all past water intrusion and mold-related events as well as the investigation and repairs made, if any, when selling either commercial or residential property.

PRELIMINARY SELECTION OF WATERPROOFING SYSTEMS

CSI Los Angeles as contributed by Michael Chusid CCS. www.chusid.com

Waterproofing can present a building project team with baffling choices. With dozens of manufacturers and hundreds of products to choose from, there is a formidable amount of data to evaluate. Yet there does not appear to be a standard, easy-to-follow methodology for making waterproofing product selections. This makes the task especially daunting for novice designers who have limited personal experience to draw upon. Yet even seasoned specifiers or contractors can find themselves stymied when confronted with unusual project conditions.

To address this concern, the Technical Committee of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute has developed several resources to aid in waterproofing decisions. "Our goal," according to Committee Chairman Roger A. Cormier, CCS, "was to enable a design team to make better waterproofing decisions and to make them more efficiently." The Committee used "Waterproofing" as it is defined in MasterFormat, 1995 ed., "Impervious, waterproofing membranes, coatings, and other materials applied to walls, slabs, decks, and other surfaces subject to continuous and intermittent hydrostatic pressure or water immersion."

The attached "Guide to Waterproofing Types and Locations" for making better informed preliminary selections of waterproofing systems. It enables a designer or specifier to quickly and easily make preliminary decisions about waterproofing materials based upon known project conditions. The Guide allows users to identify the types of waterproofing which are most appropriate for further investigation, and which can be dropped from consideration.

HOW THE GUIDE WORKS

The Committee organized the Guide to be convenient for architects and engineers to follow. According to Melina Renee, CCS, "We visualized a designer or specifier looking at a detail and trying to figure out the best way to waterproof their structure." The Guide consists of two parts: a set of conceptual sketches to help users visually identify the waterproofing conditions on their project, and a Table to guide the user to the types of waterproofing that could be considered for use with each condition.

The process begins with an assessment of the condition encountered on a project:

Horizontal or Vertical Structure: This was made the first order of demarcation for two reasons. First, someone examining a waterproofing condition would be able to tell its general orientation at a glance, even if nothing else about the project's waterproofing requirements was known. And second, from a materials standpoint, there are often major differences between the materials and techniques which can be used in each orientation.

Positive or Negative Hydrostatic Pressure: Positive pressure was defined as hydrostatic forces which tend to press waterproofing into the structure protected by the waterproofing. Negative pressure, on the other hand was defined as hydrostatic forces which could cause waterproofing to separate from the structure being protected. This distinction is critical to the selection of a waterproofing, but is not always easy to discern. For example, a waterproofing liner placed inside an underground water tank would ordinarily be under positive pressure. However, if the tank was drained and the water table outside the tank rose, the same waterproofing would be under negative pressure due to ground water trying to flow into the tank.

Condition of Use: A wide range of conditions of use could be encountered in a project. For example, pedestrian coatings and above grade walls may have aesthetic considerations. And "blind side" conditions require the installation of waterproofing before construction of the structural element, such as waterproofing placed before a floor slab is cast. It would be a rare project that required all the

conditions identified. Some applications, like ceiling waterproofing under negative pressure, are more likely to be used in civil engineering projects than architectural applications.

Type of Liquid or Gas being contained by Waterproofing: Waterproofing compatible with potable water merited its own category in the Table. Methane-resistance was also considered since it is of increasing importance in Southern California and other areas with underground gas, petroleum or contaminated soil. The Table does not address waterproofing which must be compatible with sewage and other chemicals.

After locating the correct conditions of use on the Table, users are directed to appropriate types of waterproofing materials, organized generally in accordance with MasterFormat. "Recommended" materials are those which are recommended for the conditions indicated in at least one manufacturer's published product literature. Since the criteria for "Recommended" is based upon one manufacturer's recommendation, users are cautioned that other manufacturers of similar materials may not recommend their products for the indicated conditions.

"Unacceptable" materials are those which, to the best knowledge of Committee members, are not recommended by any manufacturer for the indicated conditions of use.

Between "Recommended" and "Unacceptable", the Committee created, after much debate, a "Qualified" category. Products in this category are those which are not commonly used for the indicated conditions, and where no manufacturer currently recommends their product for the described conditions. However, in the consensus opinion of the Committee, these materials may work in some applications. For example, some of the "Qualified" materials may be technically suitable, but are not in common use because they are not economical for the indicated conditions.

The Committee considered other factors which affect waterproofing but eventually decided they were beyond its scope. For example, what happens where a horizontal and a vertical condition meet? Once a broad category was selected, what are the performance and product variables which ought to be considered to further narrow ones options within each product category. For example, application thickness, availability of materials and labor, costs, warranty provisions, environmental factors, project limitations, and other factors must be considered. Also, the Guide does not address dampproofing, water repellents, or roofing, processes which are sometimes grouped inappropriately with waterproofing.

In all cases, users of the Guide must read manufacturer literature and carefully evaluate proposed materials before specifying or using them on a specific application. When necessary, qualified professional advice should be obtained and, if necessary, tests should be performed to demonstrate the effectiveness of a product. The Committee also found the Below Grade Waterproofing Manual published by the Sealant, Waterproofing and Restoration Institute to be an authoratative reference.

The Committee recognizes that, as with any consensus effort, its Waterproofing Guide will not satisfy everyone in the waterproofing industry. Variations in regional practices or changes in technological and economic conditions may lead to different guidelines for waterproofing selection.

FOTTNOTES FOR THE TABLE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

1. Types are listed according to MasterFormat™ categories. New materials, such as polyurea and other evolving technologies, may also have waterproofing application but have not been considered.
2. This table is for preliminary product selection only. Obtain qualified professional assistance and carefully evaluate applicable industry standards and manufacturers' product data before specifying or using any type of waterproofing.
3. Based on use of bentonite as part of a composite-sheet waterproofing membrane.

Notice: Copyright 2003 by Los Angeles Chapter of Constuction Specifications Institute (www.lacsi.org). LACSI does not endorse products nor does it recommend one product or waterproofing system over another. LACSI will not be responsible for the use or misuse of table. Reprinted in KnowHow with permission.

(Humor) And the Lord spoke to Noah and said, "In one year, I am going to make it rain and cover the whole earth with water until all flesh is destroyed. But I want you to save the righteous people and two of every kind of living thing on the earth. Therefore, I am commanding you to build an Ark."

In a flash of lightning, God delivered the specifications for an Ark. In fear and trembling, Noah took the plans and agreed to build the Ark. "Remember," said the Lord, "You must complete the Ark and bring everything aboard in one year."

Exactly one year later, fierce storm clouds covered the earth and all the seas of the earth went into a tumult. The Lord saw that Noah was sitting in his front yard weeping. "Noah," he shouted, "Where is the Ark?" "Lord, please forgive me!" cried Noah. "I did my best, but there were big problems."

First, I had to get a Resource Consent for construction and your plans did not meet the codes. I had to hire an engineering firm and redraw the plans and get an engineers report from the Council. Then I got into a fight with NZ Fire Service over whether or not the Ark needed a sprinkler system and smoke alarms, and the Ministry of Health over the provision of smoking or non smoking areas. Then the Residents Association objected, claiming I was violating SAM zoning ordinances by building an Ark in my front yard that was recreational watercraft and therefore a threat to existing homes.

Then I had problems getting enough wood for the Ark, because of the ban on native logging on the West Coast. They tried to get me to use Fijian Jara but I couldn't get the necessary dispensation from Customs & Excise to import timber from a Pacific Island nation that wasn't party to the international working party on the life cycle of native timbers.

Finally convinced DOC (Department of Conservation) that I needed the wood to indirectly save the kakapo from extinction which seemed to get a bit of a reaction, however, the Royal Forest and Bird Society objected and won't let me catch any Kakapo. No Kakapo. No wood.

Under the new Employment Relations Act, the carpenters formed a union and went out on strike. I had to negotiate a settlement under the provisions of good faith bargaining before anyone would pick up a saw or a hammer.

OSH (Occupational Safety and Health) arrived and now I have to produce a Hazard Management and Safety procedure before they start work and ACC (Accident Compensation) are insisting we pre-pay our annual premiums on the basis we may not be returning. So now I have 16 carpenters on the Ark, but no Kakapo and no wood.

When news got out that I was to round up other animals, MAF (Ministry of Agriculture and Forests) arrived and insisted I build quarantine facilities to hold them in for the 6 months before sailing. They also wanted blood samples to prove no genetic engineering practices were involved.

The next thing I know, the Regional Council is knocking on my door. They want an Environmental Impact Report on the proposed flood: the area it would cover, the amount of water in cubic metres, impact on local micro ecosystems, velocity and force of water, cost to manufacturing and production and local transport, areas for possible relocation and resettlement. I tried telling them they were missing the point entirely.

Right now, I am trying to resolve a complaint filed with the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Race Relations Office that our selection criteria does not fairly reflect the age, gender, religious and race diversity of Earth.

Finally WINZ (Work and Income - "Dole Department") has waded in. They have seized my assets for alleged non payment of child support. It seems a local netball coach is claiming I knocked her up last year at the tapu lifting ceremony for the relocation of the New Plymouth cemetery. Mrs Noah is beside herself. She's enrolled herself in the Women in Leadership Seminar and has applied to the Waitangi Tribunal for her share of Tainui's corporate box at Ericsson stadium and is leaving me.

I really don't think I can finish the Ark for another five or six years," Noah wailed. The sky began to clear, the sun began to shine and the seas began to calm. A rainbow arched across the sky. Noah looked up hopefully. "You mean you are not going to destroy the earth, Lord?"

No," said the Lord sadly. "I don't have to. Someone else already has."

"Specification Book, 1856" page one of a 101-page hand-written master specification manuscript
"compiled from specifications prepared by New York, Philadelphia, Boston and other Architects." (Note the
option for using parenthesis and brackets for choices in the text! - M. Kalin)