

Joseph H. Edwards, FCSI



*"In recognition of your passion and devotion to promoting CSI by educating our industry through your certification workshops, specifications courses, and through your exemplary service to CSI as a visionary chapter officer, you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on the 24th day of June 2000."
Atlanta, Georgia*



JOSEPH HAROLD EDWARDS was born in Yonkers, New York, in 1943. He graduated from Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie, New York, with an AAS in 1964. At the University of Minnesota, he graduated with a BCE in 1967, and an MSCE in 1972.

Edwards has spent his entire life in the engineering and construction related fields, starting as a laborer for a home builder during his early teens. Following his graduation with a BCE, he entered the engineering profession, working in both the private sector and the public sector for the next 50 years.

Joe worked in the private sector until 1986, when he became Contracts Manager for the Metropolitan Waste Control Commission (MWCC), a political entity responsible for maintaining and coordinating wastewater treatment facilities in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul Metropolitan Area. At MWCC, Edwards was responsible for establishing specifications and drafting standards for MWCC construction contracts. Along with standardizing the documents, the changes he made resulted in MWCC being recognized with three CSI specification competition awards.

Edwards joined the Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter in 1987 and earned his CDT and CCS in 1988. While being active on most chapter committees, he had a passion for teaching the chapter classes that prepared others for their CDT and CCS exams. He also prepared a specification writing class for people who wanted to learn additional insights into writing good specifications. Joe also helped the Twin Ports Chapter establish its CDT exam training classes. His passion for CSI standards and formats also fueled his establishment of quality control procedures for his employers.

Along with Jerry Putnam, FCSI, Joe brought order to what had been a chaotic chapter awards process. Shortly before they took charge of the awards committee, a chapter newsletter proudly announced that more than one hundred awards had been presented at the annual awards banquet. Joe and Jerry established new guidelines for all awards, emphasizing that all contributions must be recognized, but making it clear that if everyone gets an award, they have no value. In addition to standardizing award requirements, policies, and selection processes, they elevated the chapter awards presentation to the level of the Academy Awards event.

CSI Membership

Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter, 1987
Twin Ports Chapter, charter member
La Crosse Chapter, charter member

Institute Offices, Committees

Specifications Subcommittee, FY 1996
Specifications Competition Committee, FY 1998-2000
Awards Committee, FY 2001

Region Offices, Committees

MSP Chapter Region Director, FY 1995-1999
Awards Committee, FY 2000

Chapter Offices, Committees

Chapter Historian, FY 1989-1991
Education Committee, FY 1989-1993, 1996-1998
Programs Committee, FY 1990
Membership Committee, FY 1990-1992
Interim Vice President, FY 1991

Vice President, FY 1993, 1998, 1999

Nominating Committee, FY 1994-1995

Certification Committee, FY 1994-2002

Planning Committee, FY 1994-1995

President, Host Chapter, 39th CSI Convention, FY 1995

Technical Committee, FY 1995-1998

Awards Committee, FY 1995-2004

By-Laws Committee, FY 1998

Awards

Institute

Specifications Competition Award, 1996

Ben John Small Memorial Award, 1999

Chapter

Continuous Service Award, 2001

John C. Anderson Award of Excellence, 2002