



Wtca Update

Cold-Formed Steel Council Gels

by WTCA Staff

This new group has accomplished a lot in one year!

After just one year since its inception, WTCA's Cold-Formed Steel Council (CFSC) has banded together and is making steady progress on behalf of cold-formed steel component manufacturers. The group met on July 25-26 in Madison, WI. Twenty-four individuals attended the event, which included a tour of the new SBC Research Institute.

Chris Lambert of Southeastern Materials, Inc. attended the meeting as a newcomer to the cold-formed steel industry and was impressed with the group. "I've been in the components industry for a long time, but we are a brand new steel truss fabricator, so it was good to be around experience," he stated. "By the second day of the meeting, a group of individuals that had gathered with a common interest became a unified body."

Dan Cordova of Gem State Truss Co, Inc. said, "The meeting was a ground-breaking event - because of it, there will soon be documentation on cold-formed steel from a unified group of manufacturers. It was a very useful meeting in terms of the direction of where the industry is headed."

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Version of BCSI to be Released at BCME

One of the top agenda items was a thorough review of the new *Guide to Good Practice for Handling, Installing, Restraining & Bracing of Cold-Formed Steel Trusses*, or *CFSBCSI* booklet. The Council's goal is to have the booklet completed and available for purchase by the BCME show in early October. Once the booklet has been completed, the next priority will be to put together the corresponding CFSBCSI Summary Sheets and jobsite package.

CFSBCSI includes information on:

- **CFSBCSI-B1** - Guide for Handling, Installing, Restraining & Bracing of Trusses
- **CFSBCSI-B2** - Setting Trusses & Installation Restraint/Bracing
- **CFSBCSI-B3** - Permanent Restraint/Bracing of Chords & Web Members
- **CFSBCSI-B4** - Construction Loading
- **CFSBCSI-B5** - Truss Damage, Jobsite Modifications & Installation Errors
- **CFSBCSI-B11** - Fall Protection & Trusses

Cordova, who does both sales and design in his company's steel division, says he can't wait to get this new information into the hands of their customers. "Information like bracing and jobsite safety has been lacking in the marketplace for a long, long time," he said.



This booklet is the truss industry's guide for jobsite safety and truss performance. This 8.5" x 11" guide (3-hole punched and spiral bound) includes the most current information regarding the handling, installation, restraining and bracing of cold-formed steel trusses.

Lambert said that CFSC's work on the booklet will be critical to the group's success. "Getting the *CFSBCSI* reviewed and marked up was also a big step toward making the cold-formed steel industry more unified."

Beyond CFSBCSI

After the work on *CFSBCSI* has been completed, the Council has outlined a set of additional priorities, including the development of a tool to assist general contractors in properly reading a cold-formed steel bid, as well as a standard responsibilities document for the cold-formed steel industry. CFSC has already developed five truss tags for the industry, which will be available for purchase soon. The tags include: Bearing Location, Do Not Use Damaged Components, Jobsite Warning, Permanent Lateral Restraint and Installation Restraint & Bracing.

The meeting also included a valuable open forum discussion on cold-formed steel market issues and a tour and truss testing at the SBC Research Institute. A testing demonstration of the performance of a 360-sq.ft. roof assembly with 30-foot roof trusses was compared to a single 30-foot cold-formed steel truss. The testing measures applied load capacity, monitors deflection performance and measures lateral buckling forces.

About the future of CFSC, Cordova says he'll do whatever he can to maintain the momentum and energy of the group. "It's good for us to have an organization that brings [cold-formed steel manufacturers] together," he said.

To order a copy of *CFSBCSI* or truss tags, visit *CFSC* online or call 608/274-4849 ext. 8.

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at a glance

- ☐ CFSC is nearing the completion of a cold-formed steel version of BCSI.
- ☐ The Council has established addition priorities that include the development of a standard design responsibilities document.

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