

A Spec of Granite

A quarterly publication of the New Hampshire Chapter of the
Construction Specifications Institute Vol. 2 No. 1



Curing Pedestrian Paver Hazards

By Harold Henry, Northeast Region Technical Sales Director, Hanover Architectural Products



Your paver project has progressed from concept which involved collaboration with your client.

Materials have been selected along with means and methods for actual construction.

The project goes out for bid. At this point you may receive RFI's looking for clarification on some details, or offering substitutions for materials and/or methods of construction.

[Read More](#)

WEST

MIDWEST

NORTHEAST

SOUTHEAST

The logo for Hanover Architectural Products, featuring the word 'HANOVER' in a stylized font with a red underline, and 'Architectural Products' below it.

A square QR code located on the right side of the business card.

Harold Henry
Technical Sales Director
Northeast Region

p: 800.426.4242 x1201
m: 717.825.9672
hhenry@hanoverpavers.com

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Upcoming Meeting Announcement



Floodplain Design, Construction, and Impacts on Flood Insurance

NHCSI May 21 Dinner Meeting

Our Tuesday, May 21st meeting will be held at the offices of H.L. Turner Group in Concord, NH.

Brian Newman, Flood Mitigation Specialist for Floodproofing.com + Smart Vent Products, Inc., will explain the importance of:

- Proper floodproofing (wet vs. dry)
- State-of-the-art wet and dry floodproofing applications
- Compliance with Building Codes and FEMA Regulations
- Ensuring your designs are flood resilient so they can effectively prevent major damage to homes and buildings due to flooding

For more information and to register, please click [here](#).



SUMMIT
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LINDA K. McNAIR-PERRY, P.E.
SENIOR STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

OFFICE: 603.319.1817, ext. 205

CELL: 603.380.4679

FAX: 603.808.1817

linda@summitengineeringinc.com

5 Greenleaf Woods Drive, #302

Portsmouth, NH 03801

Member Highlights

Chapter Officers:

President:
Membership Chair

Tom House, CSI, AIA
THA Architects, LLC
PO Box 88
Stratham, NH 03885
603.770.2491
thouse@thaaarc.com

Vice President:
Program Chair
NE Region of CSI Director

Rich Saklad, RA, CSI
Property Manager
Wentworth-Douglas Hospital
Dover, NH
saklad-r@myfairpoint.net

Secretary / Treasurer:
Website / Newsletter Editor

Wayne Wheeler, PE, CSI, CDT
2 Winsor Avenue
Concord, NH 03303
wadowheels@icloud.com

Chapter Director:

Dick Crow, Sr, CSI
Construction Services
3 Arrowhead Road
Londonderry, NH 01610-1221
rw.crow@myfairpoint.net

Chapter Director:

Bob McEachern, CSI, CCPR
Roof Tech Sales, LLC
17 Holiday Lane
Hampstead, NH 03801-0395
603.494.3757
bmceachern@rtsreps.net

Chapter Director:

Linda McNair-Perry, PE, CSI
Summit Engineering, Inc.
5 Greenleaf Woods Dr.
Portsmouth, NH 03801
linda@summitengineeringinc.com

 **RED THREAD**

Ken Lambert, CSI
Architectural Products
Sales Consultant

dir 617.439.4900
cell 617.840.9182
fax 617.439.4131

klambert@red-thread.com

101 Seaport Blvd, Suite 600
Boston, MA 02210
www.red-thread.com

Steekase

President's Message

Odor Infiltration

By Thomas House, AIA, CSI
Principal, THA Architects



Odor complaints may be filed from people living on the street side of the building exposed to vehicle exhaust, trash receptacles and other businesses. Other odor complaints may be filed that are not associated with an obvious source, however most are from cooking smells. Identifying the source or sources of these odors can be difficult. Odor mitigation is a challenge not only for odors emitted from unidentified sources but also from those emitted from identified sources.

Odors are of interest to local government agencies concerned with air quality management since the public is concerned about the impact of odiferous substances on health and overall quality of life. The inability of air quality management agencies or any other governmental agencies to consistently identify odiferous substances, trace them back to their sources, and reassure the public that their health is not endangered has been a concern.

[Read More](#)



THA Architects, LLC

Thomas A. House, AIA
Principal

Architecture
Planning
Consulting
Interior
Design

105 Willow Brook Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885
Phone: 603.770.2491
Fax: 603.773.0238

www.thaaarc.com
thouse@thaaarc.com
Licensed in ME, NH, MA, NCARB Certified

New Members 2018/19

Christal Vandecar—January 2018, [ProCon](#)
Cole Stanton—March 2018, [ICP-Construction](#)
Ken Zuckerman—June 2018, [Willseal](#)
Leo Goodrich—December 2018, [Spraylock](#)
John Gant—March 2019, [Allegrion](#)
Whit Whitman—April 2019, [AW Hastings](#)

The Costs of “LEAN” and Just-In-Time Deliveries

By Ken Lambert, CSI

On many construction sites over the past 2-3 years, especially at tight sites and/or urban areas, it is becoming more difficult and costly to build. There are several reasons for this, but at the end of the day total cost increases must usually be passed onto the project owner. The only alternative to that is the GC/CM and/or the subcontractors absorbing the noted costs.

In general, construction costs (labor and materials) are increasing- that is nothing new. But the critical factor here is always how much exactly the increases are and also what the forecasts might be. According to Turner Construction's cost index, from Q4 2017 to Q4 2018, costs increased 5.86%. Nearly a 6% increase in 12 months; that is substantial. A \$10 million project will now come to \$10,600,000; an added \$600k that has to be paid.

A decent portion of this is due to material cost increases, from raw materials and also various manufacturers. However, labor is also a significant reason why construction costs keep rising. One big reason, for another article potentially, is the general shortage of skilled construction workers/tradespeople across the nation.

More specifically, projects that mandate that all the subcontractors must function in a highly stringent and orchestrated manner do typically require additional costs to manage and provide. Sometimes the subcontractor does not anticipate or fully realize what these costs (direct and indirect) might be, but as this structure is becoming more prevalent- more trades are now accounting for these costs and raising their pricing to the General Contractor.

On very tight sites (no lay-down or storage areas etc), owners and by extension GC's often mandate that all subs and vendors must institute “just in time deliveries” for all their products. This can make a substantial difference in delivery and handling costs. To change from a tractor-trailer direct ship to several box trucks, spaced out weeks apart, can easily add thousands of dollars for the contractor. If the job was budgeted based on a standard or wide-open site, this added cost has to be addressed.

Likewise, many projects today are implementing “LEAN” tactics or other kinds of “pull-thru” scheduling and management techniques. As a project manager I have been in hundreds of site meetings on various construction sites, and the meetings which are “LEAN” based (or the like) take significantly longer than a standard (?) meeting. I am not stating that LEAN scheduling is not productive or positive, but just noting that the time for project management (for both the subcontractors and GC) can be longer and more involved. As a subcontractor, if I've allocated 2 hours every week for 1 project for a general site meeting, and my PM and foreman are there in the meeting for 3 ½ hours- that can make a financial difference, especially if broadened over a year-long project. Who pays for this cost? Does the subcontractor absorb it? Does the GC absorb it? Does it all get added together to be paid for by the owner by a higher upfront total project sum?

These questions and concerns, and their fiscal repercussions, become more relevant every month and every year, as more and more construction projects become more difficult, on smaller sites, and with reduced schedules.

Ken Lambert / Architectural Products Sales Consultant
klambert@red-thread.com / C 617-840-9182 Furniture / Technology / Architectural Systems



Demountable Walls Guide

Reintroduce privacy to your open plan

DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE



Challenges of Cold Weather Construction

Coming to Hartford at the end of May, a conference for all construction industry members in the northeast who have to deal with winter weather issues on their projects

EVENT FEATURES

8 Continuing Education Sessions
focusing on solutions for design, construction, materials and methods
to combat cold weather challenges (AIA LU/HSW credit)

5 Professional Development / Leadership Sessions
to advance your career and your organization

Elevate Your Expectations Keynote
Rohan Freeman, engineer, mountaineer, adventurer
applying lessons from extreme challenges to your work and clients

Product Manufacturer Exhibit Hall
to see the latest in construction materials

Learning from Mark Twain
with acclaimed impersonator and historian Kit Webb

Networking and Social Events
with construction industry leaders from around the Northeast

Hosted by Connecticut's Hartford and Housatonic Chapters of CSI.

For full schedule, event details and to register, visit NERCSI.com

Bring Shop Class Back, From Coast-To-Coast

By Eric D. Lussier, CSI, CDT



"Let's raise construction as an option in the eyes of the world."

This sentence was penned by Thad Goodman, in an article entitled "It's an Image Problem", [which you can read here](#) on the Let's Fix Construction blog. Thad also states "one of the bigger issues we have currently is labor. Or should I say a lack of it."

[Read More](#)

Be Prepared – Building Code Updates Likely Coming Soon in NH

By Linda McNair-Perry PE, CSI

There are several bills regarding New Hampshire's building codes, including updating to the 2015 I-codes, that are in the final stages of the legislative process. These bills came about as a result of last year's legislative study committee, where many of the grievances among special interests were resolved. This cleared the way for several code related bills this year. There is reason for optimism that change is coming soon.

The Senate ED&A Committee recently made some amendments to the bills after the House had already passed them. As such, after a full vote of the Senate on May 15th, the bills will be sent back to the House for concurrence before they are sent to the Governor to be signed into law. Be aware that HB 562, which updates the I-codes, has an effective date of 60 days after the Governor signs the bill. For longer design projects you will want to consider when your documents will be filed for permit relative to the effective date of the code change. As such, you are encouraged to follow the final stages of these bills on nh.gov.

[Read More](#)

Help Wanted

Members: Must be enthusiastic, willing to learn something new, fun loving and sympathetic to engineers. Click [here](#) to join.

Directors and Committee Chairs: Must be willing to work for free; periodic planning meetings with meal included; become eligible for 2 CEUs for [architects](#) and [engineers](#).

Dinner Meeting Venues: Willing to offer office conference room for a group of engineers, architects, product representatives and contractors. No registration fees or dinner charges for staff attendees.

Newsletter Articles: We need your articles for the newsletter; business card ad included at no charge.

Letters to the Editor: We would like your comments and suggestions for future articles, etc.

Member Questions

(Please email your responses to info@nhcsi.org)

1. Why did you join CSI?
2. What do you get out of CSI?
3. Why do you remain a member?
4. What does CSI mean to you (specs, camaraderie, product learning, the idea of giving back to the profession etc.)?
5. Did you join CSI to further your career?
6. Were you encouraged to join CSI?

The End of Nuisance Alarms in Households

By Mark R. Richards, PE, Fire Protection Engineer,
[Nortech Systems](#)

Household smoke alarm technology has been stagnant for years. The main methods of detection are photoelectric and ionization. Each triggers an alarm when they detect products of combustion. These technologies have individual strengths. When combined, they can offset each other's weaknesses. However, both technologies are susceptible to nuisance alarms – primarily from cooking and steam. According to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) statistics, most home fire deaths occur when smoke alarms are not present or do not work. When a smoke alarm fails, it's usually the result of being disabled.

[Read More](#)



BOB McEACHERN, CCPR, LEED, AP®

451 Andover Street, Suite 345
North Andover, MA 01845
ph 603-494-3757
email bmceachern@rtsreps.net
www.rtsreps.net

The Leaning Tower of San Francisco

A new fix has been proposed to help stop San Francisco's Millennium Tower from continuing to shift. Since the tower's opening in April 2009, it has sunk 18 inches and tilted 14 inches to the west.

The new proposal reportedly will stop the sinking but will not correct the tower's tilt.

What Happened

In April 2018, a fix was proposed that would cost nearly the same as the original cost to build the tower—\$350 million.

[Read More](#)

Concerns Regarding CONSTRUCT 2019

CONSTRUCT 2019 begins on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 which is also Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement for Jews - the holiest day of the year.

CSI has no control over the show or the dates, as it is fully owned and operated by Informa Exhibitions which purchased the show from Hanley Wood. CSI and its members do offer feedback, and that feedback is sought by Informa, but the final decisions about the show aren't CSI's to make.

CSI and its staff are working to avoid conflicts with the holiday and have made their strong feelings about the timing of the show known to Informa about the 2019 show, have asked that they reconsider the current dates, and take these into account when contemplating future show dates. It is their understanding that it is highly unlikely that any adjustment will be made to the 2019 dates.

Sponsorships Available!

Contact the Editor for further details.

Sizes and Cost

One year = 4 Issues

Business Card	\$60 Per Year
1/8 Page	\$80 Per Year
1/4 Page	\$165 Per Year
1/2 Page	\$250 Per Year
Full Page	\$375 Per Year

Editor: Wayne Wheeler, PE, CSI, CDT

info@nhcsi.org



CONSTRUCT
Knowledge Today. Innovation Tomorrow.
EDUCATION: OCT. 9-11 | EXHIBITS: OCT. 10-11
NATIONAL HARBOR, MD, USA

CONSTRUCT 2019 WANTS YOU!

The Call for Sessions for 2019 is out for submissions. CONSTRUCT is looking for industry leaders - in ALL disciplines - to consider submitting a proposal to speak or teach at CONSTRUCT. Now is your chance to share your knowledge and turn what you've learned into a unique presentation that will help improve the construction community. Consider submitting a proposal for CONSTRUCT 2019, which will be held October 9-11 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland (right across the bridge from Washington DC).

CONSTRUCT welcomes compelling proposals that address a wide range of topics relevant to the commercial building team and those who design, build, specify, engineer, renovate and operate in the built environment. With over 40 accredited sessions and non-conflicting exhibit hall hours, the education program is an integral part of the CONSTRUCT event experience for specifiers, architects, designers, product reps, contractors, engineers, project managers, and other industry professionals.

The proposal submission period is open now until January 25, 2019. If you have a topic in mind or knowledge to share, now is the time to step up to the plate, submit a proposal and help your peers do a better job or increase their industry expertise.

For more information about the submission process, visit <https://www.constructshow.com/en/education/speaking-opportunities.html>

To view a list of potential topics where proposal submissions are requested, [please visit here.](#)

To download a PDF of the CONSTRUCT 2019 Call for Sessions, [please click here.](#)

