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CHOICE

Volume 50
No. 9



May 2014

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER
CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

A Joint Meeting with the local chapter of the
American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE)

Legal Concerns and Implied Obligations Regarding A/E Design Intent and Specifications

*Presentation & Discussion by
Rees Griffiths and Eric Suter,
Attorneys with CGA Law Firm*

In recent years, there has been concern, with architects and engineers pursuing fewer available design commissions and the resulting pressures to lower their design fees, that the bidding and construction documents being produced are less thorough and less coordinated than when fees were more a
(Continued on page 4)

*Spouses, guests and visitors
are welcome and encouraged to attend.*

RADISSON HOTEL

1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA

Board Meeting - 5:00 pm in the Senate Board Room

All members are welcome to attend the Board Meeting

Attitude Adjustment - 6:00 pm

Dinner - 6:30 pm

Program - 7:15 pm

Dinner Cost

Free for Central Pennsylvania Chapter CSI Members;
Students \$10; All Others \$25

*Dinner reservations by
Noon, Friday, May 9, 2014*

See **FROM THE CHEF'S TABLE**
for Menu and Reservation details.

**ATTENTION CHAPTER OFFICERS, DIRECTORS,
ADVISOR, EDITOR, COMMITTEE CHAIRS and CO-CHAIRS**
- You have a standing reservation for every dinner meeting.
You are automatically registered for the first menu item on the list. If you are NOT attending the dinner meeting or want to CHANGE your menu item, you should RSVP with Logan at

The Central Pennsylvania Chapter meets
the second Tuesday monthly
except NO meetings are held in July or August.

Please Read Ads On Our Website They Support "Choice"

www.cpc-csi.org



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All material **MUST** be in the editor's hands no later than **May 17, 2014** for publication in the **June 2014** issue of "Choice".

Send to:
Tanya Ness
email to:
TNess@wrmeadows.com

The Construction Specifications Institute is a nation-wide nonprofit technical organization dedicated to the advancement of construction technology through communications, education, research and service. Founded in 1948, CSI provides a forum for architects, engineers, specification writers, contractors, suppliers and others in the industry.

Anyone who is concerned with construction specifications in any manner is invited to apply for membership. Contact: Paul Brunski Ph: 717-263-8464.



President's Message



*William Brightbill,
FCSI, CCCA, CCPR
Interim-President*

Finally !!! We got some decent warm weather and a chance for some construction projects to get started and, of course, a chance to swing those golf clubs. It's a great time of the year and a busy time for the Central PA Chapter of CSI.

We just wrapped up a very successful Exhibit Show, Thanks once again to the Exhibitor's who gave so generously of their time and resources to participate and also to all of the chapter members who assisted in

organizing our 39th Annual Show.

Thanks to Chris Atwood for setting up our April field trip/ chapter meeting at the Schindler Manufacturing Facility in Gettysburg. Don't recall the exact count but there were close to 25 in attendance, followed by dinner at the Gettysburg Wyndham. We all learned something about elevator cab manufacturing and had a great time doing it.

We have our Slate of Officers in place for the upcoming fiscal year which will be under the leadership of Eric Hardenbrook.

MEMBERSHIP NOTE – We still need someone to fill the position of Vice –President. Although Jan canvassed the membership as Nominating Committee Chair I am asking once again if there is anyone out there that would be in-

terested in filling that position and helping out our Chapter for a few years. If you are interested, please let Jan Myers or myself know as soon as possible.

This is the time of the year when we recognize those in our chapter that provided consistent exemplary service during the past year.

MEMBERSHIP NOTE – if you know the name of anyone in the chapter that you believe deserves an award for
(Continued on page 4)

From the Editor's Desk



*Tanya Ness,
CSI Editor*

Spring is in the air! We are hoping you all spring over to the dinner meeting this month. There is a 'Membership Challenge' from President Brightbill for all members to make every effort to join us this month. Also, I welcome any entry for 'Members' Musings' to tell us why you love being a member. This month's program promises something for everyone regardless of your discipline. Look forward to seeing you!

*Tanya Ness,
CSI Editor*

Classified Ads

To place classified ads, please submit your ad to the editor, Tanya Ness at TNess@wrmeadows.com for insertion in "Choice" and on cpc-csi.org.

From the Chef's Table



*Logan Myers
Hospitality Chair*

MENU

Chef's Choice Buffet

Attendees should make an entrée selection when reservations are placed.

(Please note that the first entrée listed will be the default selection if no choice is made.)

In addition, we will try to accommodate special requests such as vegetarian, low fat or low sodium selections. A

fresh fruit plate, instead of the Chef's Dessert Selection, is always available by request. Special request menu reservations should be made no later than the Friday prior to the Tuesday meeting.

Please feel free to forward either your comments regarding your meal, or any suggestions that you feel could improve the CPC-CSI dinner, to: loganmyers@hotmail.com.

*Logan Myers
Hospitality Chair*

RESERVATIONS

to Logan Myers by calling 570.850.6330 or e-mail at loganmyers@hotmail.com or use our on-line registration form at www.cpc-csi.org

YOU MUST MAKE RESERVATIONS OR CANCEL STANDING RESERVATIONS by **NOON, FRI, MAY 9, 2014.**

ALL NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED. *Entrée selection should be made when making a reservation. First entrée listed is the default selection if no choice is made.*

To schedule a Table Top Display, email Bill Deck, bdeck@lscdesign.com or use the form in Choice or online.

The Central PA Chapter dues include all meals for the chapter program dinner meetings for the year. Come out to our meeting to network, socialize, and learn about timely subjects in the Construction Field.

Curmudgeon's Corner

Excuse me, but your slip is showing!

I don't know how this issue has escaped me for nearly forty years, but I'm not alone. In that time, I have occasionally talked about coefficient of friction for floors, but I just discovered there has been no widely accepted standard for slip resistance. Not only that, but neither the IBC nor ADA define slip resistance, *even though both require slip resistant floors and walkways.*

How the heck is that possible? Think of all the very specific requirements in the building code. How did they miss this one? And think of ADA, with its Byzantine combination of Spock-like precision in some areas, and a "Take a guess and we'll see you in court" approach to other requirements. How can it be that the good folks who write the ADA requirements know exactly what so many dimensions must be, but they have no idea what they mean by slip-resistant? It seems to me that not falling on your arse is a lot more important than a quarter inch difference in the location of a water closet, but this apparently - no, this *obviously* important performance characteristic has had no definition.

The IBC, in 1003.4, requires that "Walking surfaces of the *means of egress* shall have a slip-resistant surface and be securely attached" but does not define what slip resistance is. Apparently, the IBC doesn't care about floors not in an egress path.

According to the US Access Guide:

Accessible surfaces *must be slip resistant* ... However, the standards do not specify a minimum level of slip resistance ... because a consensus method for rating slip resistance remains elusive. While different measurement devices and protocols have been developed ... a widely accepted method has not emerged. Compliance with the standards *requires specifying* surface materials, textures, or finishes that prevent or minimize slipperiness under the conditions likely to be found on the surface. Standard practices for minimizing floor or ground slipperiness will *likely* satisfy compliance with the standards ... [*my emphasis*].

Makes you feel all warm and fuzzy, doesn't it?

It's not that there are no standards related to slip resistance. We have:

- ASTM C1028 Standard Test Method for Determining the Static Coefficient of Friction of Ceramic Tile and Other Like Surfaces by the Horizontal Dynamometer Pull-Meter Method.
- ASTM D2047 Standard Test Method for Static Coefficient of Friction of Polish-Coated Floor Surfaces as Measured by the James Machine
- ASTM D5859 Standard Test Method for Determining the Traction of Footwear on Painted Surfaces Using the Variable Incidence Tester.
- ASTM F462 Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Slip-Resistant Bathing Facilities.
- ASTM F489 [Standard Test Method for Using a James Machine \(measures slip resistance\). Withdrawn 2005.](#)
- ASTM F609. Standard Test Method for Using a Horizontal Pull Slipmeter.
- ASTM F695 Standard Practice for Ranking of Test Data Obtained for Measurement of Slip Resistance of Footwear Sole, Heel, and Related Materials.
- ASTM F802 Standard Guide for Selection of Certain Walkway Surfaces When Considering Footwear Traction. Withdrawn 2012.
- ASTM F1679 Standard Test Method for Using a Variable Incidence Tribometer. Withdrawn 2006.
- ASTM F1637 Standard Practice for Safe Walking Surfaces.
- UL410 Slip Resistance of Floor Surface Materials (similar to ASTM D2047).
- NFSI/ANSI B101.1 Test Method for Measuring Wet SCOF of Common Hard-Surface Floor Materials.

Surely, with all those standards - and there are many more! - determining what slip-resistance means should be easy. Well, not quite. As noted, some of the standards have been withdrawn, and, with a couple of exceptions, most are test methods or discussions of slip resistance only that do not set minimum standards.

To make things more interesting, there is strong disagreement about the validity of various test methods and equipment. For example, the Ceramic Tile Institute of America (CTIOA) objects to the use of ASTM C1028, claiming it is "widely recognized as being inappropriate for assessing pedestrian safety" and that it "can give 'safe' ratings to very slippery materials." CTIOA and others argue that ASTM C1028, which measures static coefficient of friction, has little to do with real-world slip resistance. Furthermore, the ASTM C1028 test method is limited to the laboratory, which makes it useless for testing in-place conditions.

Some of the standards specify a coefficient of friction, but do not indicate if it is for wet or dry conditions, or do not specify the test method. Given the different materials and methods used for testing, those standards mean nothing. An additional complication is inherent in the nature of the products: we walk on them, so normal wear reduces their slip resistance. Unless there is a maintenance program to replace flooring as the coefficient of friction changes, does it make sense to specify a property that may be valid only for a couple of years?

Another contentious issue is the test condition; most tests

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 1)
Program

bit more robust. How do these types of document concerns factor into the contractor's obligations to an owner? What are the legal and contractual implications when design intent is less clear? Does a defined order of precedence in the construction documents address areas of conflict and provide greater clarity of design intent?

Learning Objectives: Attendees at this meeting will:

- Improve their understanding and recognition of how contractors perceive design intent as communicated in bidding and construction documents.
- Explore legal concerns of the contractor, designer and owner when design intent is not clear.
- Examine the contractor's obligations when the design intent is insufficiently expressed in the construction documents.
- Discuss the pros and cons of having an order of precedence in the construction documents and the legal implications when the design documents conflict.

We welcome guest presenters Rees Griffiths and Eric Suter of the Construction Law Group at CGA Law Firm (www.cgalaw.com), which works with owners, contractors,

subcontractors and suppliers, helping to manage their risks and protect their rights on a full range of construction issues including contract review and negotiations, resolving disputes, and filing or defending mechanic's liens. The construction law team at CGA provides advice from the beginning of the project, including pre-bid specification review, project financing (bonds, guarantees, letters of credit, and other forms of security), drafting and review of contracts, structuring of complex transactions for development, and project execution. All too often construction projects, no matter how well planned, result in legal disputes. CGA Law Firm has represented its construction industry clients as both plaintiffs and defendants. In matters where its clients have made the business judgment to pursue a claim, or have been forced to defend claims brought against them, CGA's primary goal is to provide the best legal services available to assist its client in representing its interests through the litigation process.

CGA Law Firm's construction law attorneys also advise contractors and subcontractors on Pennsylvania's Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act. This law not only requires registration but includes specific language required for all contracts. The firm will review existing home improvement contracts and draft contracts that comply with HICPA.

CGA Law Firm is also experienced in providing business planning including entity formation, tax advisement, employment issues, labor negotiations, immigration, and real estate transactions.

(Continued from page 2)
President's Message

their service, let myself or Jeff Snyder know and we will work with you to get it taken care of.

MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE ---- I know that there are some of you out there that haven't been to a single meeting all year. I AM SPEAKING TO YOU !!! Accept the challenge of making every effort you can to attend either the May or June meeting, network with your associates and fellow CSI members, and see what great programs we have been producing for our members.

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING OUR MAY 13th MEETING or our JUNE 10th MEETING.

We would love to see you...

Regards,
William R. Brightbill,
FCSI, CCCA, CCPR

(Continued from page 3)
Curmudgeon's Corner

are done dry. Even if a test is performed under wet conditions, there is little agreement about what those conditions should be. How wet is wet? Should the tests be performed with deionized water? Or with a soap solution? What about oil? Or, for that matter, banana peels?

The test methods themselves present more variables; the flooring itself is only one of the materials used in a test.

Many of the older tests use leather, presumably because that was a common material for shoe soles. Being a natural material, leather is not consistent from one sample to the next. Today, many shoes use something other than leather for soles, and it's likely that the coefficients of friction vary from one material to another. It is clear that no single test will be applicable in all situations, or that it will accurately replicate even one real-world condition.

One of the more recent standards is ANSI B101, which is unique in its extent. Much more than a test method, it includes a discussion of slip-and-fall dynamics and factors that affect slip resistance of all walkway surfaces. It sets three traction levels: High, with a static coefficient of friction (SCOF) greater than 0.6, Moderate, at 0.40 to 0.60, and Low, at less than 0.40.

It doesn't look like this issue will be resolved anytime soon. Perhaps it's just too slippery.

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Agree? Disagree? Leave your comments at <http://swconstructivethoughts.blogspot.com/>.

Calling All Reps!



*Bill Deck,
Advertising Chair*

Would you like to highlight your company or a special product? Do we have a deal for you. For a mere \$125-\$150 you can display your wares during the social time and have 10 minutes of everyone's attention during dessert at one of our CPC/CSI dinner meetings. What an awesome opportunity to hit several specifiers at once. If you are a member of this chapter, it will cost \$125. If you are not, it will cost \$150. For more details, see the CPC-CSI.org website. To schedule a table top, contact Bill Deck at wdeck@rlps.com. Thanks!

*Bill Deck
Advertising Chair*



**Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the
Construction Specifications Institute**
Table Top Display Registration

Name/Contact: _____

Company: _____

Meeting Date: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Cost: \$125 members /\$150 non-members (does not include meal)

Fee Includes:

1. One 72 x 30 inch table to display product.
2. Display time: 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. (During social hour)
3. Presentation: 10 minute presentation during dessert.
4. Electrical: Outlets available. Vender supplied extension cords.

Contact: Bill Deck, CPC Advertising Committee
email: bdeck@lscdesign.com

Calendar of Events

May 2014 & Beyond
for Mid Atlantic BX social networking, training & other educational events -visit:
www.midatlanticbx.com

May 13, 2014
CSI Central Pa. Chapter - JOINT Dinner Meeting & Program with the Central PA Chapter of the American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE). Location and program TBD.

June 10, 2014
CSI Central Pa. Chapter - Dinner Meeting & Program. Program and Awards Dinner

June 26-28, 2014
AIA National Convention and Design Exposition, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. Go to www.aia.org/convention for more information.

July 2014
CSI Central Pa. Chapter
No meeting

August 2014
CSI Central Pa. Chapter
No meeting

September 9-11, 2014
CSI 58th Annual National Convention & Hanley Wood Exhibitions CONSTRUCT2014 at the

Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD. More info at www.constructshow.com.

October 14, 2014
CSI Central Pa. Chapter - Dinner Meeting & Program.

November 11, 2014
CSI Central Pa. Chapter - Dinner Meeting & Program.

December 8, 2014
CSI Central Pa. Chapter - Dinner Meeting & Program.

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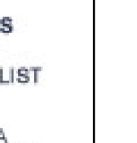
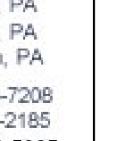

Roster
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