



**The Construction
Specifications Institute**
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Summary

February 2008

Serving the Valley of Santa Clara since 1960

FEBRUARY'S PROGRAM: STEEL CONSTRUCTION AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH

Join us for an evening of discovery as ConXtech presents its revolutionary building system for high-density residential, commercial residential, office, parking and hospital projects. This new system ushers in a systematic change for the 5 to 12 story market, allowing for building higher, faster, and more cost effectively, with better quality and overall sustainability.

Bob Simmons and Kelly Luttrell, Co-Founders of ConXtech, will present their innovative component based building system, highlighting their standardized steel components and whole building approach. Come to learn about how they have taken the traditional building process and created a streamlined system that is faster and more cost effective than wood, concrete or steel-framed methods. Mr. Simmons is the Chief Technology Officer and

Chairman of the Board at ConXtech. He has 30 years of experience in the structural concrete industry and brought 10 years of developing alternate structural solutions to bear in creating ConXtech. Ms. Luttrell is the Vice President of Business Development at ConXtech. She manages marketing, partnerships, intellectual property and business development for the company.

**We return to the first
Thursday of the month for
our February Meeting.
Please join us on the 7th!**

WHEN: Thursday, February 7, 2008

COST: No host bar, dinner is \$28.00 including gratuity and tax

LOCATION: Ramada Inn Silicon Valley
1217 Wildwood Avenue, Sunnyvale
(Lawrence Expressway & 101)

RSVP: Please make your reservations to Jim Morelan with choice of meal by noon on Tuesday, February 5th.
email: jim@morelan.net
phone: (408) 247-3322

TIMES: Board Meeting: 5:00 p.m.
Social time: 6:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Program: 8:00 p.m.

Guests are welcome • No-shows will be billed

MENU: Mixed green salad with fresh rolls; London broil; potatoes; green beans almandine; and chef selected dessert with coffee or tea.

OR

Mixed green salad with fresh rolls; vegetable kabob on a bed of rice; green beans almandine; and chef selected dessert with coffee or tea.



AIA/CES Learning Units: This program meets AIA/CES criteria. Participants will receive 1 hour of LUS (learning units) per each program which also applies to 1 HSW (Health, Safety Welfare) hour.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY KRISTA NELSON, RA, CSI, CDT, LEED AP

Wow, what a way to start the New Year with a bang. January's meeting had almost 60 attendees to hear a dynamic speaker with a very topical subject, the new California Building Code. John Raeber, FCSI, FAIA not only went over some of the differences and changes but also provided background on the reasoning behind some of the code requirements. It was a very informative and entertaining presentation on the new codes. Yes, I did use the words entertaining and codes in the same sentence. It is possible to teach the codes without making it mind-numbingly boring. Thank you to the programs committee for pulling together a stunningly successful program for the New Year. Also, thank you to all that helped out with the various last minute logistics that came up as a result of the success.

One year just started and at the same time we're already half way through the CSI year and it's time to start planning for the next year. The nominating committee is being formed for March elections. There are three positions coming open on the board – industry director (two-year term), and two professional directors

(a one-year and a two-year term).

If you're interested, please contact Marvin Bamburg. You can talk with any current or past board member to find out more information about the position and what's involved.

Why did you join CSI? What are you looking to get out of your membership? Are you interested in the education and keeping up-to-date with the changing codes, technologies and methods of working? Are you looking for the networking? Do you want to get a certification? If you have any suggestions or ideas that could help increase the benefit of CSI to you, please give me a call or drop an email. Do you have program or education session ideas or would you like to see another type of social event, or suggestions on how to improve the chapter? If you'd like to take it a step further and become more involved in the chapter, we can always use help on the current committees and will soon be forming committees for next year.

Hope you are all having a great start to the new year and hope to see you next month to learn about one type of changing technology, a new structural system for five to twelve story buildings. ♥

VOLUNTEER



The Nomination Committee is forming and they are looking for volunteers to fill the following Board of Directors openings in July:

- Industry Director (2 year term)
- Professional Director (1 year term)
- Professional Director (2 year term)

There are committees that need chairs, co-chairs, or members as well.

Please contact Marvin Bamburg at 408- 297-0288 x13 or marvin@mba-architects.net if you are interested in one of these positions.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support. ♥

2007-2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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daveingram@scbglobal.net

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CSI ONLINE

Chapter
www.csiscv.org

Region
www.westregioncsi.org

Institute
www.csinet.org

Jazzin' with CSI

2008 WEST REGION CONFERENCE



MONTEREY  CALIFORNIA

September 18-21, 2008
Monterey Marriott
(800) 228-9290

Michael Wu and Hannah
Moyer, CSI, CDT, AIA at the
January CSI Meeting



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

CSI, Santa Clara Valley
(Draft, Board Approval Pending)
Place: Ramada Inn, Sunnyvale
Date: January 10, 2008

Opening

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Krista Nelson at 5:00 p.m.

Attendees

Board Members

Krista Nelson, RA, CSI, CDT, LEED®, President; Jim O'Keefe, CSI, Vice President Elect; Albert Wege, CSI, CCCA, Treasurer; Maia Gendreau, AIA, CSI, CDT, Secretary; Marvin Bamburg, CSI, AIA, Immediate Past President; Jim Morelan, AIA, CSI, Professional Director; Barbara Brosh, CSI, Industry Director; Bryan Taylor, CSI, Industry Director; Hannah Moyer, AIA, CSI, CDT, VP/Director-Professional.

Region Director

Dave Ingram, CSI

Committee Members

Rietta McCain, AIA, CSI, CDT, Editor; Rose Garrison, CSI, Membership

Minutes

The minutes of the December meeting were reviewed. Add Moyer's credentials to her name in attendees. The minutes are accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's Report

Economic balances: Credit card charges will show in January for the November Education Seminar.

B of A statement: a \$29 monthly fee will be assessed on business accounts that do not meet the minimum balance. New terms and conditions at the B of A account were started a few months ago, the new terms deleted the interest earning capability on the account.

B of A offers 4 month and 9 month term CD's, which would allow us to keep enough money in the accounts to meet the minimum required to avoid a monthly fee.

Bamburg moves to invest our monies equally in the 4-month and 9-month CD accounts, Brosh seconds, motion carries, Wege will make the necessary arrangements.

Treasurer's report is filed for audit.

Wege will arrange for bank statements to get to Gendreau for record keeping.

Region Director's Report

No report.

President's Report

All is well, we have very good attendance tonight, and thanks to all for ideas to entertain and educate all the attendees.

Unfinished Business

Chapter Dues

We need to report if we are going to maintain or increase our dues. Wege and Nelson reviewed expenses and found that expenses match dues, so they recommend no increase. General consensus agrees, and dues will remain the same.

Charter Framing

The framer has the charter, has proposed a budget. Ingram recommends allowing \$200 for the framing. Brosh moves that we authorize framing to proceed, Bamburg seconds, motion carries. Ingram will proceed with framing as authorized.

New Business

Nominating Committee

We are in need of two Professional Directors, a one year commitment and a two-year commitment, as well as an Industry Director, a two year commitment.

Bamburg and Ingram will serve on the nominating committee. Nelson will solicit others.

Committee Reports

Special Events: No report.

MINUTES • cont'd on pg 5



James O'Keefe, CSI

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MINUTES • cont'd from pg 4**Membership**

94 members, there are 8 members 2 months past due.

Educational Seminar

The education seminar was profitable, the final amount won't be tallied until the receipts come in from the printer and the ICC.

Programs/Technical

Great turnout tonight, next month steel connections, after that stormwater controls.

AIA Liaison

We will start a protocol of soliciting evaluations on the programs. Moyer will proceed with following through with the requirements to earn CSI CEN's.

Greeter/Raffle

For the raffle tonight we are offering, Giants tickets: 2 in the lower box, Garrison's personal seats, and 4 bottles of wine, courtesy of CAS, and a CSI messenger bag.

Annual Roster: No report.**Editor**

Last newsletter went out on time. Deadline for February is tomorrow. Meeting minutes and President's message will be delivered tomorrow. Photos from Ingram need to come in, and Bamburg will be listed as the contact for the Nominations Committee.

Historian

Balboni was going to transfer some historical material from video to CD. Brown would like to get the original material back.

Awards: No report.**Website:** No report.**Operating/House**

Hotel cabinet lock is irregular, and the lock Morelan brought cannot be replaced, so this item is still pending.

Toys-for-Tots

Results will be in the newsletter.

Marketing Committee

Invoices have been sent. Marketing brochure has been revised to a faxable format.

Social Events

Last month's program went off well, the location was pleasant, and work will start on the awards program soon.

Operating Guide Task Team

Brown is compiling. Nelson will check in with her.

50th Anniversary Task Team

Meeting needs to be set up.

Announcements

None.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned by Chapter President Krista Nelson at 5:37 p.m. ♥

**PLANNING
CALENDAR****CHAPTER MEETINGS**

Feb 7	Steel Construction: An Innovative Approach
March 6	Storm Water Management Practices
April 3	TBD

CSI ELECTION 2008**Chapter:**

March 5 Votes Due

National:

March 7 Votes Due

PLAN AHEAD**CSI Convention:**

"Construct 2008"

June 3-6, 2008

Las Vegas, NV

West Region Conference:

"Jazzin' with CSI"

September 18-21, 2008

Monterey, CA



www.casarch.com

JOB OPPORTUNITY

ISEC, Inc., a prime trades contractor/subcontractor for specialty building interiors, is looking for an Architectural Services Representative for its Northern California territory. Responsibilities include: establish, build, and manage Architect/ Engineer relationships; sales presentations to design, architectural, and engineering firms; develop/ implement strategic marketing plans. For further details please go to <http://www.isecinc.com/careerPositionDetails.aspx?ID=373>.

WEST REGION CORNER



WEST REGION PRESIDENT

Janet J. Piccola, CSI
(714) 278-0288
jpiccola@frazee.com

The first week of January started off like a whirlwind (or was it the wind and rain?). Time is already flying by. We are confident that 2008 will again be another banner year for the West Region.

As everyone is aware, a succession of storms hit California the first week of January. Our members in the Northern one-half of our state and Reno were especially hard-hit. Some are digging out of mud and snow, and others (like Duane) were without power for quite a few days.

We wish all well and hope none of our members were severely impacted. We in the south are grateful that the rains came to Southern California and that the predicted mudslides did not materialize. Southern California is now drying out. The views are spectacular; our entire vista encompasses snowcapped mountains.

The West Region Directory, a popular and well-used reference tool, has been re-scheduled for a summer printing to follow Chapter elections. These will be up-to-date when printed, and will include a current roster of officers and directors from each West Region Chapter.

Our Chapters are gearing up for a busy year. Chapter meetings planned for the New Year are in full swing. New Certification classes are being formed, Education classes are being announced, and plans are underway for our yearly product shows. We will announce the product show schedules next month. The schedule will be posted on the WR website as soon as the dates are confirmed with all of our Chapters. For now, we will highlight some of the events planned for 2008.

Highlights - Dates to Remember:

January 15th
 Institute Awards Deadline
 (Fellowship and Institute Awards)

February 7-8th
 CSI Academies
 Orlando, Florida

February 12th
 Institute Election Ballots
 in mail (tentative date)

February 27th
 Board of Directors Webex
 Meeting (Piccola/Johnson)

March 7-8th
 West Region Speakout and
 Board Meeting, Waterfront
 Hotel, Oakland

March 31st
 CDT/CCS/CCPR/CCCA
 Examinations, Nationwide

April 8-10th
 Cal Poly CSI Student Club
 Construction Sciences Forum
 (Product Show April 9th)

June 4th-6th
 Construct 2008 Convention,
 Las Vegas, NV
 Institute Board of
 Directors Meeting

WEST REGION • cont'd on pg 7

Jim Balboni
 Project Executive
 New Equipment
 Western Region



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 Fax: 408-293-4103

Tom Brzica

BMI Products Representative

Phone: 408-592-6842

Email: tbrzica@bmi-products.com

WEST REGION • from pg 6

These dates are just the highlights. Our Chapter, Region and Institute volunteers are actively working on a full slate of activities designed to benefit all of our CSI members. An increase of membership numbers for each of our WR Chapters and the retention of current members continues to be our number one focus. The value of membership in the Construction Specifications Institute cannot be underestimated. Our member volunteers know the benefits of this organization, both

personally and professionally, and are willing to donate their time to providing education programs to enhance the job skills and knowledge necessary for career advancement, regardless of your place on the construction team.

If you are contemplating membership or are a current member and wish to be involved – please, feel free to call for additional information. We are here to make your CSI experience a great one. ♡

REMEMBER TO VOTE: CSI ELECTION 2008

In February 2008, all CSI members will receive a ballot asking them to vote for their choice for the FY09 Board, which takes office July 1, 2008. CSI's Board includes nine executive committee members and 20 directors that represent CSI's 10 regions.

This year, voters have the option of voting online or by mail. Use only one of these methods. If multiple votes are received, only the online vote will be counted. All online votes and mailed ballots must be received at Intelliscan by noon, March 7, 2008.

CSI has posted information about the candidates at www.csinet.org/election. A forum on the election has been opened as well. Members are encouraged to post questions for candidates there. ♡



**VOTING DEADLINE:
MARCH 7, 2008**

BUCH NOTES

**BY EDMUND C. BUCH,
CSI, CCS, AIA**

I picked up a copy of “Symphony: Frank Gehry’s Walt Disney Concert Hall”, (published by Harry N. Abrams, 2003), thinking it would be one of those coffee table books, beautifully photographed but without too much additional substance, that are often available at the inauguration of a significant new architectural work or cultural building. This one, however, is different, very different. In addition to the now familiar photographs of the concert hall and its exterior, the book includes four essays that provide detailed insight to the design and, more importantly, the sixteen years it took to bring the project from competition to completion. For anyone interested in the process of architecture, this will be an illuminating read.

Deborah Borda, the executive director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, wrote the preface in which she characterizes the process as a roller coaster ride. She concludes by saying the ups and downs were worth it for the great music that resulted. In his introduction, Frank Gehry relates his nervousness during the

BUCH NOTES • cont’d on pg 8



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MR. WOLFE GOES TO WASHINGTON SANTA'S HELPERS

BY SHELDON WOLFE, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA

As we head into a new year, I'd like to take one more look back at 2007, and talk about a few things we'll see in the coming year. All of the things we'll look at are done by CSI staff as indicated, and by others as well.

Even though we have officers, directors, and various committees, much of a typical member's contact with CSI beyond the chapter is through our full time staff. Our local chapters handle most issues with membership, certification, education, and day-to-day activities, but sometimes a member may need or want to "go to the top".

As a primarily volunteer organization, we don't have nearly the staff as AIA. While AIA has permanent offices in Washington, individual states, and even cities, we have but one office with paid, full-time staff, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Along with the rest of CSI, our staff has seen a lot of change over the years. I recall the first time I visited our Alexandria office. At that time, our membership was still growing, and near its peak. We owned our own office building, and occupied at least parts of two floors. At its peak, our staff numbered about ???, including editors and other staff required for in-house production of the Construction Specifier.

Since then, we sold our building (at a loss), and have been reducing staff more or less continuously. During the three years I have been an Institute Director, staff has been reduced almost fifty percent.

And yet, despite all of changes, my experience with CSI staff has always been that they are responsive and professional. Our current staff

continues that tradition, with a few interesting twists. Most of the staff is relatively young, and grew up with computers, and they have a better feel for computer technology than, dare I say, the majority of our members.

In the last year, the CSI Weekly and CSI NewsBrief have been reformatted to provide brief summaries of industry news, with links that quickly bring up more information. CSI Weekly is produced in-house, with Christine Tanner in charge, and support from Joy Davis and Jennifer Gorie. Staff is able to track how many CSI Weekly e-mails are opened, and how many links are followed; both rates are increasing. The NewsBrief is assembled by a vendor who pulls information from industry sources, then adds CSI content. Circulation is in excess of 10,000, many of whom are non-CSI members.

The CSI Construction Minute series, which gives nutshell summaries of construction industry news items, is produced by Josh Spiler and Jennifer Zimmerman. Both Construction Minutes and How Not to Screw Up are available for download as podcasts, so you can download them into your iPod or mp3 player and listen at your leisure. I recently downloaded all of the series - more than 150 at the time - and have been listening to them on the way to work. As of this writing, there have been over 70,000 downloads.

If you haven't been listening to How Not to Screw Up podcasts, you're missing some interesting, real-life tales of construction projects gone wrong. It may seem an odd way to learn how to do things the right way, but my experience indicates a horror story is a

HELPERS • cont'd on pg 10

BUCH NOTES • cont'd from pg 7

design and construction about the acoustic quality in the completed hall. He also shares his hope that everyone would see music in the sculptural quality of his design.

The essay by Richard Koshalek and Dana Hutt was the most interesting to me of the four essays presented. Koshalek, president of the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena and a member of the architect selection committee, provides a chronology of the early stages of the project. This began with the \$50 million donation by Lillian Disney in 1988. Koshalek describes in detail the architect selection process including some of the tension that must have been present on the Music Center Board of Directors. He relates in surprising detail the architect selection committee's opinions of the presentations made by the four world famous finalists. While Frank Gehry was not the front runner at the start of the competition, but the end of it he was the obvious choice. It's interesting to note that the design competition entry submitted by Gehry is dramatically different than the design that finally evolved. Koshalek also describes the significant sentiment on the Music Center Board of Directors against the selection of Gehry. The architect selection committee had a real challenge to convince the Board that their choice was the right one.

Michael Webb's essay focuses on some of the more important architectural considerations Gehry had to deal with in the design. The selection of the acoustical consultant, the selection of the finish materials, both interior and exterior, the integration of natural

BUCH NOTES • cont'd on pg 10

TOY FOR TOTS 2007 HOLIDAY DONATION TURN-OUT

BY JULIE BROWN CSI, CCS, SCIP

Our joint effort with the SCV CSI Chapter and AIA Santa Clara Valley Chapter was a great success. We were able to collect enough toys to fill 30 barrels. We had a few leaders in the collection of toys; with the AIA Office collecting 5 barrels and two other locations collecting 4 barrels each. The toys were given to the US Marines for distribution to less fortunate children in our area.

Special thanks to Ron Adams of Hills Brothers Chemical and Mike O'Donnell of O'Donnell Plastering for getting the barrels out to the thirteen barrel locations and picking up the 30 barrels of toys and taking them to the US Marines.

Thanks to the firms that had the barrels at their place's of business, as well as the people that helped make this a bigger success than last year. We collected 5 more barrels than last year. We are looking forward to another year of success with the Santa Clara Valley chapters of AIA and CSI. ♥



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Several emailed versions of the *Summary* have been returned to the Webmaster due to incorrect addresses or a blocked account.

Please review your email and physical address online at www.csinet.org.

Please notify Rietta McCain at rietta@aba-arch.com of any changes, as soon as possible, to ensure uninterrupted delivery of your newsletter and other SCV CSI mailings.

"Mistakes are the usual bridge between inexperience and wisdom."

Phyllis Theroux

SCV CSI and AIA SCV Toys for Tots barrel collection for 2007. Thanks for helping making our toy drive so successful!



HELPERS • cont'd from pg 9

better instructional tool than a lecture on the right way to do something, and attendance at forensic engineering seminars supports my conclusion.

Aaron Titus is the “voice of CSI” for most of the Screw Up series, and he is the one who made it possible to CSI’s audiocasts on other websites. If you have had an unusual experience on one of your projects, call Joy Davis, the “booking agent”, and maybe you can have your fifteen minutes of fame!

In the coming year, we’ll see more examples of our staff at work. For CSI leaders, there will be a special newsletter, similar to the CSI Weekly, produced by Jennifer Gorie. There will be more free webinars for leaders, to help them keep up on what’s happening in CSI. Registration links for some of them have already been posted to our website, CSINet.org. Of course, there will be more webinars for both members and non-members.

One of the most exciting things will be the introduction of the CSI construction wiki, currently under construction by Joy Davis, Eric Kestler, Aaron Titus, and Greg Ceton. A wiki is a collaborative website that is maintained by its users, who

add content, modify what has been posted, and document statements with references to other sources. The result should be information that reflects the best knowledge of the participants, vetted by their peers. A freely available resource, it will benefit everyone in the construction industry, as design professionals, industry professionals, contractors, and suppliers alike will be able to obtain the same information.

Soon, all Construction Specifier articles will be available online, arranged by MasterFormat Division number, thanks to Marie Willett and Eric Kestler. And the online forums, despite what I consider to have been sluggish performance and a poor interface, continue to be popular, with more than 2,100 posts and 325,000 views.

I have mentioned only a few of CSI’s staff, those involved in technology. Having worked with many of the others in the past couple of years, I can tell you that all of them are doing a great job. A few of them are new, and still learning what it is CSI is and what needs to be done, but I believe we can look forward to more good things in 2008.

**BUCH NOTES • cont'd from pg 8**

light into the auditorium, and the use of CATIA software are a few of the topics he presents.

Esa-Pekka Salonen’s essay describes the fruitful working relationship he had with Frank Gehry and discusses the design as it developed from a musician’s point of view.

The story is enhanced by Grant Mudford’s 97 beautiful photographs. These include photos of the project made during construction as well as shots taken during the early stages of the architect selection and the design process. This is an excellent book and a great addition to your library on modern architecture. ♡



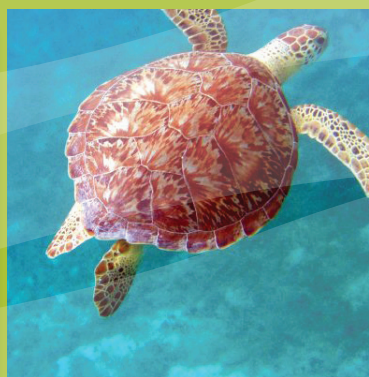
January’s Program on the new Building Code was a huge success! Thanks to all who attended.





Greening the Golden State— California at a Crossroads

April 7-9, 2008
Sacramento Convention Center
Sacramento, CA



"If you want to understand what California's state and local governments are doing to create healthy communities and a vibrant, green economy, you can't miss the Green California Summit. This is the event for anyone who wants to be part of a green revolution that is changing the world."

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Agency, State of California
Co-Chair, Summit Advisory Board

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Paul McIntosh
Executive Director
California State Association of Counties

Training

Benefit from a comprehensive program of classes and seminars on wide range of topics in subject areas such as:

Climate Change
Energy Innovation
Green Building
Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
Waste Management
Transportation
Water Management
Developing an Organizational "Green Culture"
Planning and Development
Funding

"I budgeted two hours to walk through the exhibit hall, but for a guy like me, it was a trip to Disneyland ... I was there for more than five hours and still wanted more time."

Andrew Hurst, Presenter, Sustainable Operations Coordinator
California Environmental Protection Agency

"Much of the battle to preserve California's environment is being fought at the local level. The Green California Summit provides a much-needed forum to share best practices and to discover the newest, most innovative green products and services."

Chris McKenzie
Executive Director
League of California Cities

Exhibition

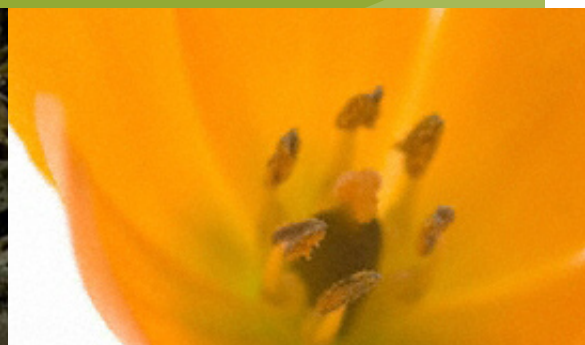
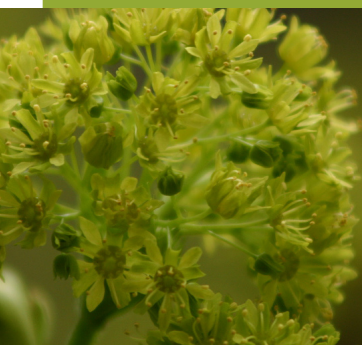
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Bentley Prince Street
California Data Center Design
California Stationary Fuel Cell
Collaborative
California Water Service Company
Chevron Energy Solutions
Clean Energy
Columbia Cascade Company
CPI Daylighting, Inc.
CRI/CARE
DMS Facility Services
Facility Engineering Associates
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GreenScreen
Green Building Services, Inc.
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Interface FLOR
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The Ultimate Coatings Co.
Timbron International
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Umicore
Unisource
VMware
Wasau Paper
Webster Industries
Western Blue
World Recycling Surfacing Group/USSA

Who should attend:

- Agency Secretaries
- Commissioners
- Department Directors
- Chiefs, Administration Division
- Facility Managers
- Engineers
- Transportation Specialists
- Capital Outlay Managers
- Building Managers
- Procurement Managers
- Real Estate Managers
- Budget Officers
- Purchasers
- Recycling Professionals
- Waste Management Professionals
- Fleet Managers
- Anyone with green program responsibilities!



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