SPECWORK

CSI®
LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER

Little Rock Chapter - Chartered November 1965 November 2024

In This Issue

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER COMMENDATION
CSI
Building Knowledge
Improving Project Delivery
SILVER LEVEL

CSI®
LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER

November is the true start to the Holidays. I have gathered some you may be aware of and some you may not. The origins of some of these is quite interesting.

November 1 - **Diwali** (also called Divali or Deepavali) is a “festival of lights” that celebrates the triumph of light over dark, good over evil, and the blessings of victory, freedom, and enlightenment. The name comes from Sanksrit dipavali, meaning “row of lights.” On the night of Diwali, celebrants light dozens of candles and clay lamps (called diyas), placing them throughout their homes and in the streets to light up the night. In most of India, Diwali consists of a five-day celebration that peaks on the third day with the main celebration of Diwali. In other places where Diwali occurs, only the main day is usually celebrated.

November 2 - **Sadie Hawkins Day**. The origins of Sadie Hawkins Day can be traced back to the comic strip storyline published in 1937. In the story, Sadie Hawkins is a young woman who lives in the fictional town of Dogpatch. She was portrayed as very shy and introverted, making it difficult to find a romantic partner. In an effort to help Sadie find a husband, her father, Hekzebiah Hawkins, organized a foot race. The race was open to all the eligible bachelors in town, and Sadie would chase after them. The twist was that if Sadie caught a bachelor, he would be obligated to marry her.

November 5 – **Election Day**. Election Day is always held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November. This means that Election Day 2024 is Tuesday, November 5. On this day, citizens cast ballots to select public officials—from local to national government.

November 11 – **Veterans Day**. Veterans Day is observed every year on November 11. This year, the 11th day of the 11th month is a Monday. Learn the true meaning of Veterans Day and its important history—as well as ten ways to show vets how you appreciate the sacrifices that they have made. Veterans Day is an important day set aside to honor and show appreciation for ALL who have served in the United States military—in wartime or peacetime, living or deceased.

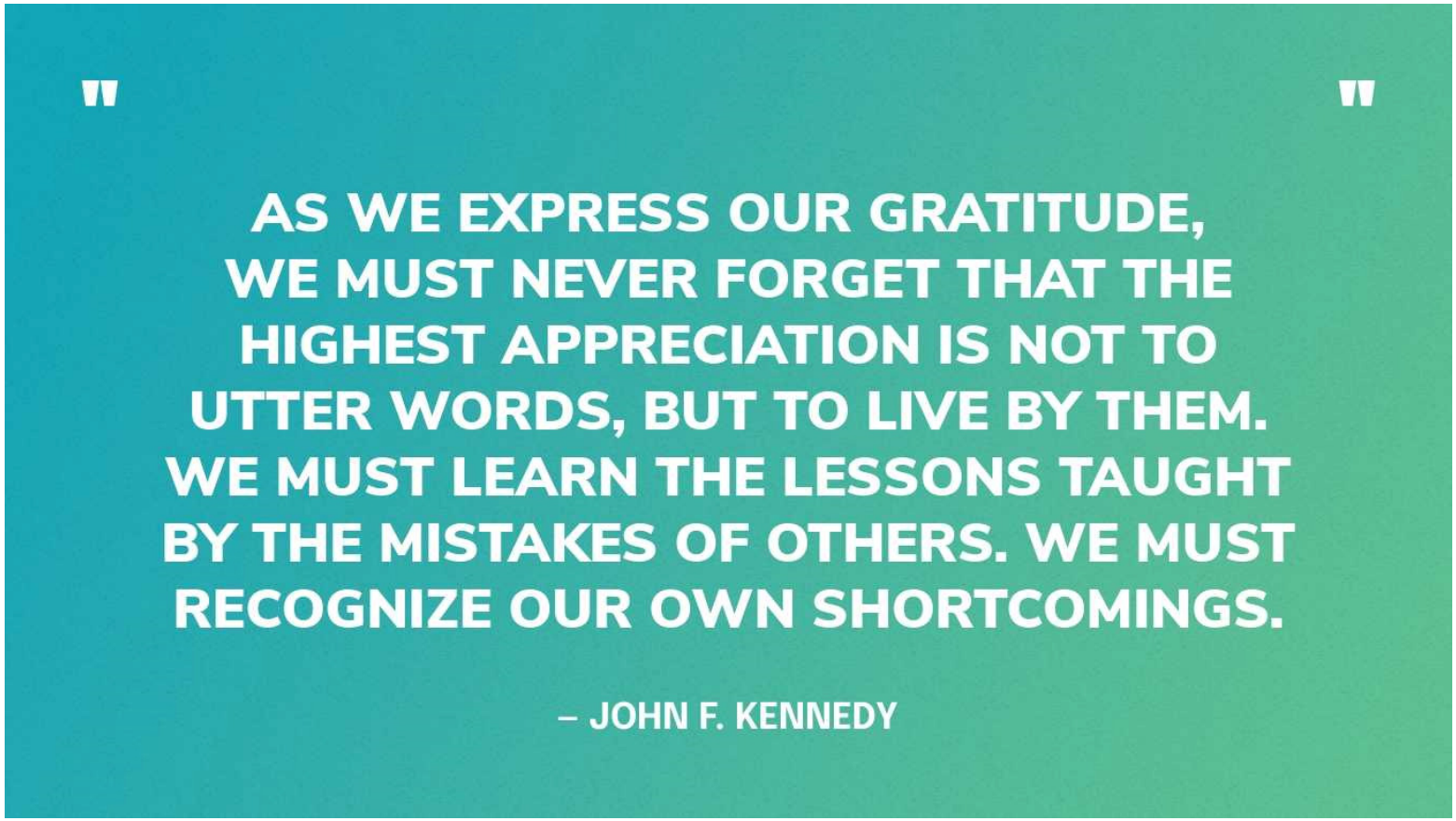
November 28 – **Thanksgiving Day**. The United States celebrates Thanksgiving as a national holiday on the fourth Thursday in November. In 2024, Thanksgiving will be observed on Thursday, November 28. This is the LATEST that Thanksgiving can ever be held. Native Americans in North America celebrated harvest festivals for centuries before Thanksgiving was formally established in the United States. Colonial services for these festivals date back to the late 16th century. The autumnal feasts celebrated the harvest of crops after a season of bountiful growth. The first national celebration of Thanksgiving was observed in honor of the creation of the new United States Constitution! In 1789, President George Washington issued a proclamation designating November 26 of that year as a “Day of Publick Thanksgivin” to recognize the role of providence in creating the new United States and the new federal Constitution. It wasn’t until 1863, during the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November.

November 29 – Black Friday. Black Friday has become one of the busiest shopping days each year. We all love big sales and great deals, but when did it start, how is its date determined, and why is it called Black Friday? Black Friday is a shopping holiday in the United States that occurs on the day after Thanksgiving. It is characterized by widespread discounts and sales offered by a wide range of retailers, many of whom operate for extended hours and offer limited-time deals to attract customers. It should be noted, however, that the shopping event we now call Black Friday has roots that stretch back well before the adoption of the name in the 1950s. President Ulysses S. Grant declared Christmas an officially recognized United States holiday in 1870 and, in so doing, essentially created the holiday shopping season. As early as the late 19th century, department stores started offering sales and promotions on that

day. The Philadelphia origin story is documented and easily traceable. From its first usage by the city police, by the early 1960s, the term caught on in Philly, with merchants and newspapers referring to Black Friday sales and events. There was a failed movement in 1961 to change the term to the less ominous-sounding “Big Friday,” but by then, it was too late. Black Friday was off and running, and the name stuck. In the years that followed, Black Friday remained largely a Philadelphia phenomenon. The term would pop up in other regions here and there, but it wasn’t until the late 1980s that the concept gained traction as a nationwide sales and marketing phenomenon.

I sincerely hope you learned at least one thing from this article. If so, then I have accomplished my goal of teaching something to everyone at least once this month. I hope as we enter the holiday season that we all remember to be thankful for what we have, be blessed by what we can do for others, and be tolerant of the various celebrations that will occur. I believe in one quote from the Bible that truly helps me get through the days “Judge not lest ye be judged”.

Happy Holidays



What I Learned From CSI - Networking Across the USA

By: Gary Bergeron, CSI, CCS, GSR Technical Chair

Karina Kane is a fourth year UTK architecture student working in our mechanical engineering office part time. She mentioned that Ted Shelton's integration class had a school project located in Denver, Colorado. A quick Google maps search of the address indicated some “dated” aerial images. Karina recognized that more data was needed. She looked for a Denver GIS similar to Knoxville's KGIS program. https://www.kgis.org/kgismaps/map.htm Karina was disappointed to find there was not a GIS with more up-to-date information. Karina took a “long shot” and contacted the Denver CSI board of directors via email with the text below.

My name is Karina Kane, I am a fourth-year architecture student at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and a student member of the CSI Knoxville Chapter. Being a part of CSI has been one of the greatest decisions in my life. The people I have been connected with, by being involved with the Knoxville, Nashville, and even Chattanooga chapters have taught me so much valuable information that I will carry with me for the rest of my career. When I first got involved, the CSI community welcomed me with open arms. Now, they have made a wonderful effort to help me grow in this profession by teaching me from their own experiences. I have to say, this community has the most hard-working, passionate, caring, intelligent, and creative people I’ve ever met and I am so honored to be part of CSI. With CSI being such a compassionate organization, I am reaching out about a potential sponsorship through the Denver, CO Chapter for a one-day site visit located at 1338 N Emerson St, Denver, CO, 80218. This site visit would be for an integration school project (a project for fourth-year students only) which I am tackling this semester through the College of Architecture at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Not only would visiting the site help to provide critical information including photos and written accounts, but having that contextual experience will give me a leg up in the project that is being submitted to a national competition (brief attached below). I was just presented the brief yesterday, with the final project for class due before Thanksgiving, November 20th specifically, meaning visiting the site would have to occur in the next month. I truly appreciate what CSI has been able to do for me and how beneficial being a part of the organization is to my career. If possible, working out a date to visit the site and meet you with the Denver, CO Chapter, would be more than awesome!

Thank you so much and I am looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Within just a few hours Athena Van Waardenburg (secretary of CSI Denver Chapter) responded with an email that she was forwarding Karina's request to the Denver CSI board of directors. Little did Karina know, the board found the request to be worthy of financial support. It was less than 24 hours later, Erica Thompson (treasurer of CSI Denver Chapter), called Karina with CSI Denver's offer to pay for the Knoxville to Denver flight, pick her up at the airport, tour the project site, and provide her guest room for Karina's time in Denver. Karina also brought to Erica's attention the interest in meeting some of the CSI Denver Chapter members on her trip. Erica emailed a few people letting them know about this incredible moment where their chapter was able to help a student from another chapter on the other side of the nation. Karina is set to meet a few people from the CSI Denver Chapter on her trip, learning from their experiences as well as being able to share information about herself. Stay tuned for part two of this article, which details the information Karina will obtain during her Denver visit.

Seals and Signatures Evidence of Responsible Charge by Design Professionals Part 1 – Definition and Purpose of Seals

By: Kevin O'Beirne, PE, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, CDT

This is the first in a four-part series on this blog addressing sealing and signing of instruments of service by design professionals, comprised of: (a) Part 1 – Definition and Purpose of Seals; (b) Part 2 – Electronic Seals and Signatures; (c) Part 3 – Statutory Requirements Concerning Sealing and Signing of Documents; and (d) Part 4 – Practical Considerations Concerning Sealing and Signing.

Perhaps the most obvious means for an architect, engineer, or other licensed design professional to indicate that they were in responsible charge of preparing a certain document is the application of their seal and signature. Application of seals and signatures to documents that comprise the design professional's "instruments of service" is typically mandated by laws and regulations governing the design professions in the United States and Canada. Indeed, issues concerning the use of seals and signatures are common matters in malpractice cases brought before licensing boards. This series of articles addresses common sealing and signing requirements in the United States.

Terms such as, "'[architect] [engineer] of record" and "'[architect] [engineer] -in-responsible-control" are typically construed as having the same meaning as, "'[architect] [engineer] -in-responsible-charge". In many organizations, the terms are used interchangeably for a given design discipline. For convenience and uniformity, the term "responsible charge" is used in this article. Also, in this article, laws, rules, and regulations are referenced as either "laws and regulations" or "statutory requirements". Furthermore, the term "instruments of service" means the collection of documents, drawings, specifications, calculations, and other tangible materials produced by design professionals during the various stages of a project. (Source: Understanding Instruments of Service (aiacontracts.com))

Purpose of Seals and Signatures

Seals applied to a design professional's instruments of service are necessary to indicate the licensed individual who served in responsible charge of the associated document. (See: "Responsible Charge: An Essential Concept for Design Professionals", previously published on this writer's blog.) The licensee's signature is typically added on, partially on, or immediately adjacent to the seal as a means of further communicating that the licensee, and no one else, applied the seal and signature. Indicating the licensee who served in responsible charge is essential for several reasons including:

Assuring the design professional's client, authorities having jurisdiction, and the general public that the person in responsible charge was appropriately licensed and registered, in accordance with laws and regulations.

Indicating accountability for the associated professional services.

Reducing the potential for individuals, not properly licensed and registered, to perform design professional services without serving under the responsible charge of a duly licensed individual.

Sealing and Signing the Work of Others

On occasion, especially in cases when the original licensee serving in responsible charge is no longer available, another licensee may be asked to seal and sign instruments of service for which they were not properly in responsible charge. Such individuals are commonly referred to as “successor engineer”, successor architect”, or other, generally similar terms. Such a person needs to assume responsible charge for either the entire project or a designated portion of it. When a licensed design professional assumes responsible charge as a “successor engineer”, “successor architect”, or successor in another design profession, additional requirements may apply before that person may serve in responsible charge of an ongoing project. For advice on this topic, see the article by David L. Pond, PE, in The North Carolina Bulletin, April 2012/Spring Issue. Laws or regulations governing the subject design profession in the jurisdiction where a given project is located may have specific requirements governing the proper designation of a successor design professional. For example, in New York State, Section 29.3.a.3.i of Part 29 ("Unprofessional Conduct") of the Rules of the Board of Regents, which pertains to architects, engineers, and other design professionals licensed by the state, addresses the matter as follows:

“a licensee who signs and seals documents not prepared by the licensee or by an employee under the licensee's direct supervision shall prepare, and retain for a period of not less than six years, a thorough written evaluation of the professional services represented by the documents, including but not limited to drawings, specifications, reports, design calculations and references to applicable codes and standards. Such written evaluation shall clearly identify the project and the documents to which it relates, the source of the documents and the name of the person or organization for which the written evaluation was conducted, the date of the evaluation, and the seal and signature of the licensee shall also be affixed thereto; …”

Types of Seals Required

Throughout this article, the term “seal” is generally used. However, a metal seal is a device that provides a raised, embossed imprint on paper. In contrast, a stamp is a facsimile of the seal, often made of Indian rubber, attached to a wooden backing with a post-type handle. Stamps are inked and applied to paper or other reproducible materials such as vellum, mylar, and others. In modern practice, stamps are likely more common for design professionals than are raised (metal) seals, although laws or regulations in some states may expressly require one or the other. For example, Section 37.58 of Title 49, Chapter 37 of the Pennsylvania Code, addressing the State Registration Board For Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, requires:

“(a) A registrant shall obtain, at the registrant’s own expense, a seal in the identical design authorized by the Board…

“(d) A registrant may use a metal seal, rubber stamp, computer image which is a facsimile of the seal or digital seal if the registrant first obtains a seal in accordance with this section.”

However, Section 9.141. (a) of Title 49, Chapter 9 of the Pennsylvania Code, addressing the State Architects Licensure Board, allows registered architects the discretion of obtaining and using either a metal seal or rubber stamp.

In New York State, Section 7209 (relative to professional engineering, geology, and land surveying) and Section 7307 (relative to architecture) of the State Education Law require only a “stamp” applied to the design professional’s instruments of service.

Statutory Requirements for Obtaining Seals

To practice one of the design professions and serve in responsible charge, an individual must be licensed, registered, have appropriate professional liability insurance, and acquire the appropriate seal or stamp, as applicable.

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) publishes model statutory language governing the practice of architecture in the United States. NCARB Model Laws and Regulations state in part:

"*Section 401. Seal*

"1) Every Architect shall have a seal of an image authorized by the Board. The seal may be electronic. It is the responsibility of the Architect to provide adequate security over the use of the Architect's seal.

Section R401.0 of NCARB's Model Regulations states in part:

"R401.0 Design and Use of Architect's Seal

"1) Pursuant to Section 401 of the Act and subject to R501(C), each Architect must procure a seal, which shall contain the Architect's first and last name, the Architect's License number, and the words "LICENSED ARCHITECT— [NAME OF JURISDICTION]." This seal must comply in all respects, including size and format, with the seal shown below: [INSERT SPECIMEN SEAL IMPRINT.]

Similarly, the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) publishes suggested language for state and territorial laws and regulations governing the practice of professional engineering and land surveying in the United States. NCEES's Model Law (revised September 2021) Section 110.20 includes the following definition: "K. Seal—The term "Seal," as used in this Act, shall mean a symbol, image, or list of information." Section 140.10 of NCEES's Model Law further states, in part:

"D. Upon licensure, each licensee may obtain a seal. A licensee's seal shall contain the following:

"1. Jurisdiction of licensure
"2. Licensee's name
"3. License number
"4. The words "professional engineer" [and discipline]…"

Required Content and Layout of Seals

Whether of metal or a rubber stamp, design professional's seals are typically required to be 1.75 inches in diameter (although certain types of seals in some jurisdictions may be smaller) and, as indicated in the NCARB and NCEES model language, above, indicate the type of license, the licensee's full name as it appears on their license and registration, and their license or registration number (as applicable). Each state's licensing board may mandate a certain design or graphic to be included within the seal. For example, design professional seals in New York State feature the New York Excelsior logo, while professional engineers' seals in Pennsylvania feature a keystone, which is the symbol of Pennsylvania, and registered architects' seals in Pennsylvania feature a column topped by a lamp, with other iconography. Presented below are selected examples from other jurisdictions:

"

Obtaining Seals

Upon securing licensure, each individual is responsible for obtaining their own metal seal, rubber stamp, or other means of applying their seal to instruments of service. Some years ago, seals could be acquired only through a limited number of retailers, often requiring several weeks to obtain. In the modern era, however, acquiring an architect's, professional engineer's, professional geologist's, or other type of design professional's seal is much easier and faster through online vendors. In August 2024, a brief online search revealed at least five different sellers of metal seals and rubber stamps for design professionals. Often, suppliers with an online presence can prepare and issue the metal seal or rubber stamp within a day or two, with the order delivered typically within a matter of days. Prices are usually reasonable, given that most design professionals need to purchase a metal seal or rubber stamp only once for each state where they are licensed. In August 2024, prices were: typical rubber stamp: $17 to $38; self-inking stamp: $25 to $43; desk top metal embosser: $40 to $53; and pocket metal embosser: $34 to $43. Other variations may be available, such as "long-reach" metal embossers, depending on the vendor. Variations in physical quality and robustness may potentially explain the range of costs among the various suppliers. Some suppliers also offer "digital stamps", which are really only a digital image file of the seal, available in various formats, including ".jpg", ".png", ".pdf", ".tif", ".dwg", and possibly others; such images typically cost approximately $10 to $15 each, although almost anyone with a rubber stamp and ink pad can easily create their own digital image of their seal.

Security

Upon obtaining their physical or digital seal, licensed design professionals should properly secure them, prohibiting access by non-authorized personnel. While it may be tempting for some busy licensees to keep their seal(s) in an unlocked desk drawer, perhaps so that a trusted subordinate can access them when so ordered, even when the licensee is unavailable, such temptation should be resisted. Because using a designed professional seal is an essential representation of licensure and an assertion that the individual properly served in responsible charge of the sealed document, seals should be properly secured and not accessible by anyone other than the licensee. Failure to properly secure seals creates potential for misuse, with serious risk to both the licensee and the unauthorized person improperly accessing the seal. For additional information on this topic, see: "Licensing Boards: Entities That Govern the Design Professions, Part 4 – Enforcement, previously published on this writer's blog.

Conclusions

Design professionals' seals and signatures are the principal means by which an architect, engineer, geologist, or other licensed design professional asserts their status as having served in responsible charge of the preparation of the associated document. Laws and regulations governing the design professions in every jurisdiction of the United States require the design professional serving in responsible charge to obtain a seal of the appropriate design and affix such seal, together with the licensee's signature (and possibly other information, such as the date of sealing and signing), to the associated document. Seals are available in various forms, including embossed metal seals, inked stamps, and electronic seals. Licensees should properly secure and safeguard their seals.

Forthcoming articles in this series will include Part 2 – Electronic Seals and Signatures; Part 3 – Statutory Requirements Concerning Sealing and Signing of Documents; and Part 4 – Practical Considerations Concerning Sealing and Signing.

Kevin O'Beirne, PE, FCSI, CCS, CCCA is a professional engineer licensed in NY and PA with over 35 years of experience designing and constructing water and wastewater infrastructure for public and private clients. He is the engineering specifications manager for a global engineering and architecture design firm. He has been a member of various CSI national committees and is the certification chair of CSI's Buffalo-Western New York Chapter. He is an ACEC voting delegate in the Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee (EJCDC) and lives and works in the Buffalo NY area. Kevin O'Beirne's LinkedIn page

Fixed-It Friday: Un-Dogging for Lockdown

By: Lori Greene, I Dig Hardware Blog

A while back, I taught a class at a large university and was fortunate to have access to their fantastic training room. The university had incorporated many strategies to facilitate immediate lockdown in their classroom buildings, but this particular training room was in the facilities services building, not typically occupied by students or professors.

The lockdown method used in the training room was to attach a hex key on a lanyard to each door, so the panic hardware could be quickly undogged if the doors needed to be secured. In a perfect world I would use thumbturn cylinder dogging with a dogging indicator (see Mark's post from yesterday), but sometimes you have to "make do." Considering the use of the room, I think having the hex key readily available is a good compromise.

Fixed-It Friday: Wheelies

By: Lori Greene, I Dig Hardware Blog

I'm sure someone thought this was an ingenious Fixed-it Friday "fix" to prevent the use of these doors, but blocking the egress route is never acceptable. Thank you to Tim Weller of Allegion for the photo.

CSI is excited to announce that six members have been added to the College of Fellows.

Fellows are CSI members who have been selected by their peers for this distinction based on their achievements in the industry and their above-and-beyond contributions to CSI.

The CSI community will honor and celebrate these individuals at the 2024 CSI National Conference October 16-18 in Houston, TX.

Design firms are subject to disciplinary action similar to individuals. Statutory requirements for submitting complaints against a firm, the .

Learn more about our 2024 Class of CSI Fellows below as they share what CSI means to them, give advice for getting the most out of membership, and take a look at what the future could hold for the architecture, engineer, contractor, and owner (AECO) industry.

Gregg Jones, FCSI, CCS®, CDT®, AIA

Gregg Jones is a senior project architect for Abonmarche Byce, an architectural and engineering firm based in Kalamazoo, MI.

After practicing architecture for 20 years, in 2000 Gregg began writing architectural specifications when he was asked to take over the position from a parting co-worker and has since written specifications for three different A/E firms

He's been active in the CSI Grand Rapids Chapter for more than a decade, and has served as secretary and president. He's also the president of the CSI Great Lakes Region, where he's worked to help build healthy chapters that provide value for their members. As a CDT holder himself, Gregg has also taught certification classes for his employees.

What advice would you give to any CSI members—new or established—on how to continue to have a rewarding professional experience?

First, be involved in CSI. Attend meetings, network, make a presentation, earn a certification, attend conferences, join a committee, take a leadership role, and invite others to join. As they say, you get back what you put into something.

Second, observe, listen, learn, and share. In our profession, there are many people—old and young—in CSI and the overall AECO community who have knowledge for us to learn from and share with.

What do you see as the most significant opportunities in the construction industry in the next 5 to 10 years?

Sharing knowledge. I have been practicing architecture for nearly 50 years. In that time, there have been many advances in technology, products, and construction practices. Many people think artificial intelligence (AI) will be the answer to future advances. But that hands-on knowledge that the experienced members of the construction industry have can be far more valuable.

Erica Kennedy, FCSI, CDT®, AIA

Erica Kennedy is the director of development at ODA Architecture in Charlotte, NC, and has a love for hotel design and working in the hospitality sector.

She's volunteered for CSI both locally and nationally, including time as president of the CSI Charlotte Chapter and director from the Southeast Region for the Institute. Erica is also a public speaker with an emphasis on helping support emerging professionals and women in the industry.

What does being recognized as a CSI Fellow mean to you?

At one of my first CSI National Conferences, I watched two individuals from my region receive their Fellowships and thought, "I'm going to achieve that one day." After years of dedication and hard work, I'm thrilled to have earned this recognition. I'm deeply grateful to the many mentors within CSI who have supported me along the way!

How has being a member of CSI informed your life and career?

I became a student member of CSI in 2008, and it has allowed me to build an invaluable network across the country and in Canada. I always have a reliable contact for any questions about products, insights into other architect's practices, or recommendations for new consultants.

Jarrod Mann, FCSI, CCCA®, CDT®, PE

Jarrod Mann is the vice president and head of MEP Engineering at BG Consultants, Inc. During his career, Jarrod has contributed to a number of significant projects, including the15,000-seat Intrust Bank Arena in Wichita, KS, and the reconstruction of the Kiowa County Memorial Hospital in Greensburg, KS, following a devastating EF-5 tornado. The hospital earned certification as the first and only LEED Platinum critical access hospital in the United States.

Jarrod has been active at all levels of CSI, serving in several roles, including president of both the Flint Hills Chapter and North Central Region. Nationally, he serves as director at large for the Institute and is currently chair-elect.

What advice would you give to any CSI members—new or established—on how to continue to have a rewarding professional experience?

You can't receive the most benefit from your membership if you're not connected and involved. I truly believe that each person's CSI experience is only limited by what they can imagine it can be and how willing they are to step out, step up, and realize their vision. The AECO industry is a relationship and knowledge business, with the side benefit of creating the facilities and infrastructure that make the world habitable, productive, and enjoyable. CSI provides a great platform to build the relationships and knowledge that build the world.

There is a wealth of raw information available today to anyone with a smartphone or computer. However, without technical education and a trusted adviser, sifting through the mountains of information to find the data that is correct, complete, and appropriate for your needs is next to impossible. CSI provides the people and tools to make that information not only useful but powerful.

We provide the framework for how that data is organized. We bring together the technical experts to point you in the right direction. And we're developing the next-generation tools to help tame the "information wild west." Engaging as a member is the best way to access those resources, and so much more.

What do you see as the most significant opportunities in the construction industry in the next 5 to 10 years?

Everyone is talking about, experimenting with, and developing artificial intelligence in 2024, and CSI is no different. There is a mixture of fear, apprehension, curiosity, and excitement in the AECO industry as to how AI will change what we do in the next 5 to 10 years (or even 5 to 10 months). I don't expect an AI-driven robot army to be assembling a building in the next couple of years, but I do believe that—just as many previous technologies and innovations have—AI will be able to assist with and perhaps take the lead on some of the mundane, rote, repetitive design and construction documentation tasks currently performed by our industry professionals, freeing them for higher and better uses of their time and driving the next wave of increases in productivity. AI will not be the final decision maker, but will almost certainly be a first-level researcher, concept suggester, and document drafter.

Ellen Onstad, FCSI, CDT®

Ellen Onstad is the senior project team coordinator at Interface Engineering, Inc. She's played an active role in program development and connecting people, serving as president of the CSI Portland Chapter and a member of the Northwest Region Conference Planning Committee. Ellen also served as a director from the Northwest Region for the Institute.

What does being recognized as a CSI Fellow mean to you?

I am extremely honored. Fellowship is a high honor for which Institute members may be chosen, and to be nominated by my own Portland Chapter was amazing. I look forward to returning what I have received from CSI: service, mentorship, learning, and connections.

It is humbling to know that so many of my mentors, colleagues, and even my parents have given so much time and effort to CSI—both locally in their own chapters, in the region, and nationally—yet I am the one receiving this honor. It is important for me to acknowledge all the people in my life who have made this honor possible, especially to my dad, Lee Kilbourn, FCSI, FAIA, who received his fellowship in 1982.

How has being a member of CSI informed your life and career?

CSI has always been there for me!

At first, it was the activities I did with my family as a child when my parents were active members. We often scheduled family vacations around the CSI National Convention. Even my older sister and I would attend the youth program and public events. During that time, I learned the importance of having a good relationship with people of diverse backgrounds and interests and including everyone in the conversation. My parents encouraged an intense curiosity about buildings, materials, and how they went together, as well as how things work and how to ask good questions. Little did I know that the foundation they were laying would also serve me in my life as well.

Once I started working in the field, out of curiosity, I began to attend the Portland Chapter CSI events, with the encouragement of my parents and my company. I found I was able to bring my daughter to the regional and national events—continuing my own family legacy—and fully benefit from the professional interaction and environment. As a young professional this was invaluable to starting and enhancing my career. The people I met at CSI helped me through all the highs and lows of my career, and I would not be where I am today without it.

CSI is also where I learned that one of my greatest joys is connecting with people, as well as receiving and offering mentorship. These activities now make up a large part of who I am and what I am known for in both professional and personal spheres.

Doyle Phillips, EdD, FCSI, CCCA®, CDT®, CPC, FCPE

Doyle Phillips is an associate professor at the University of Oklahoma. He brings 45 years of field experience into the classroom to give students real-life examples to enhance their learning.

He is passionate about mentoring and sharing knowledge, which has led him to volunteer across all levels of CSI, including serving as president of the Little Rock and Oklahoma Chapters and holding various positions in the Gulf States and South Central Regions. Doyle also contributed to the revisions of the CCCA® Study Workbook.

What originally made you want to make a career in the AECO industry?

Being raised in a construction-oriented family guided me in that direction. More importantly, it was the love of participating in an industry that is the backbone of our country and being a part of an industry where you see physical signs of accomplishments you are a part of, along with a team of diverse individuals. There is no other industry that is so multi-faceted and impacts so many people.

What advice would you give to any CSI members—new or established—on how to continue to have a rewarding professional experience?

Remember that none of us are experts at everything, especially in an industry that is evolving so quickly. It is important to know your success is best fostered by having a network of collaborators around you who share your vision and passion. CSI provides you with the best opportunity to build your network and make lifelong friends along the way. Stay involved and be willing to share your talents with others.

Kevin Wang, FCSI, CCS®, CCCA®, CDT®

Kevin Wang is principle and architectural specifier at INSPEC Construction Administration and Specifications.

He has over 25 years of experience producing architectural projects, with the vast majority dedicated solely to the production of construction specifications.

Kevin has volunteered with the CSI Dallas Board since 2015, including serving as president. He's also secretary of the South Central Region, a director-at-large on the CSI Board of Directors, and previously served as chair of the CSI Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force.

How has being a member of CSI informed your life and career?

I've been saying for years that CSI is the most collaborative and inclusive organization in our industry. We are stronger and better because we welcome all in AECO, regardless of the role we each play. That collaboration is what initially drew me out of my shell. I was very shy when I began my career, but CSI was a safe space for me to participate within my own comfort level and still contribute to my strengths. As I grew in confidence and proficiency, more opportunities became available, both to contribute and to excel.

What advice would you give to any CSI members—new or established—on how to continue to have a rewarding professional experience?

Don't be afraid to find your voice. Our CSI community is welcoming and values contribution. There are so many paths to finding a comfortable way to participate, whether it is volunteering for your local chapter, on a national technical committee, or in one of the many other ways to share your unique strengths and insights. I know this will sound like a tired platitude, but the more I have given of myself to CSI, the more rewarding the entire experience has been.

Some of us have great runways already built for us. If you have one, take off. But if you don't have one, realize it is your responsibility to grab a shovel and build one for yourself and for those who will follow after you.

Amelia Earhart

The Three Pillars of Survival (Plus One)

Partner Alliance for Safer Schools
By ; Lt. Joseph Pangaro, CPM, CSO, and PASS trainer

Among the trainers, advisory board members, and other stakeholders at PASS, we have a simple saying that keeps us focused on our mission: It can happen anywhere.

We live in a day and age when an active shooter, mass killer, or lone wolf terrorist can strike anywhere at any time, so we have to understand the potential for the danger we face individually and as a society no matter where we live. Uncomfortable, but true.

Getting the right mindset is critical if we are to survive a violent event; taking advantage of the technology and equipment that is available to us is just as critical and something that can't be ignored or avoided. Once we accept this premise and decide to get a survival mindset, we have already begun to increase our chances of survival during a deadly event.

As a person who provides threat assessments for all kinds of facilities, I am often asked how to look at securing a school in simple terms that can be easily remembered. To that end, I have summed these actions up into the "Three Pillars of Survival," points to remember during a life-threatening situation like facing an active shooter, mass killer, or terrorist attack.

Pillar One: Preparation – Mental and Physical

We must have a response plan, and we have to practice our responses before we face danger. The first pillar is personal: We must confront our fears about being in a deadly situation and find a way to overcome them. This is not easy, so how can we do it? One way we can overcome our fear is to visualize ourselves in a bad situation and ask what we would want to be able to do in that situation. We don't want the first time we consider survival to be when danger shows up at our door. Preparation is all about thinking ahead to figure out what to do before it happens.

All of us need to prepare by training, practicing, and educating ourselves on the best ways to respond to danger.

Pillar Two: Communication

We must be able to communicate danger to our brother and sister officers, students, and staff as quickly as possible, and we must be able to exchange vital information during a violent incident.

There are many excellent products on the market today that can provide that second pillar of protection, allowing us to communicate with those we protect when it is most important. The PASS Guidelines have a complete component-level category on communications at every layer.

When it comes to communication, the police and other emergency services workers must also be able to talk to each other; communication is the key to the best possible response, and if we who are hiding or fighting for our lives can communicate to the police, then our chances of survival grow exponentially. Being able to exchange timely information in a crisis is vital to survival.

Pillar Three: Notification

People in trouble must be able to notify the outside world that they need help, and they must be able to do it quickly, easily, clearly, and in some cases, silently.

Notification and communication are linked in our plan for survival, and both are just as important as the first pillar, preparation. The programs and equipment offered today are extremely reliable and cost-effective, and they provide instant and ongoing communication between those fighting for their lives and those who would save them. PASS defines the methods and code-compliant technology with our guidelines.

These are scary conversations, ones I know we all wish we didn't have to engage in, but that is not the world we live in today. To avoid confronting these three pillars of survival is to invite tragedy into our lives and the lives of people we are sworn to protect. Avoiding this conversation and the actions required only leaves us unprepared and vulnerable; all of us must get ready to react while at the same time hoping we never have to, but if we are aware and prepared, we may just survive when the violence comes.

Plus One: Mental Health

We must all consider the mental health component of our students, staff, and visitors to any facility. By adding a mental health counselor to our schools and workplaces, we can better monitor the interactions between our students and staff. We can identify threatening comments, writings, drawings, or social media posts and intervene before violence takes place.

Some schools are doing this now as part of their overall wellness plans, and it is a great addition and one of the most important things we can do for safety and security.

Why? Because it can happen anywhere. The biggest obstacle to being prepared is avoiding uncomfortable truths. This is a necessary mindset for those responsible for keeping us, our kids, our schools, and our businesses safe.

"It will never happen here" serves no one. While based on statistical fact to a large degree, that mindset might get people killed. I ask my training audiences all the time: "When and where will the next active threat occur?"

No one can answer that question. If they could, any number of us would go there and stop the violence and be a big hero, but that will never happen because no one knows when or where the next horrific attack will come. The only thing we can do is be prepared. The Three Pillars of Survival (Plus One) are simple guides. Learn them, act on them, and be safe.

Let me know what you think. Email me at Joe@Pangarotraining.com.

The Partner Alliance for Safer Schools (PASS) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) bringing together expertise from the education, public safety, and industry communities to develop and support a coordinated approach to making effective and appropriate decisions with respect to safety and security investments. You can download the complete PASS Guidelines here, or check out our PASS Safety and Security Checklist for quick tips on how to get started. These resources—as well as white papers on various topics including barricade devices, lockdown drills, and more—are available at no cost.

What's That? Coordinator Bracker

By: **Mark Kuhn**, I Dig Hardware Blog

The other day Mark Kuhn asked if I had done a "What's that?" post about coordinator brackets…coincidentally I had just taken some photos of one while we were at the BHMA meeting in Phoenix! So here's Mark's explanation with my photos, and if you're not sure what a coordinator is, check out these links:

- Video of a pair of doors with a coordinator (https://idighardware.com/2021/05/pair-with-a-coordinator-video/).
- Whiteboard animation video about flush bolts and coordinators (https://idighardware.com/2015/07/flush-bolts-and-coordinators-video/).
- Decoded: Flush Bolts and Coordinators (https://idighardware.com/2016/12/decoded-flush-bolts-and-coordinators-january-2017/).
- Ives Coordinators (https://us.allegion.com/en/products/brands/ives/coordinators.html).

I received a FaceTime call today and spent several minutes explaining what a piece of hardware was, how it worked, and where it was mounted. So obviously my first thought was…"this would make a great iDigHardware post."

The piece of hardware in question is a coordinator mounting bracket. And if you said, "a what?" then this post is for you. Because I believe a picture is truly worth a thousand words, this post includes photos of a coordinator bracket from various angles.

First, we need to understand the purpose of this piece of hardware. The mounting bracket is designed to allow a parallel arm closer shoe to be installed without damaging a soffit-mounted door coordinator. If that sentence just made you more confused, then please look here for some more information on coordinators.

A soffit-mounted door coordinator mounts to the soffit of the door frame (the underside of the frame head), but here's the problem: a parallel closer shoe also mounts on the soffit of the door frame. Because they both need to be installed in the same place on the frame, and you can't just attach the closer shoe to – or through – the coordinator, we need a way to resolve this conflict. The coordinator mounting bracket allows us to mount the parallel arm closer shoe to the bracket and not to the coordinator…allowing both pieces of hardware to mount to the frame header and to function properly.

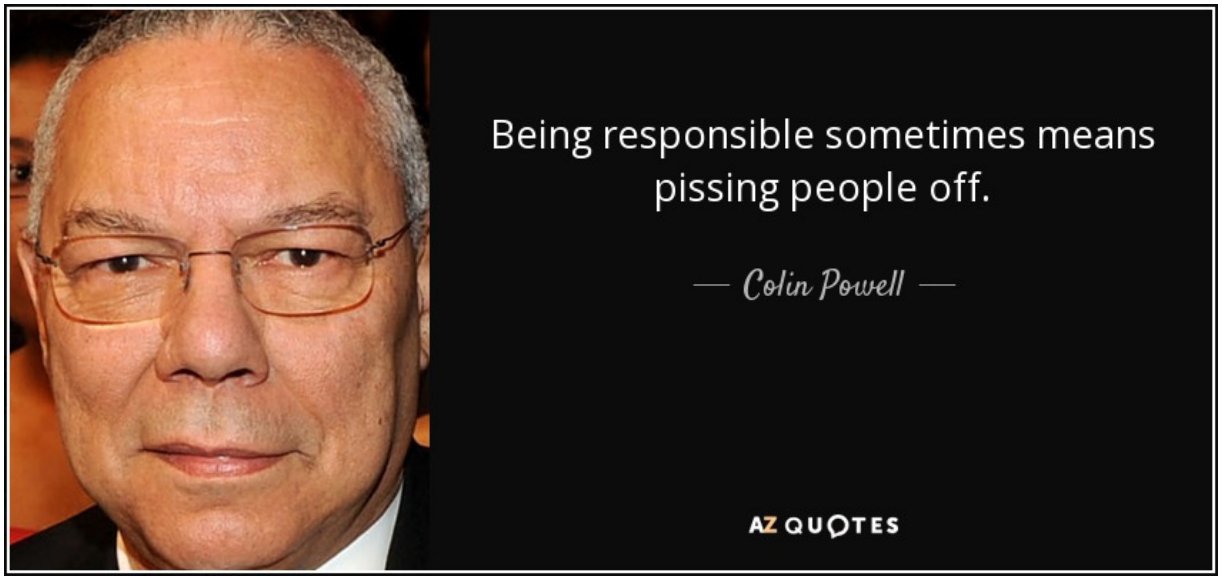
Things to know…

The coordinator mounting bracket is sized according to the width of the frame soffit – you need to know the soffit dimension to order the correct bracket.

The coordinator mounting bracket typically comes with no holes predrilled for the closer shoe – you will need to drill and tap those holes in the field. (Also make sure the screws are the proper length and that they do not touch the coordinator.)

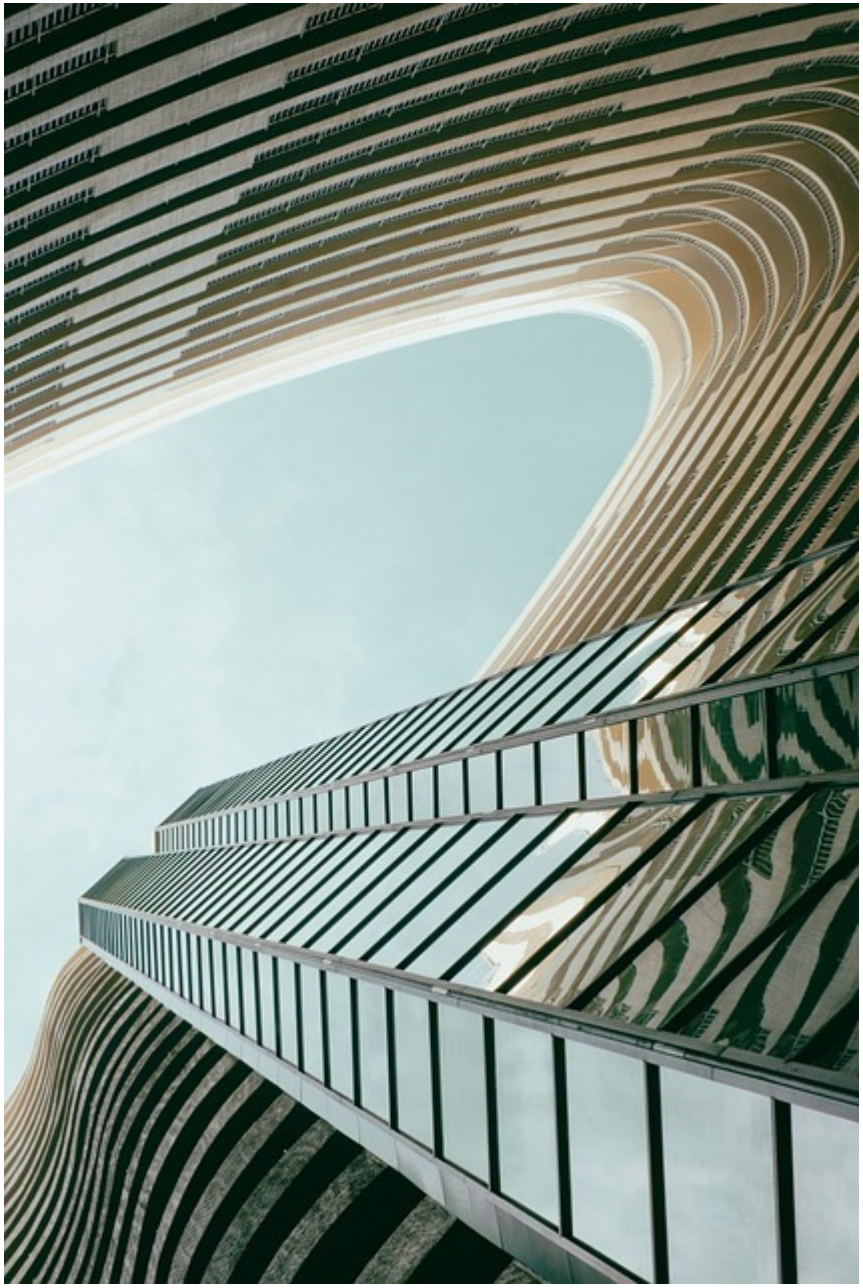
Using a coordinator mounting bracket will require special templating of the door closer. Because of the thickness of the coordinator and the thickness of the bracket, the closer will be mounted lower on the door.

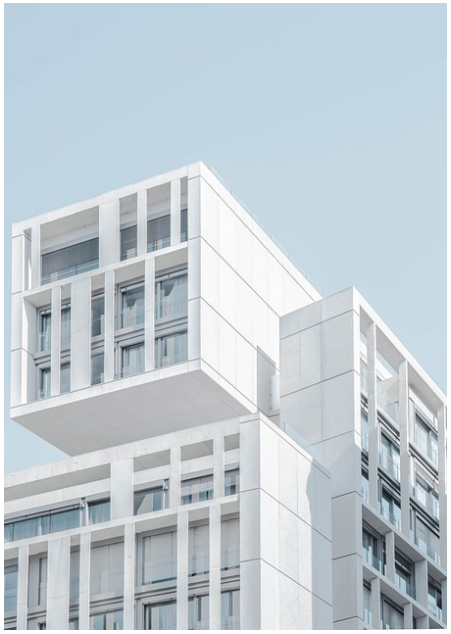
I hope that this post has helped some of you get a little better understanding of this piece of hardware, which may seem insignificant but is really very important.

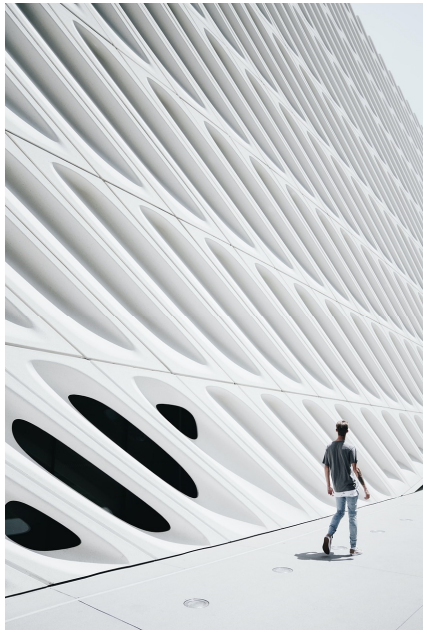


My Perspective: The Way Architects View a Successful Project

By: Billy J. Mathis, FCSI, CDT, Editor, SpecWork Newsletter







Dogging - Deep Dive

By: Lori Greene, I Dig Hardware Blog

Before I share today's post, I've got two things to say…a) time flies, and b) sometimes things get lost in my giant pile. Back in May, I wrote a post about mechanical and electrified dogging options for panic hardware. One of our instructional designers, Janice Wheeler, sent me a fantastic addendum addressing some less-common but important and useful dogging applications for Von Duprin panic hardware. I put Janice's info "in a safe place" where it has patiently waited to be published. Sorry, Janice!

At long last, here are some additional dogging options and considerations!

SD Special Dogging Option – When it is not feasible to incorporate a mechanical dogging feature in the usual location inside the device mechanism case, Von Duprin offers the SD option for the 98/99 Series rim and vertical latching configurations. The dogging components are in the center case (main chassis) of the device.

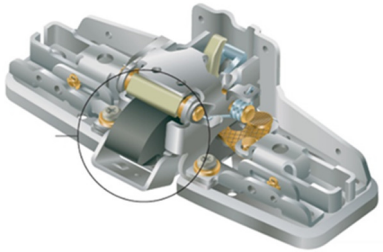
SD might be paired with delayed egress, electric latch retraction, or alarmed panic hardware, all of which have electronic components residing in the usual dogging location inside the mechanism case. In these scenarios, it may be desired to have mechanical dogging during certain hours of the day, but during other periods the electrified function is used. Take care to avoid negatively impacting the access control system where security is a concern – the system may show the hardware as (electrically) secure while it is mechanically dogged – leaving the door unlatched and unlocked.

RU Option – The Von Duprin RU option provides for wireless remote undogging of 33/35/98/99 Series panic hardware. This feature may be used for remote lockdown in emergency situations or for scheduled lockup such as at the end of school hours. Access control software is required. This is a battery-operated solution and can be added to existing panic hardware as a modular kit. A remote monitoring option (RM) can also be combined with the RU.

There is more info here: Von Duprin Remote Undogging and Remote Monitoring.

ESL Option – The emergency secure lockdown option is used in conjunction with 33/35/98/99 Series QEL electric latch retraction devices and an access control system. Occupants can rotate a key or thumbturn on the ESL cylinder to interrupt power to the QEL motor. This allows the device to latch normally, thereby securing the opening in an emergency.

There is additional information about the ESL feature in this post: Product Update: Von Duprin Emergency Secure Lockdown (ESL).



XP Devices – These high-security Von Duprin 98/99 Series rim devices have a unique latch bolt that does not retract when the device push pad is pushed or when the device is dogged. The dual-pivoting latch bolt does not release until the door begins to open. Dogging indicator options are especiallydesirable with this device since an extended latch bolt is not necessarily an indication that the device is in a secure, undogged state.

It is important to choose correctly which pull-side trim function will be paired with panic hardware that will be mechanically or electrically dogged and undogged. For most applications, the trim should be a pull only or a nightlatch function (key required for entry).

Installing an active lever trim that could be left in an unlocked state would override the control that the dogging/ undogging action is intended to provide.

Fixed-It Friday: Temporary Locking Device

By: Lori Greene, I Dig Hardware Blog

Scott Nelson of Sierra West Finish sent me today's Fixed-it Friday photo, and I see a few "fixes" here. Of course, the spoon/temporary locking device, the bottom strike adapter, and I can't help but wonder whether there's an exit sign behind that painting. What do you think?

.

Wordless Wednesday: Covering and Cladding

By: Lori Greene, I Dig Hardware Blog

Last week I shared some photos of a coordinator bracket to accompany Mark Kuhn's post, and several eagle-eyed readers pointed out the wall covering on the doors. You are absolutely right – these fire doors have some issues.

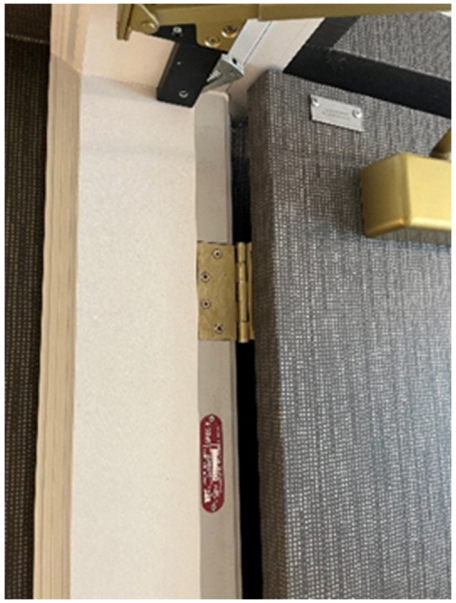
Here they are (scroll down for my observations)…

I spent many years as a specwriter, working with architects who often wanted doors to disappear. As we all know, egress doors are not allowed to disappear – they have to be readily distinguishable as doors, with an obvious method of releasing them for egress.

But beyond that, in my opinion, the doors in these photos do not "blend." A lot of time and effort went into making these doors look like the surrounding paneled walls, but believe me…they were noticed by many attendees of the BHMA meeting. (Admittedly, we are a door-focused group!)

And as many of you pointed out already, I can almost guarantee that the added wall covering and wood cladding would not be acceptable per the fire door manufacturer's listings and could negatively impact the performance of the assembly during a fire. Follows is a Quick Question article about this topic.

.



Quick Question: Cladding on a Fire Door Assembly

By: Lori Greene, I Dig Hardware Blog

I can't begin to count the number of times I have been asked to specify hardware for a project where something was applied to the face of the door and/or frame…wood, stainless steel – even stone (here's a stone-clad door in Tel Aviv)! I often had to be the bad guy, when the proposed application wouldn't function correctly or wasn't code-compliant – especially when the opening was a fire door assembly. Hence, today's Quick Question:

Can cladding materials be applied to a fire door assembly?

The short answer is a qualified "yes." Here's the longer answer…

NFPA 80 – Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives, briefly addresses materials applied to fire doors in Annex E – Surface Attachments to Swinging Door Faces. This section covers "plant-ons" and protective plates. Plant-ons are described as follows:

Plant-ons are usually decorative in nature and are used to impart a specific design or style. Plant-ons can be of various designs of flat material or can have a contoured shape, such as molding. Plant-ons project from the face surface of the door and are made of different materials, including wood, metals, and plastics. Plant-ons are attached to the door by a variety of methods such as adhesives, screws, nails, or other mechanical means that might penetrate the door face to achieve holding strength. Plant-ons can be attached per the manufacturer's listing instructions. The use of plant-ons should not prohibit the installation of small signs indicating the function, use, or location of doors.

NFPA 80 does not include any limitations on the size or thickness of cladding/plant-ons, or the acceptable materials or methods of attachment. For those details, we need to refer to the listings of the fire door and/or frame manufacturer.

Here is an example. I stress…this is one example – it is the the UL listing information for Steelcraft fire doors. The Intertek listing requirements for Steelcraft may differ, and other manufacturers may have varying limitations. The listing info may also change over time, so it's crucial to check the specific manufacturer's listings to find out what is acceptable.

Example: Application of Wood Trim, and Plant-Ons

Wood trim or molding of any wood species may be installed on one or both faces of Steelcraft fire doors with a maximum hourly rating of three hours. Plant-ons made of wood, metal or other non-combustible material may be applied to one or both faces of doors with a maximum hourly fire rating of three hours. Trim, molding, and plant-ons do not include wood veneer. Wood veneer may not be applied to Steelcraft fire doors. Trim and molding may have a minimum thickness of 1/8" and a maximum thickness of 1-1/4". Trim, molding, and plant-ons may not be attached to the door with mechanical means. The only approved attachment method is to use the double-faced tape specified. Acceptable tapes are: 3M #969, 3M #950, and 3M #444. Attachment of trim, molding, or plant-ons shall not prohibit the installation of hardware per the requirements of the hardware manufacturer's template. Attachments of trim, molding, or plant-ons shall not affect the intended use and function of the opening. Attachment of trim, molding, or plant-ons may be done in the field or in the distributor's shop. Trim, molding, and plant-ons may not be applied to glass.

Remember, this is just one example for one manufacturer and one listing lab, and it addresses Steelcraft fire doors listed by UL only. There is a separate section in our listings related to cladding of frames.

In addition to the limitations of the manufacturers' listings for fire, there are several other things to consider with regard to cladding or plant-ons:

- **Function:** Can the hardware handle the weight of the door + the added material? Are the edge clearances large enough for the door to function properly? Will the assembly operate correctly over time?
- **Egress:** Is the door visible and distinguishable on the egress side? Is the operable hardware obvious and usable without special knowledge or effort? Often, doors are clad to disguise them, which can be an egress problem.
- **Accessibility:** Will the door operate within the requirements of the accessibility standards – including the opening force limitations? Does the door have a flush, smooth surface at the bottom on the push side, measured 10 inches up from the floor (manually-operated doors only)?

Before specifying or detailing cladding on a door assembly, consider all of the above, and for fire door assemblies, check the manufacturers' listings to determine the limitations of the specified products.

You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.

Abraham Lincoln

You are not only responsible for what you say, but also for what you do not say.

Martin Luther

Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer. Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future.

John F. Kennedy

My Perspective: View of Nature in Construction Then and Now

By: Billy J. Mathis, FCSI, CDT, Editor, SpecWork Newsletter

THEN

NOW

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

To Join CSI:
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

LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER INFORMATION

Chapter Officers

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

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