SPECWORK

Little Rock Chapter - Chartered November 1965

October 2018

HEADLINES

Mark The Date - Gulf States Region Leadership Conference is June 7 - 8, 2019. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Mark the Date - Little Rock Chapter Annual Golf Tournament set for May 3, 2019

In This Issue

Little Rock Chapter Notes

By: Billy J. Mathis, FCSI, CDT

We are working hard to prepare for the big year next year. The Annual Golf Tournament is being planned and we are seeking sponsors. We are also starting our preparations for the Annual Gulf States Region Leadership Conference. We will be needing volunteers for the various functions as well as sponsors to help us offset the costs associated with the Conference. The goal is to get around 60 to 90 members present and make this the best and most attended Conference in recent history.

If you have been keeping up with the happening around the Country, you will know that Hurricane Michael has directly impacted many of our members in the Florida area. In the Gulf States Region, the Pensacola Chapter and its members need our thoughts and prayers for their quick recovery. I am also gong to pass on two items of interest from our Institute Board Director, Wiilliam Sundquist:

First, retired or emeritus members must be voted on in person by the board. Our next board meeting will be the first week of February 2019. I mention this now because most like to present this transition at your year-end awards celebration. So to make that happen the board must approve in February as our next face to face meeting is not until June. If you would like to transition a member to one of these classifications, please follow the instructions provided in this link:
https://www.csiresources.org/…/individual-membersh…/emeritus

Second, the dynamic chapter program, deadline to sign up 10/21/18 and I know everyone is busy with their CSI year. I would highly encourage you to participate in the program. If need be, table some of your business and work with this program. Investing in yourself and chapter is time well spent. For further details, please follow the instruction provided in this link:

https://www.csiresources.org/…/volunteer-opportunity-detail…

I will leave you with a statement that I find very profound:

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Winston Churchill

CSI Names Award Winners for 2018

From the Construction Specifier Online Edition - August 2018

CSI has announced the organization's award winners for 2018, as well as those elevated to the College of Fellows and those named Distinguished Members.

Joining the Ranks of Distinguished Members are **Gregory J. Markling, FCSI, Lietime Member, CSC, CCS, CCCA** and **Robert W. Simmons, FCSI, Lifetime Member, CCPR**.

The 2018 Class of Fellows includes **Michael G. Young, CSI, CCCA; David A Stutzman, CSI, CCS; Ross Mori, CSI; Gener Fosheim, CSI; Jack Morgan , CSI, CCS, CCCA; Scott M. Conwell, CSI, CDT;** and **Cynthia Belise, CSI, CDT.**

Following is a list of the Service Awards selected this year:

Distinguished Service Award	**Daniel Hargreaves, FCSI, CDT**
Robert P Brosseau Award for the Advancement of CSI	**Shane David, CSI, CDT**
Andrew J. Drozda Mentorship Award	**Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA**
	Kurt Moehlmann, CSI, CDT
Norman Hunter Award for Innovative Allied Organization Cooperation	**CSI Chicago's Contractor Engagement Committee**
Ben John Small Technical Writing Award	**Robert Haddock, CSI**
Specifier Article of the Year Award	**Wendy Talarico, CSI**
	Frederick C. Baumert, CCS
Outstanding Contribution Award	Laura Jean Derrick, CSI
	South East Region Training Leadership Committee

Communication Awards: **Jeffrey Parnell, CSI** (Memphis Website); **Robert Bailey CSI, CCS** (Pittsburgh Chapter Newsletter); **Richard J. Leub, FCSI, CCS, CCCA** (Oklahoma City Chapter Newsletter); **Memphis Chapter** (PerSPECtive Publication); **John Dunaway, CSI, CCS** (Gulf States Leader E-Newsletter); **John Dunaway, CSI, CCS** (Event Promotional Materials; **John Dunaway, CSI, CCS** (Mississippi Chapter Newsletter); **Chicago Chapter** (Chapter Marketing Materials); **Chicago Chapter** (Website Re-Design); **J. Chambers, CSI-EP** (Year in Review—Lehigh Valley Booklet); and **CSINext Chapter** (CSINext Website).

Outstanding Chapter Awards (Gulf States Region Only): Little Rock Chapter, Mississippi Chapter, Memphis Chapter, Chattanooga Chapter, Knoxville Chapter, Nashville Chapter, and New Orleans Chapter.

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Sign up for these opportunities and more at CSI's NEW Volunteer Portal:

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Join your fellow members... Jump into the volunteer pool and make a difference!

See how you can volunteer today on the Volunteer Portal.

If you have any questions about volunteering, please email volunteer@csinet.org.

LAYING THE GROUNDWORK: BREAKFAST & SPECIFICATIONS

Contributed by David Bishton to the Let's Fix Construction Blog

Breakfast? With a specifier? You may wonder about the wisdom of such an engagement, but it is a unique experience. It occurred to me today that there are some uncanny similarities between project specification preparation and the simple (or complex) task of preparing breakfast. In this case, breakfast for a crowd.

The first thing to know is that the Specifier comes to YOUR house, either in person or virtually or both, to help YOU plan and make the breakfast. So wait, I can hear you say, the SPECIFIER DOES NOT DO ALL THE WORK? In case you hadn't noticed I use capital letters for emphasis – I learned it from this really smart 5th grade (I assume) kid I found on Twitter. Anyway, the answer is no, but the Specifier can be your most able assistant.

So how does it work? The first thing I as a Specifier want to know is more about what's on the menu – what did you have in mind to serve this big crowd that you've invited over? Oh, it's a pot luck! You have the main course and everyone is bringing something to the table. So how can I help – what's in the fridge?

I open the refrigerator door and what to my wondering eyes should appear? A miniature sleigh – wait, that's from another story – a really large tray of the most beautiful eggs I've ever seen. And every nook and cranny stuffed with marked and unmarked containers of every size and shape. You are REALLY PROUD of those eggs! So how can I help? I can chop onions, garlic, veggies, make sausage, prepare a fruit salad, get all the herbs lined up, make toast, help set the table – I'll even go to the store if you need something. Just tell me what you need. "First, look through this 150 page recipe and find the ingredients. Then figure out what's in all these containers. I might be missing some things."

OK, but funny you don't already know…anyway, here goes. The first one is empty – what's this for? "Oh, I'm getting ready to put something in it. I'll let you know." The next one smells a bit suspect – might be leftovers from another meal. In the recipe there seem to be the same ingredients called by different names. This container looks like a fresh and tasty ingredient that I KNOW is on your list. When I'm done preparing it, I set it aside and move on. And how's the big event plan coming along? "Oh, look how I've rearranged these eggs in the tray to make them look even better! And more functional." OK, let's keep going. More empty containers, more leftovers from other meals, some with great looking ingredients that are just past their expiration date. But it's coming together. I really like the exploration and shopping and study and prep work. Times goes fast.

Are we getting closer to cooking time? It’s going to be so good! I think we can get it together just in time for everyone to arrive. “Hey, I’ve managed to find ANOTHER new arrangement for the eggs. The group is going to have to make a decision, though. But it Is less expensive.” And seeing the counter full of prepared ingredients, “Oh, one of the guests decided to bring a different side dish than they told me, so we won’t need that.” And “That ingredient was just a placeholder. I decided to tweak the recipe and we’re not using that one anymore.” And “Didn’t I give this other list to you? We’re still missing some very important ingredients.”

Yes, yes, but they’ll be here any minute, won’t they? I’m here just to help you make this breakfast perfect! Shall I set the table?

“We decided to postpone breakfast until next week. We’re not ready.”

A delicious potluck breakfast with the help of your friendly neighborhood Specifier benefits from:

- Timely decision making
- Up-to-date and consistent recipe information
- Full and current containers with the right ingredients
- No leftovers from other meals
- Establishing an end date to rearranging the eggs

We can do this.

FOUR PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR A STRONGER AIR BARRIER (SPECIFICATION)

Contributed by Roy Schauffele

The air barrier technology used in today's construction and mandated by the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) are firmly grounded in science. That database of knowledge continues to grow at an astounding rate. Research efforts by the Air Barrier Association of America (ABAA) will be presented at the ABAA Conference in 2019, and you will be astounded by how much research and testing that ABAA has been conducting to ensure better knowledge for all.

Currently, air barrier systems are being marketed with having passed only the air barrier part of the testing (ASTM E2357 - Standard Test Method for Determining Air Leakage of Air Barrier Assemblies) and pay little to no attention to the other architectural performance attributes, such as crack bridging, water resistance, adhesion to a substrate and fastener sealability, which when successfully passed, results in an ABAA Evaluated Assembly.

So, what I'm asking you to consider is an upgrade of performance requirements for a better and stronger air barrier specification. Here are my suggestions for ensuring the best possible air barrier performance for your project:

1. Require that the air barrier system be an ABAA Evaluated Assembly.
2. Require that the applicator be both Manufacturer approved and ABAA Certified. Why? We have many untrained firms jumping into this business; do you really want your project to be the training job for the subcontractor? According to the ABAA website, there are 300 Certified Applicators nationwide.
3. Research selections for both your Continuous Insulation and Air Barrier choices to confirm that both products are indeed NFPA-285 Compliant. Too often these Sections are written as a stand-alone and they are not. They must match up and perhaps the easiest way to do this is to choose three suppliers that manufacturer both an air barrier and their own insulation.
4. Wind Resistance Requirements: This would be specific to your geographical region, which is important in many areas, but critical in hurricane or special wind territories. Our industry requires wind performance testing for low slope roofs and for windows, but not air barriers. Air Barrier performance varies by manufacturer. As a Consultant, I am aware of one manufacturer whose air barrier assembly (ASTM E2357), steel studs 16" OC with exterior gypsum sheathing went up to 190 mph wind (ASTM E330), and at that point there was a structural failure, but the air barrier was still intact. If you're in a hurricane zone, don't you want this type of performance? My suggestion is that your specifications reflect some type of wind resistance based on an ASTM E2357 (specimen 2) assembly with the ASTM E330 testing protocol.

Performance requirements for a proper air barrier specification are vital. The above are four of my suggestions as how you can elevate and upgrade your specs. Should you have any questions or comments, please go to this article on the Let's Fix Construction Blog. Thank you for reading.

Decoded: Model Code Changes for Delayed Egress Locking System (July 2018)

Republished from the July 2018 Issue of Door Security & Safety and the I Dig Hardware Blog.

A delayed egress locking system is a type of electrified hardware designed to keep a door locked in the direction of egress for 15 seconds, or 30 seconds where allowed by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Typically, this application is used to deter unauthorized egress and/or theft. To ensure life safety while delaying the egress of building occupants, current codes include requirements for emergency release of the system, as well as limitations on where delayed egress locks can be installed (a previous Decoded article addressed these requirements in more detail*).

The code requirements addressing delayed egress have evolved since they were first introduced in the 1981 edition of NFPA 101 – The Life Safety Code, and that evolution continues with the 2018 editions of both NFPA 101 and the International Building Code (IBC). In the most recent code-development cycle, several important changes were made to the IBC, including modifications to the locations where delayed egress locks are allowed.

The 2018 IBC includes a change that allows classroom doors in Group E occupancies to have delayed egress locks, if the classroom has an occupant load of less than 50 people. This provides a code-compliant option for limiting elopement from classrooms with young children or students with special needs.

Past editions of the IBC allow delayed egress locks to be used in all use groups except for assembly, educational, and high hazard occupancies (the NFPA 101 limitations differ). For the 2018 IBC two code change proposals were approved, which address specific areas in assembly and educational occupancies where delayed egress locks may be used after adoption of the 2018 code.

Delayed egress locks are allowed by the 2018 IBC in the following locations when all of the listed criteria are met:

- Groups B (business), F (factory and industrial), I (institutional), M (mercantile), R (residential), S (storage), and U (utility).
- In Group E (educational), delayed egress locks may be installed on doors serving classrooms with an occupant load of less than 50 people. The intent of this code change was to provide a code-compliant option for egress doors serving classrooms with young students or students with special needs, who might attempt to leave the classroom unsupervised.

- In Group A (assembly) courtrooms where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system, delayed egress locks may be installed on the exit or exit access doors, but not on the main exit or exit access door. This change ensures that the main entrance/exit is immediately available for egress, but allows doors leading to judges' chambers, jury areas, and other secondary means of egress to delay passage for 15 seconds, or 30 seconds where approved by the AHJ.

The 2018 IBC allows delayed egress locks to be installed on secondary egress doors serving courtrooms when the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system. Delayed egress locks are not allowed on the courtroom's main entrance/exit.

For jurisdictions that have not yet adopted the 2018 edition of the IBC, the changes addressing courtrooms and classrooms may be used as the basis for a code-modification request. While the code modification will require AHJ approval for these jurisdictions, the changes in the 2018 edition could help a code official feel comfortable with the intent of the code and the approval of an application that has already passed through the code development process.

Another change to the 2018 IBC is related to the number of delayed egress locks that a building occupant may encounter within their egress path. Prior to the 2015 edition, the IBC stated that a building occupant could not be required to pass through more than one door with a delayed egress lock before entering an exit. This meant that one delayed egress lock could be installed on the door leading to an exit stairwell, and another on the exit discharge door at the bottom of the stairs; the delay on the exit discharge would occur after the building occupant entered the exit and the code only limited the number of delays encountered before entering an exit.

The 2015 edition of the IBC states that the egress path from any point must not pass through more than one door with a delayed egress locking system – that edition does not allow delayed egress locks on both doors referenced in the previous example because the limit applies to the entire egress path. This edition also includes an exception for Group I-2 and I-3 occupancies, where the egress path can pass through two doors with delayed egress locks if the combined delay does not exceed 30 seconds. Group I-2 and I-3 occupancies include hospitals, nursing homes, detention centers, and other similar occupancies; note that controlled egress may be a better solution than delayed egress for some I-2 facilities, where allowed by the IBC.

The 2018 edition of the IBC includes a second exception that applies to I-1 and I-4 occupancies that are equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system. Exception 2 allows the egress path for these facilities to pass through two doors with delayed egress locks – again limiting the total delay to 30 seconds. Group I-1 occupancies include residential board and care facilities and group homes (among others), and I-4 occupancies include adult and child day care facilities. Some areas within I-1 facilities are allowed to have controlled egress locks, which may serve the needs of the facility better than delayed egress locks.

The 2018 edition of NFPA 101 includes some slight changes to terminology, and clarifies that when past editions of the code required doors to “unlock” the intent is for the system to be deactivated and allow unobstructed egress; the access side of the door is not typically required to unlock. A requirement was added for signage to conform to the visual character requirements of ICC A117.1 – Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities. This standard addresses character size and spacing, stroke width, finish and contrast of the sign, as well as the mounting height. The final change was to add a requirement for new installations of delayed egress locks to be listed in accordance with UL 294 – Standard for Access Control System Units.

It’s important to consider which edition of a model code has been adopted in a project’s jurisdiction, since each edition may mandate slightly different operational requirements for delayed egress locking systems. State code modifications can also affect the use of these systems. Refer to the adopted code for detailed information, and direct any questions to the AHJ if assistance is needed.

LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER
CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE

LUNCH AND A SEMINAR—WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 , 2018

Lunch 11:30 am
Seminar 11:45 p.m

Little Rock Chapter

Please make reservations online at Http://littlerock.csinet.org

Cost of the Meal is being Sponsored by Ace Glass

Questions or Problems should be sent to Billy Mathis - bjmathis@taggarch.com

LOCATION:

Ace Glass Construction Corporation Headquarters

3101 Dugan Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72206

Reservation Deadline: Please RSVP by Noon, Tuesday, November 13, 2018 (LRCSI must guarantee meal count for the Presentation)

SPEAKER:

Jamie Ellis, Ace Glass

PROGRAM:

"Hydrophobic Coatings: Improve Sustainability and Reduce Maintenance Costs" plus at the end a Tour of the New Ace Glass Facility.

Program Summary:

In this one hour course, we will evaluate hydrophobic coatings as a solution for many common problems encountered during the life-cycle of a building. Some of the easily recognized benefits of a protective coating include a decrease in environmental damage to exterior glazing, significant reduction in building maintenance, improved photovoltaic performance, and enhancement of the forward-facing aesthetics. Additionally, we will explore a variety of applications, from shower enclosures to exterior glazing, while simultaneously explaining the operational, environmental and inherent benefits to this technology. The course will conclude with an evaluation of how hydrophobic coatings can help the building achieve LEED v4 certification.

This Course Provides 1 AIA HSW CE Hour and 1 GBCI CE Hour.

Be prepared to spend a little extra time on site if planning to attend the tour after the presentation

If you are interested in following the Little Rock Chapter, our links are as follows (*for Facebook and LinkedIn look for the CSI Little Rock Chapter*):

Website: https://csilittlerock.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com

If you are interested in Joining CSI or if you are just interested in keeping up with the information provided by CSI, follow this link to the Institute Website Membership Pages:

For Membership Information:
https://www.csiresources.org/communities/membership/individual-membership

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https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/CSIRESOURCES/143a718d-6df6-484a-8a79-76d79635b741/UploadedImages/PDFs/CSI_MembershipFormFY18.pdf

To See what CSI is all about:
https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/CSIRESOURCES/143a718d-6df6-484a-8a79-76d79635b741/UploadedImages/CSI_ResourcesCatalogFinalLowRes.pdf

Security for Higher Ed

Article from “I Dig Hardware” by Greene, DAHC/CDC, FDAI, FDHI, CCPR

A few weeks ago I posted that our family was on a college-tour road trip, looking at schools for my oldest daughter. I really appreciate everyone’s patience as I squeezed some college visits in between work days, and sometimes responded to your emails very late at night or from a parking lot .

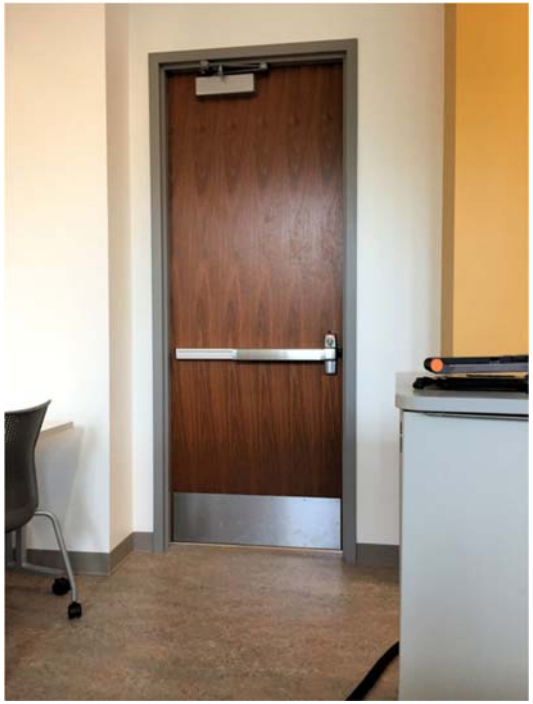
I also want to say “thank you” to those of you who emailed me to share your experiences with your own college searches, and to suggest colleges that we might want to visit. Several of those colleges are on the list of schools my daughter wants to apply to!

On one of the tours, we crossed paths with a security integrator who I know well. He told me that someone from the university had asked him a code question that day, and he said that I was on the campus at that moment! Imagine that you work for a university, you read iDigHardware, and you find out that I’m wandering around your campus. I’m guessing there were some mixed emotions – “Yay! I can get my code questions answered!” vs. “Oh no! What if she finds a Wordless Wednesday door?”

I’m really excited to say that I saw almost NO code issues while touring ANY of the schools. I did see Allegion hardware at just about all of them, which was very cool. As we walked around numerous campuses, I noted some of the security issues that universities face – which are much different from the challenges of K-12 schools:

1. Because students, faculty, and visitors need to be able to move freely from one building to another, the perimeter security found in K-12 schools is not feasible for colleges and universities. We were able to drive in and around the grounds with out being challenged – day or night. We walked freely throughout the campuses, and into many of the buildings – even on Saturdays. So what happens when there is an incident on campus and the buildings need to be locked down? Electrified hardware on the perimeter doors can help to facilitate this very quickly. Electric latch retraction panic hardware meets the requirements for egress, allows the doors to be push/pull function during normal operation, and facilitates immediate re mote lockdown.

2. We often talk about “layered security” for K-12 schools. With higher ed, the property perimeter layer is typically unsecured, and the ability to secure the building perimeter during an active shooter event becomes even more critical; remote locking of these perimeter doors can also help with securing the buildings during normal operation. The next layer is the ability to compartmentalize the building and secure large assembly spaces. Again, electrified hardware is a critical component of securing these doors – whether during a lockdown or when it’s time to lock the space at the end of the day. Depending on the door location and function, electric latch retraction can be a good choice, or electrified trim for panic/fire exit hardware (particularly at stairwell doors), or remote undogging products like the Von Duprin RU/RM



This classroom door on one of our college tours has Von Duprin 99 series panic hardware with the -2 function which allows the outside lever to be locked from the inside. This hardware also has the locked/unlocked indicator (-2SI).

3. With K-12 classrooms, the same teacher is often occupying the classroom and can control the locking/unlocking of the classroom door. This is not true of college classrooms, where various faculty members and teaching assistants may use any given room. We saw some electrified hardware on these rooms during our tours, and there were some classrooms with hardware that could be locked manually to prevent access – either by locking the outside trim or by undogging the panic hardware. Locked/unlocked indicators are important for these applications. For smaller classrooms where panic hardware was not required, some facilities had electrified locks like the Schlage AD/CO or NDE/LE series.

4. The dormitories we visited were very well-secured. Each had a staffed desk at the entrance, and at least one of these desks had a bank of monitors for cameras on the interior and exterior of the building. All of the dorms required fob or card access – either 24 hours or at night, depending on whether the building housed dining halls or other facilities used by non-residents. Some dorms also had card/fob access to the individual floors or halls, which allowed access only to the residents of those areas. And of course, each dorm room had a lock which required a key or credential and only allowed access for the residents of that room. Many of the dorm rooms were suite-style, where two or more rooms shared a bathroom. We've talked about this application before, but all of the suites we toured had standard privacy sets. Another dorm-related issue that we've talked about is whether the door from the corridor to the room should be self-closing (as required for fire doors), or have the ability to be left open so the students can socialize. I'm pretty sure all of the dorm rooms we looked at had self-closing doors.

I'll be writing more about some of the applications we saw on our trip over the next few weeks. And maybe when my daughter is accepted to one of these schools and moves in, I'll be able to connect with the security department and write a more in-depth post about that particular campus' challenges and solutions.

Classroom security considerations

By: Lori Greene, DAHC/CDC, FDAI, FDHI, CCPR

In recent years, dozens of retrofit security devices have entered the market with promises of being less expensive, more secure and easier to procure and install than traditional security hardware. Considering the immediate need to address classroom security—often within tight budgetary constraints—these retrofit products may seem like the answer school administrators have been searching for. But it's crucial that all aspects of the available security products are considered when evaluating potential solutions. What might initially appear to be a cost-effective way to secure classroom doors may have negative impacts on life safety, fire protection, accessibility and protection from internal threats.

Classroom barricade devices may seem appealing at first glance, but further consideration reveals life-safety concerns.

Traditional locksets which meet the requirements of the model codes are readily available; in fact, most classroom doors are already equipped with locksets. These locks provide the necessary level of security and allow free egress and evacuation, are certified for use on fire door assemblies and are compliant with the standards of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). Compliance with these requirements is part of the duty of care that is the responsibility of each school district. Relying on untested security methods that can be deployed by an unauthorized person could increase a district's risk and liability. So why are some school districts considering expenditures of tens of thousands of dollars–even hundreds of thousands of dollars–to purchase retrofit security devices, especially if their classroom doors already have locksets?

School security misconceptions

There are several inaccurate perceptions that may contribute to hasty decisions when evaluating classroom security methods: §

The belief that mass school shootings are a common occurrence and all schools are under immediate threat. In reality, according to James Alan Fox and Emma E. Fridel in "The Three R's of School Shootings: Risk, Readiness, and Response," mass school shootings are incredibly rare events. Their research found that on average, a total of 20 to 30 mass murders occur per year, and typically one of those incidents takes place at a school. Of course, every school shooting is tragic and everything possible should be done to prevent these events from happening. But the news media has influenced our perception of school violence, and social media amplifies the headlines—some of which are misleading. The news of 18 school shootings in the first six weeks of 2018 was repeated millions of times by news sources, public figures and the general public. This gave the impression that school shootings were occurring multiple

times each week, when only three of the 18 reported incidents involved multiple gunshots and resulted in deaths or injuries inside of a school. This does not diminish the importance of those three shootings, but rushed decisions made while feeling under attack may not result in the best long-term solutions. It's best to take the time needed for careful consideration rather than purchasing devices that seem like a quick solution but may instead lead to a false sense of security. §

The push to prioritize security over mitigation of other hazards. Although active-shooter events are statistically much less likely to occur than other potential hazards, many parents, students and school staff members place security concerns at the top of their list. But school administrators must also consider hazards such as weather-related emergencies including windstorm events, fires, bomb threats, incidents related to drugs or alcohol, mental health issues like suicide, bullying, fights and other non-fatal victimizations. The model codes adopted in most jurisdictions across the U.S. require doors in a means of egress to allow immediate evacuation with one operation to unlatch the door. This helps to ensure free egress regardless of the type of hazard that is occurring. Some situations, particularly assaults and other non-fatal victimizations, can also be impacted by unauthorized lockdown. When a classroom barricade device is used by an unauthorized person to secure a classroom and commit a crime, a school district may be held responsible because their duty of care has not been met. Even in states where legislators or code officials have modified state codes to reduce the cost of security by allowing classroom barricade devices, a school district may be exposing itself to the possibility of a lawsuit if those devices are used to impede egress. §

Classroom barricade devices that can be installed by an unauthorized person may delay or prevent access by staff and emergency responders, increasing risk and liability.

The tendency to focus only on intruders and shootings without considering internal threats and nonfatal victimizations. According to the 2016 Indicators of School Crime and Safety, published by the National Center for Education Statistics, "In 2015, among students ages 12–18, there were about 841,100 nonfatal victimizations (theft and violent victimization) at school." The same report states that during the 2013–2014 school year, there were a total of 48 school-associated violent deaths with 12 homicides and eight suicides of students ages 5–18. Again, one student death is one too many, but these statistics give perspective to the situation; the risk of nonfatal victimization is much higher than the potential for an active shooter to enter a school. As the Door Security & Safety Foundation noted in its publication on the liability of classroom barricades, published on lockdontblock.org: "Storing a barricade device in a classroom makes crimes easier to carry out. When used by an unauthorized person, barricades have the significant potential to facilitate unintended consequences such as bullying, harassment, or physical violence. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the FBI, a member of the student body is most likely to commit violence on school grounds." Focusing only on protection against intruders without considering the misuse of devices intended to provide security increases risk and liability. §

The idea that traditional locks are not secure enough. (For example, thinking the intruder will shoot the lock off.) Although this happens in movies, it has not been documented in a school shooting. The Final Report of the Sandy Hook Advisory Commission states: "The testimony and other evidence presented to the Commission reveals that there has never been an event in which an active shooter breached a locked classroom door." I have never heard of a classroom lock forcibly breached by an active shooter—before the shooting at Sandy Hook or in the years since. Unfortunately, there have been several cases where first responders had to breach a classroom door by force because a perpetrator had barricaded himself inside with hostages. Traditional locks provide the necessary level of security for classrooms, and there is a wide range of security products available to secure and monitor exterior doors and compartmentalize a building to limit access from one area to another. All of this can be accomplished without ignoring model codes and state or federal laws.

Model Code Update

During the code development cycle for the 2018 model codes, the issue of how schools can enhance classroom security without compromisinglife safety was discussed and debated at length. Srakeholders asked, should existing code requirements e relaxed in order to allow less expensive security devices to be installed? Should the requirements remain as-is or should additional mandates be included in the model codes? Fortunately the outcome of this code development process was an overwhelming decision to not only maintain the existing egress requirements for classroom doors, but to add an additional safety mandate. The 2018 editions of the International Building Code (IBC), the International Fire Code (IFC) and NFPA 101–The Life Safety Code include the following requirements for classroom doors:

The ADA required releasing hardware to be mounted between 34 inches and 48 inches above the floor. Devices mounted outside of that range may be difficult or impossible for some building occupants to operate.

Egress doors must be unlatched by one releasing operation from the egress side. Hardware used to release the latch(es) must be mounted between 34 inches and 48 inches above the floor. One operation must release all latches simultaneously—the model codes do not allow separate operations to release each individual security device. §

Operation of the hardware for egress must be accomplished without tight grasping, pinching or twisting of the wrist, and without the use of a key, tool, special knowledge or effort. Whether the lock is electrified or mechanical, it must allow free egress from the classroom side of the door. §

Locked classroom doors must be able to be unlocked from the outside with a key or other approved means, to allow access for school staff and emergency responders. This is the new requirement that was added to the 2018 model codes. §

Door closers, panic hardware and fire exit hardware may not be modified by retrofit locking devices, and modifications to fire door assemblies must be in accordance with NFPA 80—Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives. §

The facility's emergency plan must address the locking and unlocking of classroom doors, and staff must be drilled in these operations.

In addition, NFPA 101 requires the doors to be lockable from within the classroom without opening the door.

A classroom security checklist published by the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) reflects the requirements of the updated model codes and the need for code-compliant security. "The state fire marshals understand the security concerns and the need to protect schools and businesses from senseless acts of violence," said Jim Narva, executive director of NASFM. "However, some of the proposed solutions may compromise life safety, despite the manufacturers' good intentions. The NASFM guidelines for classroom security are aligned with the model codes, and underscore the importance of the requirement for new and existing classroom doors to unlatch with one operation, ensuring free and immediate egress. Classroom doors must also meet federal accessibility laws and other requirements of the building codes and fire codes."

In some jurisdictions, accessibility requirements and the ADA have been ignored with regard to classroom barricade devices, as the operation of many designs would be beyond the abilities of many occupants with disabilities. Classroom doors nationwide are required to comply with the ADA, so it's unclear how security products can be used that are in conflict with a federal law. As noted in a letter written to the NFPA Standards Council by Curt Decker, the executive director of the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN), allowing these devices to be utilized in classrooms would be "discriminatory to those with physical or visual impairments, impedes egress, and is in violation of standards and laws regarding accessibility."

Locks save lives

In each school shooting, we learn new lessons about physical security. Many lessons were learned at Columbine High School, including the potential for explosives and fires to be used in a planned attack and the need to address both security and egress. From the shootings at Virginia Tech, Platte Canyon High School and West Nickel Mines Amish Schoolhouse, we learned that when active shooters take hostages and barricade themselves inside with their victims, law enforcement response can be delayed and the number of casualties may increase. From Sandy Hook Elementary School we learned that teachers—including substitute teachers—must have the ability to lock their classroom doors quickly. We also learned that the glass adjacent to school entrance doors is a weak point and must be addressed. From Red Lake High School we learned that sidelights and vision lights in classroom doors should have impact-resistant glazing to deter access to the inside lever or touchpad. From Marshall County High School we learned that the ability to evacuate freely may reduce casualties, and from Rancho Tehama Elementary School we learned that locked doors can delay or prevent an assailant from entering a school.

We will learn more about the shooting in Parkland, Florida as official information becomes available in the coming months. For now, we only have news reports and eyewitness accounts to learn from. And what is evident from those accounts is that many of the classroom doors were closed and locked when the shooting occurred. While it is horrific to read that shots were fired through the glass, killing and injuring students and teachers who were in the line of fire, it does not appear that the shooter was able to open doors and enter the classrooms. If he had, the number of fatalities would have undoubtedly been much higher. The locks that protected those lives were traditional locksets—not retrofit gadgets.

Code-compliant security

Although the intent of the model codes is perfectly clear, there is more work to be done. Information on the recent code changes must be shared with school administrators, code officials and others involved in school-security decisions. School districts can enhance security by evaluating their existing classroom locking hardware and procedures, distributing keys to all staff including substitute teachers, installing impact-resistant glazing or security film adjacent to door hardware, improving perimeter security by locking and monitoring exterior doors, standardizing visitor protocols, and conducting regular training and drills for students and staff. Many of these best practices are addressed in the Guidelines for School Security published by the Partner Alliance for Safer Schools (PASS).

Traditional Locksets are tested and certified ot ensure their performance on doors in the means of egress, and they provide the necessary level of security.

When making these decisions, considering all of the potential concerns and consequences will help to ensure that safety is not overlooked in the rush to increase security. A reactionary response based on fear can lead to a decision that may have unintended consequences. Summarizing the issue, Robert Boyd, the executive director of the Secure Schools Alliance noted, “You don’t have to sacrifice life safety for security. You don’t have to destroy fire codes or violate laws that help to ensure access for all people - including those with disabilities. You won’t save money by using inappropriate products, when affordable solutions that meet codes and laws exist; you only expose yourself to new liabilities. It is irresponsible to make it difficult to flee a hazardous situation…Schools house our most vulnerable population, our children, and their safety should be first.”

About the author: Lori Greene, DAHC/CDC, FDAI, CCPR, is manager of codes and resources for Allegion. She has worked in the door and hardware industry since 1986, and in her current role she provides support and education on code requirements that apply to door openings. Her website, iDigHardware.com, includes numerous resources such as online training, videos and a downloadable code reference guide. The site is updated each weekday with new information, and readers can subscribe to receive daily or weekly notifications of new posts. Lori can be reached at lori.greene@allegion.com.

Proposed Asbestos Rules Make Headlines

August 9, 2018

Asbestos is the subject of a risk evaluation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and proposed new rules will allow the Agency to regulate new uses of the material. Shown is asbestos insulation on piping.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in June released proposed regulations related to asbestos. In the agency's press release, it describes "a significant new use rule (SNUR) proposal enabling the Agency to prevent new uses of asbestos–the first such action on asbestos ever proposed."

Environmental critics have voiced their disapproval and mainstream media have picked up on the story. An article suggesting asbestos rules would be weakened under the EPA proposal appeared in Fast Company in June. The Architects Newspaper in early August reported, "EPA is now allowing asbestos back into manufacturing."

The federal agency is defending its actions. "The press reports on this issue are inaccurate," EPA spokesman James Hewitt said in a statement reported by CBS News. "Without the proposed Significant New Use Rule (SNUR) EPA would not have a regulatory basis to restrict manufacturing and processing for the new asbestos uses covered by the rule. The EPA action would prohibit companies from manufacturing, importing, or processing for these new uses of asbestos unless they receive approval from EPA."

Asbestos is also one of the ten chemicals the EPA will evaluate under the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amended the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The Agency's problem formulation documents, released for comment in June, refine the scope of risk evaluations it will undertake. These documents are an interim step prior to completing and publishing the final risk evaluations by December 2019.

Read the EPA's asbestos announcement here:

News Releases
News Releases from Headquarters›Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP)

EPA Takes Three Important Steps to Ensure Chemical Safety Under the Lautenberg Act, Proposes Action on Asbestos

06/01/2018

Contact Information:
EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov) WASHINGTON – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing the following for public comment: (1) the first ten problem formulation documents, (2) EPA's systemic review approach document, and (3) a significant new use rule (SNUR) proposal enabling the Agency to prevent new uses of asbestos – the first such action on asbestos ever proposed.

“These actions provide the American people with transparency and an opportunity to comment on how EPA plans to evaluate the ten chemicals undergoing risk evaluation, select studies, and use the best available science to ensure chemicals in the marketplace are safe,” said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. “At the same time, we are moving forward to take important, unprecedented action on asbestos.”

The problem formulation documents refine the scope of risk evaluations for the first ten chemicals selected under the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amended the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The Agency’s problem formulation documents are an important interim step prior to completing and publishing the final risk evaluations by December 2019. They clarify the chemical uses that EPA expects to evaluate and describe how EPA expects to conduct the evaluations. Read the documents. Comments are due in 45 days upon publication in the Federal Register.

EPA’s systematic review approach document will guide EPA’s selection and review of studies in addition to providing the public with continued transparency regarding how the Agency plans to evaluate scientific information. Read the document. Comments are due in 45 days upon publication in the Federal Register (Docket: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2018-0210).

For asbestos, EPA is proposing a SNUR for certain uses of asbestos (including asbestos-containing goods) that would require manufacturers and importers to receive EPA approval before starting or resuming manufacturing, and importing or processing of asbestos. This review process would provide EPA with the opportunity to evaluate the intended use of asbestos and, when necessary, take action to prohibit or limit the use. Read the document. Comments are due in 60 days upon publication in the Federal Register (Docket: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2018-0159).

Additional Information:
Upon publication in the Federal Register you can comment in each of the chemical’s respective dockets below:

Asbestos: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0736 (each has link)
1-Bromopropane: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0741
Carbon Tetrachloride: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0733
1,4-Dioxane: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0723
Cyclic Aliphatic Bromide Cluster (HBCD): EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0735
Methylene Chloride: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0742
N-Methylpyrrolidone (NMP): EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0743
Pigment Violet 29 (Anthra[2,1,9-def:6,5,10-d’e’f’]diisoquinoline-1,3,8,10(2H,9H)-tetrone): EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0725
Trichloroethylene (TCE): EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0737
Perchloroethylene: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0732
The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act required EPA to select the first ten chemicals to undergo risk evaluations. These ten chemicals were announced on December 16, 2016. As required, EPA issued corresponding scope documents on June 22, 2017, for these chemicals, which describe the scope of the risk evaluation to be conducted, including the hazards, exposures, conditions of use, and potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulations that the Agency expects to consider. The problem formulation documents EPA issued today refine those scope documents.

LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER INFORMATION

Chapter Officers

President:		Garrett Shaffer, CSI
President-Elect:		Open
Immediate Past President:		Clark Wood, CSI
Secretary:	T	Clark Wood, CSI, CDT
Treasurer:		Billy J. Mathis, FCSI, CDT
Directors		
Operations		Rachal Belanger, CSI
Honors		Melissa Aguiar, CSI, CDT
Membership		Carlie Massery, CSI
Education / Certification		

Chapter Info

Chapter Website:	**https://csilittlerock.org**
Chapter Newsletter:	**SpecWork**
Chapter Meeting Day and Time:	**2nd Wednesday of Each Month unless otherwise specified by the Chapter President**
Chapter Board Meeting Day and Time:	**1st Friday of each Month unless otherwise specified by Chapter President**

If you are interested in Joining CSI or if you are just interested in keeping up with the information provided by CSI, See the slides shown from the “Why CSI” presentation