



SUMMER 2012

THE TEST REPORT

A NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF TESTING AND INSPECTION AGENCIES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



JOHN ATKINSON
PRINCIPAL, HOLDREGE & KULL

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When I first wrote this article several months' back, the Dow Jones had closed above 13,000 for the first time since 2008. Recently it seems to be maintaining its forward momentum. As with most of our firms, business seems to have an upward trend once again.

It's kind of old news, however this past annual business meeting (ABM) in Las Vegas was again a great success! Thank you Elizabeth Levi for all your efforts to continue making this event one not to be missed. I would also like to thank Julia Parnell with Kal-Co Sales for arranging and coordinating this year's corporate sponsors of the ABM, which included Cal-Cert, Deslauriers, Instotek Inc., Humboldt and Forney. Guest speakers Lee Mattis (Consolidated Engineering Laboratories) and Leo Titus (ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC) presented excellent programs regarding the Big Dig's post-installed anchor failures and insights into being a first responder to the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon, respectively. Our thanks go to both of them for taking the time to share their experiences and knowledge.

The first half of this year has come and gone with some successes and some not so successful attempts. Due to lack of interest, we had to cancel our business meeting in southern California; however, we were able to move this meeting to Sacramento and generate a good attendance.

As you are aware, the adoption of the 2012 IBC is underway for the State of California. CCTIA, over the first few months of the year, became aware of significant changes resulting in provisions previously detailed in Chapter 17 of the building code being removed in lieu of references to AISC 360. As a result of this, CCTIA was able to facilitate a presentation by Mark Gilligan outlining the changes incorporated into the code, followed by open discussion on the changes and code adoption process. Special guests in attendance for this meeting included Jim McGowan (California Building Standards Commission) and Kyle Kraus (California Housing and Community Development).

Most recently, the membership voted nearly unanimously to accept recommended changes to the CCTIA By-Laws. The final recommendations, prepared by Jeffry Cannon (Bylaw Committee Chairman), came after many months of review, discussion and careful thought. These changes will allow the organization to ensure we are operating in accordance with governing laws, industry standards, and to maintain the current matrix of membership.

We need to encourage our staffs to continue growing and expanding their knowledge. At every monthly meeting we share ideas, obstacles, and new found knowledge. I see these meetings as a key opportunity for staff to gain knowledge, in addition to growing through participation. These folks are going to be the ones necessary to keep the energy going, to participate on committees, to spend half the day at a meeting knowing they have billable work waiting. The technicians within our firms could, most likely, each list without much effort 3 or 4 ideas for FAQ's.

I will be personally encouraging throughout the remainder of the year that each member firm is represented at the monthly meeting, CCTIA can only benefit by having representation from multiple perspectives of our industry. Now is the time to strengthen our organization, build some depth to our committees and expand our opportunities to be heard.

Have a great day.
John Atkinson



We now accept the fact that learning is a lifelong process of keeping abreast of change. And the most pressing task is to teach people how to learn.

~Peter Drucker

DSA TO COMPLY WITH AB 1424 NOTIFICATION

Assembly Bill (AB) 1424 was enacted on October 4, 2011, requiring state agencies which license or approve applicants for work to collect social security/tax identification numbers for comparison with the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) and the Board of Equalization (BoE) list of top 500 tax delinquencies. Any applicant that appears on the list of top 500 tax delinquencies for either FTB or BoE would have 90 days to satisfy the tax delinquency, or not be licensed or approved.

The following DSA programs are subject to the requirements of the new law:

- Project Inspector/Special Inspector Certification/Recertification
- Laboratory Evaluation & Accreditation
- Certified Access Specialist
- Gas Shut Off Valve

In compliance with AB 1424, and no later than July 1, 2012, the Division of the State Architect (DSA) is required to deny or suspend an application for certification/approval if an applicant appears on the FTB or BoE lists until the delinquent tax matter is resolved and the applicant's name is removed from the list.

In order to comply with the requirements of AB 1424, over the next few months, DSA will begin collecting social security/tax identification numbers when applicants apply for certification/approval or recertification/reapproval. This collection will be conducted when applicants submit an application for certification or recertification in any of the above-mentioned programs. DSA will require a supplemental form be included with the application that contains required information.

The forms for submitting the information are available on the DSA "Forms" webpage – DSA-650 for individuals, and DSA-650B for businesses.

SEAONC'S CQA COMMITTEE DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWING MIX DESIGNS

For many months now, the Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) Committee of the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC) has been developing a guideline to assist the engineering community in reviewing concrete mix designs. Considering the many variables involved, this has been no easy task.

The guideline is targeted to engineers early in their career, who do not have full expertise in the process or understanding of the local materials available.

CCTIA has several members assisting in this effort, at the forefront of which is Member Terry Egland, who also is chairing the CQA Committee this year. He indicates the document is almost complete.

If you would like to review the draft and make comments, please contact Terry at terry@testing-engineers.com for a copy. It would be especially helpful to have replies from young engineers on your staff.

FAQ'S

Got a question about codes, materials, inspections, testing, or certification? Check out the *Frequently Asked Questions* on our website! More than 30 postings, many printable for sharing with others! Just go to www.cctia.org.



CHANGES TO THE 2012 IBC MAY SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE WELDING INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

The International Code Council continues to work towards removing the familiar tables in Chapter 17, replacing them with references to other documents. With the upcoming 2012 International Building Code (IBC), which will become the 2013 California Building Code (CBC), the structural steel tables have been all but eliminated, and replaced with language directed to AISC 360. Unfortunately, AISC 360 has a very restricted view of what constitutes “structural steel”.

A recent guest speaker at several CCTIA meetings, Structural Engineer Mark Gilligan noted, “The IBC provides for special inspection of structural steel, but “structural steel” is not what many people assume it to be. Structural steel is a commercial definition used to define the steel that is normally provided by structural steel fabricators. Structural steel excludes many steel elements fabricated using standard shapes and plates, precluding the cast steel fabrications. Rolled sections that are not listed in ASTM A6 are not included in structural steel. Thus, common members, such as steel stairs, are excluded, as well as the welding of cast steel connectors used as the end connections of steel braces. Steel members in a non-steel building would not be considered structural steel even if they were part of the lateral system or resisted vertical loads. Steel embeds that support something other than structural steel members are not structural steel.”

In response to concerns, and the related problem of missing design provisions in the 2012 IBC for the use of steel members not classified as “structural steel”, SEAOC and AISC have developed a code change proposal for the 2015 IBC. So, where does that leave us in the meantime?

The Division of the State Architect (DSA) is addressing the omission through the code adoption process with the Building Standards Commission. But what can the more than five hundred forty California cities and counties do? Local code amendments are possible, but it is unlikely that all jurisdictions would go to the time and effort to create a single uniform, consistent ordinance.

A CCTIA task force has been created to open a dialog with Building Officials to see how they intend to address the issue. Watch the meeting minutes for updated information as it becomes available. If you would like to assist, contact Executive Secretary Miki Craig or Treasurer Elizabeth Levi.

SHOP FABRICATION INSPECTION NO LONGER LISTED

For those agencies that have struggled with (or ignored) the shop fabrication inspection requirements contained in Section 23 of the Division of the State Architect’s (DSA) Statement of Structural Tests and Inspections (DSA-103), there is good news! This entire section has been removed, and a revised version of the DSA-103 is available on DSA’s website.

For some time, the inclusion of shop fabrication inspection and fabricator auditing has plagued California testing firms. Many architects and engineers did not understand what these items actually entailed, assuming it was just a normal extension to shop welding inspection. They would automatically select them, and refuse to go through DSA’s change order process to have them removed once they understood it was inappropriate for their project.

CCTIA, working with DSA staff in Sacramento, was successful in pleading the case, and the recently revised form was made available. Shop fabrication inspection may still be appropriate for special circumstances, and can be included in the “Other” section of the form.



As you navigate through the rest of your life, be open to collaboration. Other people and other people's ideas are often better than your own. Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life.

~Amy Poehler



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PEOPLE ON THE MOVE...

Governor Brown has nominated Building Official Sheila Lee (City of Santa Clara) for the Local Building Official seat on the Building Standards Commission. Way to go, Sheila!



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SCIENTISTS
TESTING ENGINEERS, INC.
TWINING, INC.
URS/SIGNET TESTING LABORATORIES
YOUNGDAHL CONSULTING GROUP, INC.

UPCOMING MEETINGS...

AUGUST 23, 2012 – 3:00 P.M. – GENERAL MEETING

FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON, 5115 HOPYARD ROAD, PLEASANTON

SEPTEMBER 27, 2012 – 12:00 P.M. – GENERAL MEETING (LUNCH PROVIDED)

FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON, 4900 DUCKHORN DRIVE, SACRAMENTO

OCTOBER 25, 2012 – 3:00 P.M. – GENERAL MEETING

FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON, 5115 HOPYARD ROAD, PLEASANTON

NOVEMBER 15, 2012

LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED, FAIRFIELD

DECEMBER 20, 2012 – 3:00 P.M. – GENERAL MEETING

FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON, 5115 HOPYARD ROAD, PLEASANTON

COMPANY NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE 00000

