



**Construction
Specifications
Canada**

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CSC NIB NEWS-IN-BRIEF NOVEMBER 2007

MARKETING

On September 22nd and 23rd 2007, a marketing workshop was held in Toronto with 22 members, staff, and a facilitator in attendance. The goal of this meeting was to provide direction for a yet to be created CSC Marketing Committee. The facilitator led the group through a process to validate the Association's brand and determine its strengths, weaknesses and target markets. Once the marketing committee is established, it will be charged with developing a long term plan to promote CSC's products, services and name, to better position the Association within the construction community.

The facilitator firstly had to get members to determine what is Construction Specification Canada's 'Brand'. We then discussed what CSC's strengths and weaknesses are, who are our partners and influencers, how CSC sees itself and how others see CSC. This was a very worthwhile exercise as it allowed all participants to get on the same page and come up with a common understanding and goal for the marketing of CSC.

The facilitator prepared a report of the results of the workshop and presented it to the CSC Board of Directors at its October meeting. The report will act as a guide for a new marketing committee. The committee, chaired by Bruce Duncan, and made up of 6 to 8 members will help to formalize an action plan to market CSC to the industry.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Your Board of Directors continues to review and analyze the CSC Strategic Plan, ensuring that the needs of the membership are met. In addition, the Board makes certain that the Association goals and objectives are realized, and that the activities by which objectives are accomplished are completed or sustained. Contact the Association office if you wish to receive a copy of the CSC Strategic Plan, or visit www.csc-dcc.ca membership page.

SPEX.CA is a marketing alliance between Construction Specifications Canada (CSC) and Digicon Information Inc.

Spex.ca is the vehicle through which to purchase construction documents such as: The CSC Manual of Practice The National Master Specifications (NMS); CSC/CSI MasterFormat 2004 and other Format Documents; CSC TEKAIDS; SpecSUITE; Canadian Master Specification (CMS); MiniSPEC; OutlineSPEC; RenoSPEC; MasterPP; HomeSPEC; Spec MACROS and Specnique. Specnique is a database management software, specially designed to edit and manage specification projects. Among its many enhancements over word processors, its principal advantage lies in consolidating specification sections into a single, manageable project file.

www.spex.ca

TECHNICAL STUDIES COMMITTEE

SectionFormat, PageFormat Update Task Team (SPUTT):

While the CSC/CSI SectionFormat update has been completed, the PageFormat is still under review. An update on the two documents will be forwarded to the membership at a future date.

UniFormat

It is the intent of CSC and CSI to update the current version of CSC/CSI UniFormat with the hope that CSC/CSI UniFormat and the AIA UniFormat II can be amalgamated into a single document.

The UniFormat Task Team (UTT) continued to host meetings through the late spring and summer 2007 related to the update process of UniFormat. The meetings were generally small scale meetings held in Alexandria Virginia and involved CSI staff and UTT members, as well as other groups that have an interest in the update process.

The meetings were held in order to more clearly establish the scope of the update process and to solidify the help and agreement of the main players involved in UniFormat business.

A workshop is planned, more specifically focused at participants concerned with the SERVICES portions of UniFormat. The Services element was identified as requiring a large amount of reworking and would require the most participation from the Engineering community. Representatives of several Engineering societies and a select group of interested Consulting Engineers have been invited to partake in this discussion. Outcomes of the workshop are to be circulated amongst the broader UniFormat group for additional development and refinement, and eventual inclusion in the harmonization effort.

This workshop continued the progress made in earlier meetings held in 2006 and early 2007 which identified and gathered the participants who were interested in the update process for UniFormat.

The top 3 attributes steering the update of UniFormat continue to be:

- 1 Common, comprehensive, consistent structure of Elements capable of being filtered for specific project Types.
- 2 Harmonize existing and evolving UniFormats.
- 3 Have a more comprehensive coverage of the built environment.

Other UniFormat Task Team meetings and workshops are tentatively planned for later in 2007 and 2008 which will continue the process.

ICIS Activities

CSC continues to maintain membership in the International Construction Information Society (ICIS), an international association of organizations providing integrated specifications and other support documents for the built environment. After 15 continuous years of CSC representation to ICIS, Wayne Watson, FCSC, RSW is retiring from the effort. CSC thanks Wayne for his time, persistence and foresight in ensuring that CSC became and remains a member of ICIS since its inception. CSC's two sitting representatives in this society, John Cooke, RSW and Mary Friesen, FCSC, RSW both attended the ICIS Delegates Assembly (DA) in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA in June 2007.

The three days of meetings at the ICIS DA focused on the theme "Implementing Change". This inspired some very good presentations as to existing status of ICIS member customers, their current needs, and the processes of change they are implementing to address new industry developments. High on the list of subjects of interest was industry's advancement towards 3D CAD (and BIM), and the need for ICIS member organizations to move forward with comparable master specification developments.

Several very interesting presentations were made by ICIS members, showing their understanding of changes occurring within their master specification customer base. Specifications by users revealed factors such as:

- the number of varying project delivery methods being used in their country,
- the need to develop specifications for each project phase and stage,
- the necessity of making specifications (and drawings) available to all project team members,
- the need to permit information linkages across team members,
- the need to record and publish electronic facility maintenance documents for the owner, and
- the need for classification tables to organize this information.

CSC offered OmniClass to assist. The result of this offer is that a number of ICIS members have since adopted OmniClass. Since the ICIS meeting, OmniClass has now been formally adopted by the BuildingSmart partners (The Netherlands, Norway, CSI, and CSC). OmniClass could now become the basis for an ISO worldwide standard. Presentations were also made by several ICIS members as to their potential international adoption of forthcoming BIM (3D CAD) standards. One of the other presentations intimated that the cutting edge technology was due to direct research, development and involvement by product manufacturers worldwide - not necessarily by the design. That perspective is supported by statements that further BIM development necessitates identification of product characteristics and properties, which will require input by manufacturers.

This is even more credible when one realizes that products are now being manufactured offsite, in different countries, under differing code and standards requirements - for an out-of-country project. These widely varying factors and activities make it necessary for ICIS to bring these efforts into focus for the benefit of the entire construction industry.

Next year's meeting is scheduled for Potsdam, Germany in June 2008.

The TEK•AID Program

The TEK•AID Program continues to be very active. The Precast Concrete TEK•AIDs are published and available for purchase through www.spex.ca. It is anticipated that CSC will be delivering introductory Pre-Cast Concrete TEK•AID seminars in mid-winter across the country. The Masonry TEK•AID Suite is now complete, however a late development from our partners (CCMPA), has meant that the Digest portions of the TEK•AIDs require more detail which will take a considerable amount of effort before they can be completed to CCMPA's satisfaction. We expect that the additional work will be completed late 2008.

While the Sustainability TEK•AID is now in the production stage and we should be receiving the first draft for review in mid-January 2008, the Concrete Suite of TEK•AIDs has been temporarily put on hold.

CCDC 2 - Stipulated Price Contract 2008

After much back and forth among the constituent members of CCDC, it is now at the stage where the document is ready for publication. The new version of CCDC 2 - Stipulated Price Contract 2008 will be launched in conjunction with an explanatory seminar in late January 2008.

CSC Endorses AEC Daily Courses

In this ever-changing world, Canadian construction professionals are always in need of legitimate education. They will benefit in knowing that nearly 200 free, online courses are available from AEC Daily and that each one meets the standards of CSC.

"We're proud that a leading Canadian association like CSC recognizes the quality and integrity of our education," said Jeff Rice, President of AEC

Daily. "Our wide selection of outstanding courses will provide a valuable service to CSC members - and as always, for free!"

AEC Daily has 196 courses that are recognized or approved by 17 different organizations and several new courses are added monthly. Each one meets or exceeds the educational requirement for most construction professionals in North America. AEC Daily is the largest provider of FREE online continuing education to construction professionals. Courses are available online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Architects, engineers, interior designers and other construction professionals rely on AEC Daily to maintain their accreditation with ease.

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD)

The PCD is an introductory course that will enable the student to have a better understanding of construction documentation (specifications, drawings and schedules), products, bidding procedures and contracts. The PCD is has been available as an on-line distance learning course since January 2007 and has been well received. The second offering of the on-line PCD was sold out with-in days of being offered. Registrations for the January 2008 course are now being accepted. To register:

- Go to <http://www.sait.ca/>
- Click on the Distance Education Course Finder
- Type the course code CNST 245 in the **Quick Search by Course Code** box.
- Click on the **Register** button and follow the links

How to Register by phone: Call 1-877-284-7248

- Have your Visa and MasterCard ready
- Request to be registered in CNST 245 - CRN 29293 or 29381

The PCD course is a prerequisite for the Certified Technical Representative (CTR) and the Certified Construction Contract Administrator (CCCA) designations from CSC. It is also a pre-cursor to all the other CSC education courses.

Presently the PCD touches on the following topics:

Module 1-Introduction; Module 2-Construction Process; Module 3-Production of Construction Documents ; Module 4-Forms of Contracts; Module 5-Codes and Standards; Module 6-Risk Management Issues; Module 7-Legal Issues; Module 8-Building Science; Module 9-Contract Administration; Module 10-Communication; Module 11-Trends in the Construction Industry.

Specifier 1 and Specifier 2 - Courses (formerly RSW 2 and 3)

The RSW courses are being updated and given a new branding as Specifier 1 and Specifier 2. The anticipated date for launching the new courses is February 2008. These courses provide an in-depth look at the project manual, its parts and usage. The courses are designed for those wanting to know more about the preparation and processes needed to produce quality documents, as well as a refresher for the practicing specification writer, and will also assist those who are preparing for or are enrolled in the CSC Registered Specification Writer (RSW) Program.

The courses are not pre-requisites to obtaining the RSW designation, however successful completion of the courses reduces the number of hours required to complete the experience portion of the registration process.

Construction Contract Administration (CCA) Course

The objective of the CCA course is to improve construction contract administration by providing education related to the understanding, administration and enforcement of contract requirements during the construction phase of the project. The course is available through classroom instruction and is slated to be made available as an on-line course in 2008. This course is mandatory for anyone wishing to obtain the Certi-

fied Construction Contract Administrator (CCCA) designation from CSC.

The course is designed for those individuals involved in construction administration such as Contract Administrators, Property Managers, Architects, Engineers, Interior Designers, Specification Consultants, Building Authorities and Bonding and Insurance Agencies.

Technical Representative (TR) course

The Technical Representative (TR) course (formerly CTR Level 2) is in the final stages of review and should be available for instruction in February 2008. The course will provide a better understanding of contract documents and bidding procedures, product representation, professionalism, and ethics, and will provide a new depth of understanding and explanation of concepts beyond what was previously introduced in the PCD course. The course is designed for the individual involved in the supply section of the construction industry such as manufacturer representatives, agents or distributors of products. This course is mandatory for anyone wishing to obtain the Certified Technical Representative (CTR) designation from CSC.

Eligibility

Anyone may take a CSC course (some courses may require pre-requisites).

In order to be eligible for the RSW, CTR and CCCA designations, individuals must be a member of CSC at the time of submitting his/her application; complete the required application forms in full and meet all the requirements set forth in the application; and submit the prescribed application fee to the CSC Association office.

For complete information on the requirements for CSC designations visit www.csc-dcc.ca.

MEMBERSHIP SPONSOR CREDIT IS BACK

Effective January 1, 2008 a member who sponsors a new member will receive a \$10 credit per new member. The credit will be applied directly towards your annual membership renewal fees.

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2008

The 2008 membership renewal notices will be mailed in December 2007. The CSC Board of Directors at the October 2007 meeting decided to increase the basic level of dues from the current level of \$198 to \$210; the student and retired member dues will remain unchanged. The registration and certification maintenance fees will also remain at \$40 plus applicable taxes.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Whether it is for networking, education, certification, self-improvement opportunities, or discounted technical documents, CSC is the place to go. CSC offers a wide range of technical documents and information, as well as the Registered Specification Writer, Certified Technical Representative and Certified Construction Contract Administrator programs. CSC offers ample opportunity to network with members of the industry and to enhance your understanding of specifications through our education courses.

In the construction industry's fast-paced environment, the need for and value of a multi-disciplinary association such as CSC is greater than ever. You are challenged to inform and encourage your colleagues who have yet to join the CSC team to explore the benefits of membership, professional development and self-improvement opportunities that CSC has and will continue to provide to members of the construction industry.

During the period of December 1, 2007 to February 29, 2008, you and each new member you sponsor will receive a ballot for a draw to take

place at the March Board of Directors meeting. This year the prizes are:

Members who sponsor a member are eligible to win:

- \$500 Travel or accommodation voucher + Conference 2008 registration
- \$250 Voucher (good for travel or any CSC product or service)
- \$250 CSC voucher (good for any CSC product or service)

Each new Member is eligible to win:

- \$500 Travel or accommodation voucher + Conference 2008 registration
- \$250 Voucher (good for travel or any CSC product or service)
- \$250 CSC Voucher (good for any CSC product or service)

CSC DESIGNATION

CSC members are encouraged to state that they are a member of Construction Specifications Canada (CSC) on their business card. This applies to members only, not corporations, as membership is individual. However, the CSC logo is not to be used on individual business cards nor on company literature.

CSC MEMBER'S GROUP INSURANCE

A SIMPLE INQUIRY CAN SAVE YOU MORE THAN A FEW BUCKS
At a time that insurance premiums are of concern why not contact Mumby Insurance Brokers at 1-800-446-5745 or visit them at www.mumby.com for a no obligation quote on your insurance needs? Mumby Insurance Brokers continue to offer a full range of insurance programs to members of CSC across Canada.

CSC CONFERENCE 2008

Designing for Disaster, May 28-31, 2008, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Book your ticket, reserve your room and mark your calendar. Don't miss the opportunity to join your CSC colleagues in Halifax.

Kick off the conference at the "Welcome Reception" on the evening of Wednesday, May 28, where you can mingle with industry professionals, and catch up with old friends, as well as make new ones in a relaxed social environment.

Come spend some time with those of us, who, like you are committed to the improvement and delivery of quality products, and services. Learn about the latest innovations in the construction community from our Corporate Sponsors.

The conference technical Committee is busy planning an outstanding line up of technical sessions, consisting of informative topics, and speakers such as:

- *Legal Update on Contract Law – Division 01*
- *Legal Update on Contract Law – Bidding Documents*
- *Round Table Discussion – Construction Insurance*
- *Round Table Discussion – Project Delivery*
- *CCDC Update*
- *New Developments in Concrete Technology*
- *How to Design Product Data Sheets/Web Sites*
- *Dealing with Labour Shortage*
- *New Developments in Glass Technology*
- *Harbour Solutions*
- *City Emergency Preparedness*
- *Dealing with Disaster - the aftermath of the Tsunami*
- *Water Treatment - Planning for Disaster*
- *Retrofitting Masonry to Resist Explosion*
- *How to Avoid Masonry Failures*
- *Disaster Resistant Fasteners the Hurriquake Nail*
- *Weather – Planning for Disaster*
- *Pandemics – Planning for Disaster*

- *Presentation of Recent LEED Project*
- *Greening of Divisions 00 & 01 – new CSC Tek-Aids*
- *How to Avoid Roof Structure Failures*
- *How to Avoid Roof Disasters - Lessons from Hurricane Juan*
- *Writing Specifications for Off-Shore Projects*
- *Your Office Survival – Planning for Disaster*
- *Update on Rehabilitation of Point Pleasant /Stanley Park*

Wind down and relax as the fun continues with the much anticipated Fun Night, sponsored by CGC on Friday, May 30; the pomp and ceremony of the President's Reception sponsored by McGraw Hill Construction, and the President's Ball, sponsored by Firestone Buildings Products on Saturday, May 31 followed by specialty beverages during "After Dinner with Dow". With all this excitement, why wait to register for this incredible conference?

In addition to a great Technical program a fantastic companions' program will provide memorable experiences.

For additional Conference 2008 details and sponsorship opportunities visit www.cscconference.ca

CSC's Revitalized Manual of Practice

The previous edition of the Construction Specifications Canada (CSC) Manual of Practice (MoP) has not been available to the construction industry for about a decade. Its revitalization has been long overdue and, like the phoenix of Greek mythology, the CSC MoP has risen once again from the ashes. We now have that definitive document that can help improve construction documentation within our industry. But why do you need it?

The MoP is an effective resource for all participants in the construction industry, including owners, architects, engineers, contract administrators, product reps, financial institutions, facility managers and regulatory authorities. The planning, design, construction, and facility use process is inherently interdependent, and the MoP meets the needs of all participants. Most importantly, the MoP advances CSC's mission of being committed to the betterment of the construction industry through the development and delivery of quality education programs, publications and services.

The new edition of the MoP helps educators by providing consistent resource materials for teaching new or less experienced specification writers. Architects and engineers who prefer to write their own construction specifications will have a definitive reference document to guide them through the intricacies of construction specification writing. Even experienced specification writers need help from time to time, and will have the best quality resource available to them once again.

However, probably the most important aspect about the comeback of the CSC MoP will be the advantage it gives to larger knowledgeable clients who can now turn to their consultants and request them to follow the recommendations of the CSC Manual of Practice. This in turn will improve the quality of construction documentation, resulting in cost savings. Good documentation means that contractors can give more accurate bids and are less likely to miss something that will eventually cost someone money. At the same time, the more accurate bids will result in fewer extras also saving the client money. Good construction documentation makes our industry professionals look better and provides them with more credibility to potential clients.

The MoP is available in both electronic and hard copy through www.spex.ca. The French version of the MoP will be available in early 2008. This commitment to the industry ensures that the same standard of quality documentation reference material will be available on a national basis.

CONSTRUCTION CANADA MAGAZINE

The relationship between CSC and Kenilworth Publishing Inc. (KPI), the publisher of *Construction Canada Magazine* continues to improve and grow. Satisfaction with the publication remains high as editorial content continues to meet readers' expectations and the magazine's format continues to improve. Members are encouraged to submit articles for potential publication.

ARE WE UP TO SPEC?

Comments, questions, concerns or opinions can be e-mailed to info@csc-dcc.ca or fax toll free 1-800-668-5684 or mail to CSC, 120 Carlton Street, Suite 312, Toronto, ON, M5A 4K2

The Association office continues to be staffed by:

Nick Franjic, CAE, Executive Director

email: nfranjic@csc-dcc.ca

Clifton A. Fiola, CAE, Program and Services Manager

email: clifton@csc-dcc.ca

Brad J. Noble, Membership and Client Services Associate

email: bjnoble@csc-dcc.ca

THANK YOU

The construction industry is busy, demand for product and services are on the rise, responsibilities are increasing, families are growing and yet a day still has only 24 hours.

As most not-for-profit associations today, CSC relies heavily on the volunteer efforts of its membership. CSC consists of over 1650 members, many of whom have and continue to put forth great work on behalf of CSC.

To those members, their employers and their families, THANK YOU.

To the members who have been thinking about getting more involved with CSC activities, projects, or committees, you are invited to contact your Chapter Director or the CSC Executive Director and inquire as to how to get involved.

The CSC Board of Directors for 2007-2008

Michael Schneider, CCCA	President
Tom Dunbar, FCSC, RSW	1st Vice-President
Brian Colgan, RSW	2nd Vice-President
Corinne Golding, RSW	3rd Vice-President
Bruce Gillham, CTR, CCCA	4th Vice-President
John Cooke, RSW	Immediate Past-President/Registrar
Sandro Ubaldino, FCSC, RSW	Secretary/Treasurer
Nick Franjic, CAE	Executive Director

Directors

Harry Forbes	Atlantic
Dennis Looten, FCSC	Calgary
Frank Zrim	Edmonton
John Clinckett, FCSC, RSW, CCCA	Grand Valley
Terry Johnson, FCSC	Hamilton/Niagara
Gary Smith, CCCA	London
Claude Giguere	Montréal
Craig Cosgrove, CTR	Ottawa
Pierre Provost	Québec City
Tim Walsh, CCCA	Regina
Jeff Werschner, CTR	Saskatoon
Bob Rymell	Toronto
Bruce Betker	Vancouver
Mike Garlinski	Winnipeg

CSC Executive and Board of Directors 2007-2008



Front row, left to right:

Michael Schneider, CCCA, President; Robert Rymell, Toronto; Corinne Golding, RSW, Vice-President; Thomas Dunbar, FCSC, RSW, President-Elect; Bruce Betker, Vancouver; John G. Cooke, RSW, Immediate Past-President;

Back row, left to right:

Terry Johnson, FCSC; Hamilton/Niagara; Claude Giguere, Montreal; Brian Colgan, RSW, Vice-President; Bruce Gillham, CTR, CCCA, Vice-President; Chris Lance, Ottawa (standing in for Craig Cosgrove, CTR); Tim Walsh, CCCA, Regina; Gary Smith, CCCA, London; Dennis Looten, FCSC, Calgary; Nick Franjic, CAE, Executive Director; John Clinckett, FCSC, RSW, CCCA, Grand Valley; Jeff Werschner, CTR, Saskatoon; Mike Garlinski, Winnipeg; Harry Forbes, Atlantic; Sandro Ubaldino, FCSC, RSW, Secretary/Treasurer; Frank Zrim, Edmonton