Good Morning Central Iowa CSI Members.

In case you didn’t receive the email below from the North Central Region, please see the message below.

A Message from The NCR President

Members of the North Central Region:

I hope you all are doing well, not just with regards to your physical health (which of course I care about too), but also your mental health in these frightening and uncertain times. The term “social distancing” is likely to make all of the dictionary words-of-the-year lists for 2020, if I were a betting man. Myself, I am coming to prefer the term "physical distancing".
It is necessary right now to maintain that 6’ of physical separation (which is a constant challenge for us huggers), but that doesn’t mean that we need to be socially distant. On the contrary, I think that it’s more important than ever that we are intentional in increasing our social interaction in all the ways we still can. Pick up the phone and call someone rather than sending an email. Or better yet – video chat. Have virtual meetings. Have virtual office parties and Chapter meetings. Reach out to those you care about and make sure they are doing well.

Having said that, it is with extra regret that I need to pass along the message below from the Flint Hills Chapter regarding the 2020 North Central Region conference in Lawrence, KS which was scheduled for just over five weeks from now. This will come as no surprise to most of you, considering the current state of large gatherings and travel. In fact, Lawrence and the entire Kansas City metro are heading into a “stay-at-home” order for 30 days beginning at midnight tonight (Monday the 23rd, as I write this). Our annual Region conference has a great social component for all of those that attend, and that face-to-face social interaction will be lost and sorely missed this year.

But… We are choosing to use this (hopefully) unique situation to shake up how we do things in the North Central Region, with the hopes of reaching a wider audience and doing more of all the things that we do at the conference, and for more people. I’m sure you’re tired at this point of hearing “more details are to come”, but they are. We are working on new ways to deliver all of the Region-related content that we normally include in the Region Conference, including:

• The annual meeting and election of officers
• President-Elect Training
• Chapter Leader Training for Officers and Committee Chairs

We are working to develop virtual ways to deliver all of these, and are excited that we may be able to engage more leaders and members in the Region by offering these items online rather than only in-person. We have known for a while that not everyone has the ability to attend the conference in person, and
this year may set the tone for how we deliver our Region training for many years to come.

Please read the message below from the Flint Hills Chapter, and please be watching for more information from the Region on exciting things to come.

Wishing you all the best,
-Jarrod Mann, P.E., CSI®, CDT®, LEED AP® BD+C

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**An Update from the 2020 NCR Conference Committee**

Due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak and the unknown duration of the measures and recommendations currently in place regarding social distancing, travel bans, local closures and quarantines, the CSI Flint Hills Chapter of the North Central Region has cancelled the 2020 CSI North Central Region Conference. Conference events such as the NCR Annual Meeting, Leadership Training and President-Elect Training will be rescheduled by the NCR Executive Committee, who will be sending additional information regarding those events, including their format, as it becomes available.

If you have registered for the conference and have paid your registration fee via PayPal, or if you have paid exhibitor or sponsorship fees via PayPal, your fees will be refunded by PayPal in full to the credit card that was used for your payment. If you made payment of fees by other means, you will be refunded by check. We hope to have all refunds issued by March 31st.

If you have made hotel and/or travel registrations for the conference, please cancel them immediately to avoid penalties.
As the 2020 CSI NCR Conference host, the members of the Flint Hills Chapter Conference Committee wish to thank everyone who offered to help sponsor the conference, exhibit during the Product Expo, present a program, or support the conference with your attendance. A great deal of effort has been put forth toward the planning of this event, and the decision regarding its cancellation was not made without lengthy discussions regarding other options. We deeply appreciate everyone’s support of CSI, and your willingness to help make this conference a success. We will certainly miss the networking and camaraderie that we were anticipating, and wish that this decision was unnecessary, but feel that we must take whatever actions we can to minimize the effects of COVID-19.

Sincerely,
The CSI NCR 2020 Conference Committee
and conference host, CSI Flint Hills Chapter
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.