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Have an **IDEA** for the **Specifier** ?

We would love to hear from you!

Announcements, upcoming events, or technical articles are welcome and encouraged!

Any submissions for the Specifier can be emailed for review and we will do our best to get it into print. Deadlines are the last Friday of the month for the following month's newsletter.

Share your knowledge - **this is YOUR industry!**

Lori Elling, Newsletter Editor

lori@archidocs.ca

778.389.1510

Special CSC Member Appreciation Wine & Cheese Event



Annual General Meeting

When: Thursday, June 16, 2011 (6:00-9:30pm) Boarding the vessel begins at 5:30

Where: On-board "The Magic Moment" cruiser boat, **tied at dockside***, at the Westin Bayshore Hotel Marina, 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver (www.magicyachtcharters.com)

**Please note this is not a cruise - the boat will not be leaving the dockside*

Agenda: Annual General Meeting to begin at 6:15pm (estimated 45-60 minutes) followed by Wine & Cheese Social

Cost: This is a complementary event for current CSC members (**please note this is a CSC member-only event**)
Included: Participation in AGM voting

Fun socializing with fellow CSC members!

Drinks: 2 tickets provided for small glass of wine per ticket (cash bar is available on-board for other beverages)

Food: Grilled Mediterranean Platter
Artisanal Charcuterie (Canadian & European Meats & Cheeses)
Vegetarian Spring Rolls with Mango Thai Dip
Assorted Crackers & Biscuits
Fruit Platter & Fresh Baked Cookies

Registration: For those CSC members wishing to attend you must register by e-mailing Vince Smith at vsmith@cloverdalepaint.com by Monday, June 13, 2011

CSC Vancouver Chapter reminds all attendees to this event not to "Drink & Drive"

CSC Vancouver Executive 2010-11

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Lori Elling
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OFFICER AT LARGE:

Spencer Todd

...

2011 PROGRAM

*All Meetings are (U.N.O.):
7 am Breakfast
Sandman Inn, Vancouver*

FEBRUARY 23-24

BUILDEX

Convention Centre West,
Vancouver

MARCH 17

*The Village on False Creek Tour
Roger Bayley, B.E., Structural P.Eng.
Roger Bayley Inc.*

APRIL 21

**RCABC Plaza Deck
Waterproofing Standards**
*Jim Watson, Technical Manager
RCABC*

MAY 19

**Design of the Onshore Works for
the Port Mann/Highway 1 Project**
*Chris Mealing, PEng, VP
Hatch Mott McDonald
Project Manager, PMH1 Onshore
Design Group*

MAY 25-29

**CSC National
Conference 2011**

"Juggling Changes"
Downtown Delta Hotel
Montreal, Quebec

JUNE 16

**Vancouver Chapter Social Event
+ AGM - CSC Members Only**

Facebook: CSC Vancouver Chapter

Twitter: @CSCvancouver

LinkedIn: Construction Specifications Canada

Advertising: Newsletter & Website

Every month, the Specifier features a classified section. Advertise your business with us!

This will provide you with the opportunity to advertise within the industry in the newsletter and on the CSC Vancouver website.

For the cost of:
\$225 - Members
\$250 - Non Members

You will receive advertising space on the second page of the Specifier and on the CSC chapter website. The ad will be placed in 1 issue of the Specifier and reside on the website for 1 month. Ads must fit on one page only and are not limited to copy content or visual features. Other publications such as ours typically use this space for employment opportunities etc. and this is one type of advertising we are looking for.

If you are not sure whether the Specifier would be an appropriate tool for you, please email me with your questions.

So, if you would like to advertise, or have any questions, please let me know. All advertising content is subject to pre-approval by the responsible CSC Committee.

Best Regards,

Lori Elling
Newsletter Editor

The opinions and comments expressed by the authors do not necessarily reflect the official views of Construction Specifications Canada. Also, appearance of advertisements and new product or service information does not constitute an endorsement of products or services featured.

WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

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I recently had the opportunity to attend & exhibit at the Living Future Unconference held here in Vancouver a couple of weeks ago and wanted to share with you a pretty amazing group of high school students from Jasper, please have a look at the presentation that they did for us as part of the “15 minutes of Brilliance”

www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_g7Ksnvqqs

And speaking of Conferences, We sure hope to see you at CSC National Conference, “Juggling Changes” Montreal May 25 –29th. [Click here for more information and to register](#)

Please join us for our Vancouver Chapter Annual General Meeting next month!

June 16th, CSC Vancouver “ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING”: Members Only Event

Where: On-board “The Magic Moment” cruiser boat, “tied at dockside”, at the Westin Bayshore Hotel Marina, 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver 6:00 - 9:30 pm Boarding the vessel will begin at 5:30pm.

Have a great month!!

Melodie Schwartzman, CTR, LEED AP
architectural solutions specialist CGC INC
CSC Vancouver Chapter Chair

Jayne Raeburn
Technical Sales Representative
Western Region

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EDUCATION REPORT

The Construction Contract Administration (CCA) course and the Technical Representative (TR) course will be offered in the Fall of this year and Principals of Documentation (PCD) will be offered in Winter 2012. Planning is already underway with regards to dates and other details.

If there is anyone out there that is qualified, and would like to teach some of the CCA course, please contact me as we are looking for assistance in this area.

Regards,
Nathan Thompson - CTR , Cultured Stone®/CSI, Inc.

If you or your colleagues have any interest in taking these courses with us, please let us know by contacting our Education Officer, Nathan Thompson, CTR at n.thompson@canadianstone.com

You could be advertising here

Does your company have a hot new product that you want people to know about?

Contact the Newsletter Editor for info on advertising in this space - we also have full page ad space especially for your product launches!

We are now offering half and quarter page spaces for advertizing in the Specifier.

Contact the Newsletter Editor for details.

BUILDING OF THE MONTH

The dramatically shaped **Empire Tower** won the CNBC Arabian Property Award 2008 for Best High Rise Architecture in the Middle East - confirming that Empire Tower is in a class of its own when it comes to cutting edge architecture.

Empire Tower is designed by Aedas - known for its internationally renowned iconic landmarks - and developed by Empire Island Tower Ltd.

The 240 metre high tower is located on Al Reem Island in Abu Dhabi and is due for completion in 2012. The 60-storey building will provide solely residential units.

This departure from the more typical mixed-use development, with its safety net of dual revenue streams, reflects Abu Dhabi's huge demand for residential property in the face of a growing population.

Empire Tower has been designed to meet the requirements of the Al Reem master developers' guidelines, as well as aiming for LEED Silver category, the standard required for all UAE development.

Faithful+Gould is providing project management, construction management and cost management.

“Although not immune to the global financial liquidity crisis, Abu Dhabi is enjoying some economic stability” says Martin Hunt, Project Manager, who is heading up the team on-site with Andreas Constantinides as Project Quantity Surveyor, Abdul Hameed Site Engineer, Santosh Purohit Project Planner, Moya Maggin and Kee Lit forming the commercial team.



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CSC EXECUTIVE BIO: Lori Elling

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Lori has a brain that straddles the technical on the one hand (or lobe, in this case), and the creative on the other. She loves to create, problem-solve and learn about material properties and their applications.

Before coming to architecture, Lori worked in graphic design and animation. These skills have proven to be very useful in various capacities, but not when it comes to writing specifications!

Lori started her career in architecture in 2004, and after a couple of years of wearing many hats in a small busy design studio, she discovered specification writing while at Landmark Architecture (formerly Monica Baillie Architect Ltd). After a few years working with specifications, editing, researching and eventually writing them, along with CSC courses, she started her own specification consulting and proposal writing business. Archidocs Services was born in 2010.

When she's not working in her business, Lori is busy illustrating children's stories and creating art.

She has been a lifelong athlete, enjoying a wide range of team and solo sports, from rock climbing and hiking, to running, cycling, badminton and yoga, and has recently added

tennis to her repertoire (although she's still pretty green!). Next year: dodgeball revival!

Being of service is important to Lori, and over the years she has been an active volunteer with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Vancouver Coastal Health, Vancouver Public Space Network, Our Community Bikes and most recently CSC Vancouver Chapter.

She is currently serving as the Newsletter Editor and also interim Membership Officer. If you have a few hours you would like to donate each month, and involvement with the CSC Vancouver Chapter appeals to you, please consider taking over the Membership Officer role - we need you!!

IN THE CONTRACT?

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TECH NOTES

Green Facades & Living Walls

by Lori Elling

Green Facades, Living Walls, Vegetated Screening, Vertical Gardens....they are known by many names, but their functions are essentially the same - to provide environmental benefits to a project, like air and water filtration, acoustical buffering, shading (ie, reduction in solar gain as well as privacy) - and let's not forget beautification.

So what's the difference between Green Facades and Living Walls? Contained in the category of Green Facades are plantings that use soil in the ground as growing media, with climbing plants trained on variously designed cable, mesh structural systems. Living Walls are installations where the soil or growing medium is taken above grade, often affixed directly to the building.

When done well, these installations can truly be stunning. Peter Blanc, a renowned French botanist, has pioneered his own proprietary system of large scale Structural Media System, and has received international praise for his work, both from an aesthetic as well as environmental perspective.

There are several components of a Living Wall's various systems, which it will be helpful to explore: predominantly growing media and structural media.

Loose Media Systems

Loose medium systems have their soil contained in a bag or on a specially designed shelf, which is installed directly on the wall. Media replacement is required annually on

exterior applications, while interior installations can be done every two years. These systems are not recommended in locations with higher risks of seismic activity. They are also prone to accelerated erosion, and interactions with the public exacerbate this. This system is best suited to installations in private buildings where higher maintenance has been planned for.



Loose Medium System

Mat Systems



Mat System

Mat type systems are better suited to both seismic zones and public installations. Media ranges from organic to inorganic - coir (from coconut husks) as well as nylon felt are the most common. Mats tend to be quite thin, which has drawbacks - they cannot support more established root systems for more than a few years, due to hydration issues. Thus constant irrigation is often required to keep the plantings in these systems vibrant, which is an added

maintenance cost. Mat media systems are best suited to interior installations of approximately one storey.

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...Green Facades & Living Walls, continued

Structural Media Systems



Structural Media System

Structural Media are blocks that incorporate the best features of the previously mentioned systems, into a modular, custom sized system. Longevity of plantings is in the range of 10-15 years, and each of the environmental factors - pH, water and nutrient demands - can be controlled to a much higher

degree than other systems. They are the most robust and high performing of the systems, and can withstand high winds, heights taller than one storey and seismic activity as mentioned. The capital costs of structural media systems tend to be higher while maintenance costs tend to be lower.

When specifying green walls, remember that there are many considerations to take into account. It is wise to have an experienced landscape consultant on board. In fact, it is often part of their scope. Ultimately, like almost everything else, the system will be determined by the Owner's requirements, so this overview is meant to educate the basics, and to make us a bit better at communicating what is currently out there in the realm of LivingWall Technology.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations go out to **Kelly Sawatzky**, who has earned her Certified Specification Provider (CSP) designation.

CSC is pleased to offer training for new and existing specification writers that will allow the successful applicants the ability to become a Certified Specification Practitioner (CSP) through CSC. By taking the applicable courses along with the required experience, you will gain the required knowledge to become more proficient in the specification writers role within the design and construction industry. Becoming an CSP will show commitment to producing accurate documentation, thereby enhancing your professional credibility through increased confidence of your peers, employers and clients.


For more information on this new CSC Certification Designation, please visit the CSC website here: <http://csc-dcc.ca/Certification/CSP+/>



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INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

DIVISION 01: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Construction Waste Management – BuildSmart

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/buildsmart/>

DIVISION 02: EXISTING CONDITIONS

Demolition / Deconstruction – BuildSmart

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/about/publications/Publications/dlctoolkit08web1.pdf>

DIVISION 03: CONCRETE

Cement Association of Canada

<http://www.cement.ca/>

Canadian Precast Concrete Institute

<http://www.cpci.ca/>

DIVISION 04: MASONRY

Masonry Institute of BC

<http://www.masonrybc.org/>

Masonry Institute (American)

<http://www.masonryinstitute.com>

DIVISION 05: METALS

Canadian Institute of Steel Construction

<http://www.cisc-icca.ca/>

DIVISION 06: WOOD, PLASTICS, & COMPOSITES

Architectural Woodwork Mfrs' Assoc.

<http://www.awmac.com/bcchapters.php>

Western Red Cedar Lumber Association

<http://www.wrcla.org/>

DIVISION 07: THERMAL & MOISTURE PROTECTION

Roofing Contractors Association of BC

<http://www.rcabc.org/>

BC Sheet Metal Workers Associations

<http://www.smacna-bc.org/>

DIVISION 08: OPENINGS (DOORS, WINDOWS)

Steel Door Institute

<http://www.steeldoor.org/>

Canadian Steel Door Manufacturers Assoc

<http://www.csdma.org/>

Door Hardware Institute

<http://www.dhi.org/>

Glazing Contractors Association of BC

<http://www.gca-bc.org/>

DIVISION 09: FINISHES

Association of Wall and Ceiling Contractors of BC

<http://www.awccbc.org/>

Gypsum Association

<http://www.gypsum.org/>

Master Painters Institute

<http://www.paintinfo.com>

Carpet and Rug Institute

<http://www.carpet-rug.org/>

National Flooring Covering Association

<http://www.nfcaonline.ca/>

National Wood Flooring Association

<http://www.nwfa.org/member/>

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Contact the Newsletter Editor for info on advertising in this space - we also have full page ad space especially for your product launches!

We are now offering half and quarter page spaces for advertizing in the Specifier.

Contact the Newsletter Editor for details.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Please welcome the following new members to the Vancouver Chapter:

James Kelly of Soprema Canada Inc.
Robert Jahnsen of NARO Building Systems

Previous Chapter member **Norman Richardson of Pacific Environmental Consulting** is also rejoining us.

We look forward to seeing you out at our breakfast meetings, and please keep in mind our AGM this June is going to be a great event!

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AROUND TOWN

AIBC Architecture Centre Gallery

Current Exhibit: View from the Edge

April 13-May 31, 2011, #100 – 440 Cambie Street, Vancouver. View from the Edge explores concepts and ideas related to the 2011 Festival of Architecture - a partnership of the AIBC and Architecture Canada | RAIC. The festival theme, Architecture on the Edge, acknowledges the many ways in which west coast architects continue to extend the boundaries in such areas as form and design, sustainability, community development and social awareness.

http://www.aibc.ca/pub_resources/aibc_outreach/gallery.html

Upcoming Exhibit: 2011 Annual AIBC Architectural Awards

June 2011, #100 – 440 Cambie Street, Vancouver. Winners and other submissions for the 2011 Annual AIBC Architectural Awards will be on display this June at the AIBC Gallery.

http://www.aibc.ca/pub_resources/aibc_outreach/gallery.html

BC BUILDING ENVELOPE COUNCIL

Cladding Attachment Over Continuous Insulation

Vancouver Luncheon, Wednesday, May 25th, 2011
New Luncheon Location: The Italian Cultural Centre Society
3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver, BC. 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm

This presentation will focus on constructing energy efficient exterior walls with minimally thermally bridged claddings which meet these criteria from the Manufacturer's and the Building Engineer's Perspective. For more information: <http://www.bcbec.com/seminars.php>

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE

June 15-16, 2011.
Green Infrastructure is essential to both accommodate population growth and achieve a community vision for sustainability and liveability. Municipalities are at the forefront of the green infrastructure movement. To create greener communities, changes will need to be made to existing land use regulations, design guidelines, construction standards, and more.

This conference will provide you with expert advice on the current state of green infrastructure and the anticipated impact of future developments. Download the brochure here: http://www.sustainablebuildingcentre.com/green_infrastructure_conference