The SPEXpert

The Newsletter by and for the Members of the Housatonic Chapter of The Construction Specifications Institute

Holiday Get-together Tuesday, December 10

The Housatonic Chapter was incorporated in 1969. The chapter has an active membership which meets the third Tuesday of the month September through June.

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Articles are welcome for The *SPEXpert*. Send submissions to the email address above.

Advertising in The SPEXpert? You bet.
Just $35 for a business card size ad in each edition of The SPEXpert. Such a deal!

Entomology 101

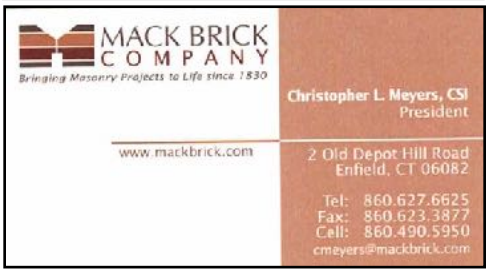
Click hear to listen to an excerpt of the presentation.

Chapter members were introduced to the world of insects, a presentation by Mike Popeck and David Allor of GAF. Who knew that these fellows were well versed in entomology!

Tapered insulation is a science in itself. The pitch of the insulation comes in three slopes. Generally the slopes of adjacent panels are the same to provide a 45 degree cut of the product. Slopes can be merged but a change in angle cut has to be laid out to produce a smooth transition from one tapered panel to an adjacent panel.

Layering tapered insulation creates an R Value greater than is required in a roof project. The thickness may pose a problem at the edge of the roof to provide transition to the wall parapet.

Sumps may be created around the roof drain to accommodate the ponding and over flow roof drains. Layout of tapered insulation may be done by GAF to create a guide for the contractor. Sometimes roof drains are added to address the thickness of layered insulation. Direction of slope may be altered to achieve a desirable finished product.



You'd Better Watch Out

On Tuesday, December 10, we will have our annual holiday party at Bin 100 Landsdale Avenue, Milford. This is a social event with no board meeting or education program, just an evening of socializing, camaraderie and maybe a little networking. Spouses and significant others are invited to join us.

We will be able to order from the menu.
Dinner (includes tax and tip) is $50 per person. Please make your reservations with me at rolsen@jcj.com or 860-240-9335.

As has been our tradition, we encourage you to make donations to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Donations can be made online here.

Chisel Out the New Year

January 21, 2025
Rick Lindsey | Architectural Consultant representing MAPEI will be presenting the program
MAP051B: Tile & Stone Installation Systems.
He just might have some insight into the racing world of Mario Andretti.
This course will help participants understand the industry standards and guidelines regarding the substrate preparation for installation of concrete based underlayment's and toppings. They will also gain exposure to the correct process for inspecting a substrate to determine required preparation, moisture vapor emission analysis/ testing methods and mechanical preparation prior to installation of underlayment and toppings, approved industry standards for crack isolation and sound control products and the differences in mortars and grouts and how the industry standards apply to them.
Let me know if this alternate is acceptable. We can wait until January to see if the original is available or opt for the alternate.

Grind Your Teeth Into This

Ease on down the road … Coming attractions.
Pozzotive® is a ground glass pozzolan and industrial filler made from recycled post-consumer glass. It is a safer, sustainable and higher-performing material that dramatically reduces embodied CO_2 emissions in concrete.
Pozzolans are a broad class of siliceous and aluminous materials which, in themselves, possess little or no cementitious value but which will, in finely divided form and in the presence of water, react chemically with calcium hydroxide at ordinary temperature to form compounds possessing cementitious properties. The quantification of the capacity of a pozzolan to react with calcium hydroxide and water is given by measuring its pozzolanic activity.