

# STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS MAGAZINE

December 2003

## Across the Board

WTCA Board Meeting: October 11, 2003 • Phoenix, AZ

*WTCA's next Open Quarterly Meeting will be February 25-27 in San Diego, CA. All are welcome to attend.*

Following the annual BCMC Show in Phoenix, AZ, WTCA held its fall Board meeting. Newly inducted President Dan Holland opened the meeting at 8:03 a.m. and presented Past President Scott Arquilla with a travel certificate as a thank you for his outstanding service as 2003 President. New and returning Board members and committee chairs were introduced; retired Board members were thanked for their valuable service to our industry over their term as Board members. The Board reviewed the roles and responsibilities sheet as well as its purpose: to provide a framework for staff to most effectively assist members.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- The Executive Committee expressed the importance of supporting local chapters. Chapter representatives were encouraged to review the policies and report their approval of them; WTCA's policies must be the will of the membership, so it is important to get this feedback.
- The committee reported their continuing work with TPI to divide the associations' workload based on the roles of each organization. The committee is also working on the annual budgeting process.
- The marketing committee reported that the September meeting in Madison was highly productive. Many issues were discussed in a six-hour timeframe and staff was able to be involved more directly. Dan encouraged more teleconferences or meetings in Madison in order to provide better direction to staff on projects.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

- Kendall Hoyd reviewed the income statement and noted WTCA's strong financial condition.
- The projection from different areas of the country was that 2004 will be another strong year for the structural building components industry.

### CARBECK STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS INSTITUTE

- Staff reported that the Silent Auction and dunk tank fundraisers were fantastic.
- Staff has been successful in making contact with fire academies in Florida and Arizona to make use of the Fire Performance of Trusses educational CD and hopes to facilitate plant tours through our Florida Chapters.

## **BCMC**

- Staff provided attendance statistics.
- Component manufacturers noted that Phoenix was a great locale for a show and commented on the success of this year's educational tracks. They also thanked the exhibitors for bringing the spectacular new equipment and interesting information about new technology trends.
- Several supplier representatives in attendance noted the successful outcome of the show from an exhibitor perspective. The activity, attendance, and number of people coming through booths were great.
- The group discussed the need to include a western city in the ongoing BCMC site rotation.

## **SBC MAGAZINE**

- Staff thanked advertisers for supporting the industry. Their advertising dollars are used to support a variety of industry projects.

## **TRUSS KNOWLEDGE ONLINE**

- There was a discussion about the growth of TTT Online: more than double the amount of people online than attended live courses from 1996-2003. The Board is committed to advancing the online training process.

## **MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY**

- Staff provided an overview of the survey results, which were similar to last year and overall positive. Staff will use this information to improve our membership service.

## **BUILDING COMPONENT SAFETY INFORMATION (BCSI) DOCUMENT**

- There was a discussion on feedback about the introduction of the booklet at BCMC. The next step in the process will be for BCSI to be referenced on truss design drawings, which is set to begin in 2004. It was reported that the summary sheets will be completed by year-end.
- Dan noted that BCSI represents enormous good will between WTCA and TPI—a spirit of cooperation and compromise that resulted in a great improvement to our industry bracing education. He also noted that from a risk management standpoint, the document will prove to be very helpful in our efforts to reduce truss installation problems.

## **TRUSS PLATE UPDATE**

- Charlie Hoover reported that their focus has been cooperatively working with WTCA on the joint BCSI document.
- Charlie announced that Kelly Gutting has taken another position. TPI will be hiring a new technical director. A new president will be elected at the December meeting.

## **CONNECTOR INDUSTRY UPDATE**

- It was reported that the software specification for connectors is continuing to advance, thanks to growing technology.
- On the code side, a couple of criteria changed capacities of connectors. Changes will come into effect in any area where ASCE 7-02 is being used.
- There was a discussion on preservative treated lumber, as the issue continues to get a lot of attention. [See the article WTCA's Background Information Regarding New Wood Preservative Treatments by WTCA Executive Committee from the November issue of SBC Magazine.](#)

## LUMBER

- A report was given on the status of the softwood lumber situation. The U.S./Canadian governments had put together a resolution recommendation. There are continued efforts to get back to the negotiating table.
- The significant issue since the last meeting is the NAFTA ruling on the ITC/DOC ruling on whether there was a subsidy in which NAFTA asked the U.S. government to recalculate the anti-dumping and CVD rates.
- An administrative change was proposed that could increase the anti-dumping rates. WTCA sent a letter of opposition to the DOC on this section 201 duty issue.

## ENGINEERED WOOD PRODUCTS

- The Wood I-joint Manufacturers Association is working on acceptance criteria for manufactured studs. Mold is an issue that OSB manufacturers are working on. The glulam industry increased their shear design values.

## MARKETING COMMITTEE

- The committee will work through component manufacturers to reach the market and raise awareness of all the online programs WTCA offers.
- They reported on the need to focus efforts on communicating that information so that component manufacturers can utilize the tools and support WTCA provides to their best advantage.

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- Significant progress has been made in signing up six insurance brokers to become experts on the structural building components industry in order to better to present the industry to underwriters and set better insurance rates.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- The committee discussed the regional workshops and conferences, which will be promoted in the upcoming weeks.

## ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- The group discussed placement plans and the continuing demand to provide seals and expand our industry's scope of work.
  - The group discussed the changes in ANSI/TPI 1 as they pertain to quality control. Dan mentioned that quality control is one of his top priorities for 2004.
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