



SPECTRUM

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Chapter CSI

President's Message

Bill Littler, CSI

How do we change the world around us? Is it through great feats of valor? Is it by monumental breakthroughs? Or is it by overwhelming power? I suppose these could be the case, but more likely than not it is through the simple, day-by-day act of staying the course, understanding what needs to be done and doing it.



Each of us - architects, specifiers, manufacturers reps, contractors, etc. - have those things that we do day in and day out that often seem inconsequential. They at times can be frustrating in that they seem to get in the way of what we think we could do to be "significant". However, just as with any discipline, it is commitment to the basics that will make our work significant.

There is a manufacturer that has a funny name with a significant meaning. The company's name is DIRTT. Now that's an odd name for an interior environments company until you understand the meaning behind the name. DIRTT is actually an acronym given by the founder. It is his statement to excellence - Do It Right This Time. You see, the founder had been successful prior to founding DIRTT, but he felt in his previous endeavors that he hadn't hit the mark. So when he founded DIRTT, he wanted to clean the slate and build his new company on the premise of doing ALL things right and strive toward excellence.

Strive toward excellence - isn't that what we all want to do? Excellence starts with the seemingly mundane things though, and doing everything we do to the best of our abilities. As Chuck Noll, the four-time Super Bowl winning coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers said "If you want to win, do the ordinary things better than anyone else does them day in and day out."

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Those ordinary things could change the world around you. Things like:

- Encourage someone around you both professionally and personally (you never know how those words could change a person's life).
- Follow your passion and see where it leads you - maybe you are the next Kenton Lee (www.theshoethatgrows.org), Veronika Scott (www.empowermentplan.org) or Cynthia Koenig (www.wellowater.org).
- And of course - get involved in your Puget Sound Chapter of CSI (you knew that was coming).

We may not all be or even want to be stars, but I believe Bono has the right attitude - "As a rock star, I have two instincts: I want to have fun, and I want to change the world. I have a chance to do both."

Go do both!

Chapter Meeting Quick Pitches



There are presently openings for 10-minute Quick Pitches for our fall Chapter meetings. The cost is \$150. Any member or non-member can present. If interested, contact [Dick Owen](#) for questions or to reserve your date. This is a great opportunity to introduce our Chapter members to you, your products, or services.

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Spectrum is published monthly as a benefit for members of the Puget Sound Chapter CSI.

Articles must be submitted by the 15th of the month for the next month's edition. Email



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Join CSI



Free CDT Study Course

Come one, come all!

This course will be taught by Puget Sound Chapter's very own, Marc Chavez FCSI AIA CCS

The Construction Document Technician (CDT) certificate is a great place for anyone involved in the multi-billion dollar construction industry to get a handle on the ebb and flow of the information that in many ways determines the success of the project (and incidentally our jobs.)

Stop procrastinating. This is the time to get serious and pass the CDT exam. The fall exam must be taken between September 26 and December 10, 2016.

1. Fulfill application requirements:
 - Submit written application for examination at www.csinet.org.
 - Pay examination fee.
2. Study the provided text materials and take the free group study course
3. Pass the CDT examination with a score of 75 or higher.
4. A renewal is not required to maintain the CDT designation.

There are no prerequisites to qualify to take the exam. Membership in CSI is not required.

Go to www.csinet.org to register for the CDT exam.

[CDT Study Group Schedule \(Note alternating course locations\)](#)

8/6 (Sat) 10:00 -12:00 at Ballard Library
8/20 (Sat) 11:00-1:00 at Magnolia Library
9/17 (Sat) 10:00-12:00 at Ballard Library
9/24 (Sat) 11:00 to 2:00 at Magnolia Library

Register for the Free Group Study Sessions: www.psccsi.org or call 206-382-3393.

About the instruction leader:

Marc Chavez is an experienced architect with a technical bent. He has been involved in the creation of a wide variety of buildings from small wood houses to large institutional buildings. His expertise in architectural practice is centered on document production, specifications, and construction management. An engaging speaker, he has presented papers on a variety of topics thru the local CSI Puget Sound Chapter, in online webinars and onsite presentations at locations around the country. He consistently receives high marks for making the difficult and dry subject of construction documents approachable.

He currently works at Perkins + Will's Seattle Office as Technical Director, gathering and analyzing data about the architectural work process, planning project workflow, overseeing QA/QC efforts, and writing the occasional specification.





The Puget Sound Chapter CSI has a separate organization, the Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation, established in 2007, whose purpose is to provide scholarships, fellowships, and grants to promote educational programs serving the interest of the Puget Sound Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute, the construction industry, and related endeavors, which support the objectives of CSI. The Foundation is administered by a volunteer board composed of willing past presidents of the Puget Sound Chapter. Brad Williamson is the current president of the Foundation Board. Any individual or organization can contribute tax deductible donations to the Foundation by sending a check made out to the Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation and mailing to the Puget Sound Chapter office: 2150 N. 107th St., Suite 205, Seattle, WA 98133-9009, Phone: (206) 382-3393 (The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization). Donations in the past have been used for scholarship awards to candidates selected on the basis of recommendations by the Foundation Board and by Chapter members. The Foundation is always interested in your fund raising ideas and financial support to promote the Foundations objectives.



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Upcoming Tech Talks

By Melissa Balestri, CCS

I'll let you in on a (not-so-secret) secret. Last season's Tech Talks (seminars) were a bit of an experiment. We played around with venues, times, event types, and sponsorships to see what ended up being popular. We had to cancel a couple events due to various reasons, but we also had great attendance at our new Tech Talks. This season, we're taking all that feedback into consideration, offering more tours and hands-on activities, revisiting some of the last two seasons' favorite topics (building envelope, waterproofing, energy, and professional practice), and have included a few more items from last season's survey. And, of course, we wouldn't be the Education Committee if we didn't throw in a couple curve balls. So, what's in plan for this season's TECH TALKS?

SEPTEMBER: Tour of a Building Under Construction

OCTOBER: Innovative Materials PechaKucha, Take II

NOVEMBER: Insurance and Liability

DECEMBER: Energy Analysis (Joint presentation with ASHRAE)

JANUARY: Lessons from a Waterproofing Expert

FEBRUARY: Specifications 101 (Joint presentation with ASHRAE)

MARCH: Cross-Laminated Timber

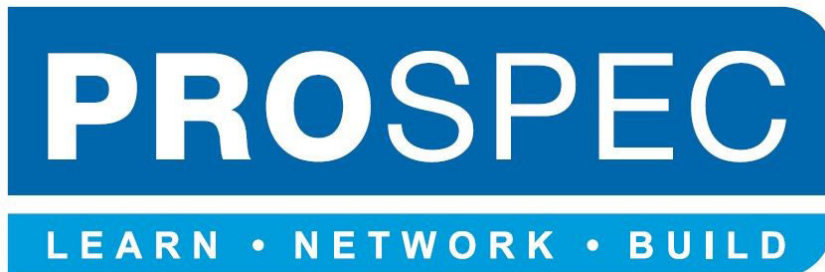
APRIL: Hands-On Air Barrier Activity

MAY: Building Science: Basic Chemistry and Physics

JUNE: Manufacturer/Fabricator Tour

We're still booking speakers for several of these topics. Please contact me at Melissa.Balestri@zgf.com if you're interested in either presenting or sponsoring lunch.

Save the Date: ProSpec - March 7,
2017



While this year's event just concluded, we're already looking ahead to planning a great ProSpec for next year. Mark your calendar now!

Affiliate Events

CSI Portland Chapter Annual Golf Tournament

When: August 25, 2016

Where: Lewis River Golf Course, Woodland, WA

[Learn more and register!](#)

CSI Portland Chapter Concrete/Flooring Symposium

When: August 27-28, 2016

Where: Portland, OR

[Learn more and register!](#)



About CSI

CSI is a national association of specifiers, architects, engineers, contractors, facility managers, product representatives, manufacturers, owners and others who are experts in building construction and the materials used therein. They are dedicated to improving the communication of construction information through:

- A diversified membership base of allied professionals involved in the creation and management of the built environment. Join us.
- Continuous development and transformation of standards and formats.
- Education and certification of professionals to improve project delivery processes.
- Creation of practice tools to assist users throughout the facility life-cycle. Join a CSI Practice Group.

CSI is governed by a Board of Directors, a nationally elected body that provides long-range strategic leadership. The Board is composed of nationally elected CSI officers, including the president, president-elect, two vice presidents, the secretary, and the treasurer; elected representatives (directors) from each of CSI's 10 regions; and a director at large. CSI's executive director/CEO is a corporate officer.

For more information about or to join CSI, visit www.csinet.org/joincsi, or call 800-689-2900.

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