

NEWSLETTER

Dear Great Lakes Region Members,

Now that I am all rested up from the CSI National Conference in Cleveland, Ohio I hope this message finds you in good spirits and ready for the upcoming Holiday Season.

Before I get too far along, it is with great sadness that I inform you that we recently lost a cherished member of CSI, and the CSI Great Lakes Region family. On November 3, 2025, long time CSI and CSI Great Lakes Region member Ken Schmidt passed away peacefully with his daughter by his side. Ken was not only influential in business and CSI, but also the founder of the Chapter Challenge which has led so many to become involved with this great organization. Ken's spirit will be greatly missed but not forgotten. Rest easy my friend.

Ken's obituary and funeral information can be found here:

<https://www.cookrosenberger.com/guestbook/kenneth-schmidt#guestbook>

For those that would like to send condolences please address to:

Dee Kramer

1820 Old State Rd.

Henryville, IN 47126

October 15-18th the 2025 CSI National Conference was held in Cleveland, OH. The Great Lakes Region "Rocked it"! We had perfect attendance with every chapter in the region having representatives on site, had five of nine chapters receive CSI awards on the national stage, multiple region volunteers helping out in various roles during the conference, and four excellent speakers and panelists. Amy Baker, Brian Miller, Kirk Paisley, and Scott Taylor – all your speaking engagements were performed with excellence! Job well done and thank you for your knowledge and contributions.

One thing I love about the CSI National Conference every year is networking. Not only making new friends and colleagues but seeing old ones as well. Always a great time catching up with folks over those three very busy days. On Wednesday evening members of the Great Lakes Region gathered at Elliotts Bar. A huge Thank You to Caitlin Edwards with CSI for helping put together the time for regions to gather.

The following week, the annual Fall 2025 CDT Bootcamp conducted by Dean Bortz & Margaret Owens of Columbus State Community College was another huge success with 25 attendees taking part in the all day CDT virtual prep session. This was my third time helping facilitate and the engagement was off the charts. The longest distance award went to Rachel Racraquin who was attending all the way from Manila, Philippines. Best of luck to those who attended on your upcoming CDT exam. Watch for information on the upcoming Spring 2026 session in April!

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Today, I had the pleasure of attending the CSI Ohio Valley Chapter annual EDUCON event in Cincinnati, Ohio. This is a fantastic event, well attended, and held every year in Cincinnati with educational sessions and product representatives on site. Not to mention great food, great networking, and great door prizes. Job well done Ohio Valley Chapter, and a huge thank you to Dave Proudfit for continuing to chair this event!

From a business standpoint I am happy to report that all regional chapters have completed their annual CSI Chapter Check-ins. Thank you all for the effort in getting that done timely. CSI is also preparing a pilot program on some new educational tools starting in December. If you would be interested in being pilot volunteer please reach out to Sarah Clopton at CSI – she can be reached at sclopton@csinet.org. The Louisville Chapter is hard at work planning the annual Great Lakes Region Conference which will be held in Louisville, Ky this year. Save the date! It will be held May 14th-16th. Information on location and events will be coming in the next few months.

Additionally, the Cleveland Chapter name change into the North Coast Chapter has now been completed.

Before I sign off, I want to take just another second to wish each one of you a Happy Thanksgiving and upcoming Holiday Season. Safe and healthy travels to you and your families.

Till next time,

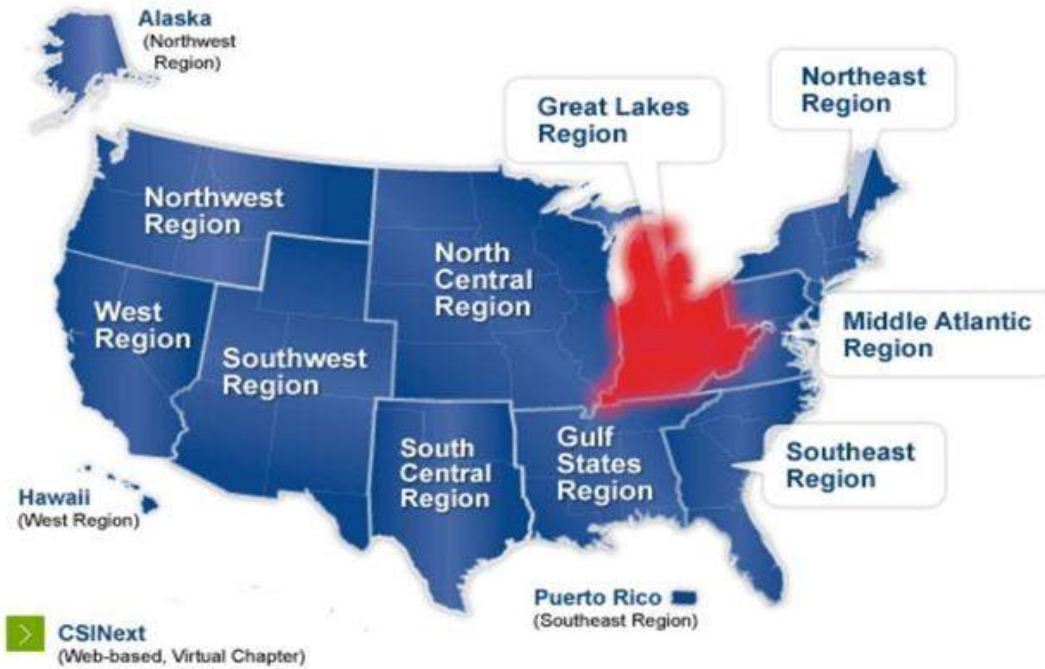
Mark

With sincere appreciation and enthusiasm,

Mark Ogg – MCM, CCCA, CDT, PMP



NEWSLETTER



CHAPTERS

North Coast
(former Cleveland)

CSI Next

Evansville

Grand Rapids

Indianapolis

Lansing

Louisville

Metro Detroit

Ohio Valley

Our Mission

To advance building information management and education of project teams to improve facility performance.

[Home - Great Lakes Region \(csiresources.org\)](http://csiresources.org)

IT'S OFFICIAL

Cleveland Chapter, renamed to North Coast Chapter.
 Akron-Canton Chapter is no more and its territory has been absorbed into North Coast and Ohio Valley Chapters.
 Here is the final map.



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Here are **some of the things your Region and Region Officers do** better as part of the Construction Specifications Institution Structure:

Leadership Training If you've ever thought about applying for a Chapter Leadership position, it's as simple as looking <https://www.csiresources.org/greatlakesregion/training/leader-training> to see what kind of thing are expected.

Programs Bureau- Programs Chairs have a place to go to fill up a hole or two in the annual calendar. If you see a monthly program that stands out, please pass those thoughts on to Scott Taylor, who oversees the submissions.

Visit the Speakers Bureau

<https://www.csiresources.org/greatlakesregion/training/new-item>

Awards- The format and organization of our Awards program is very robust and well thought out. It has been seen by other regions and used as a template for the creation of their awards programs. Please review it

https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/CSIRESOURCES/ae06327-4be3-4390-b3d6-90a05eef99a0/UploadedImages/GLR/GLR-Honors_AwardsGuide2016-5-05.pdf

to see how to reward active leaders in your chapter.

Contact Gregg Jones. gjones@abonmarche.com

Chapter Challenge- Introduced in 2018. It is a way to introduce your friends and colleagues to CSI. Share with them the career benefits.

Member Relief Program- Introduced December 2020, still in effect. Details and information <https://www.csiresources.org/greatlakesregion/mrl>

We ENCOURAGE YOU to GET INVOLVED with the Region FOR 2025!

Please Join Us - We need YOU!

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- **Restructured MAIN Committees: (Details to Follow)**
 - **Membership**
 - **Certification**
 - **Programs & Education**
 - **Leadership / Legacy Training**
 - **Region Conference**
 - **Awards**
 - **Futurizing**

- **Drive** for more Membership! Are you talking it up?
- **Members** currently over 578 and counting Members in our Region.
- **Chapter events:** Go to Chapter websites.
- Kicking around the Idea for a Bi-Region Conference. Stay tuned.
- **Share:** Send to staylo2021@outlook.com
 - your CSI Chapter event photos for Newsletter
 - your CSI Master Specifiers Retreat (MSR) experience for the newsletter
 - your Certification Exam experience that you would like to share
 - your Spec-related photos with message for the Newsletter
- **Earn Learning Units.** Check out the CSI Learning Library for other courses offering Learning Units. There is a wealth of information and learning opportunities.
- There are many resources available to chapters and regions on the chapter and Region community at **CSResources.org**.

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*You will forever be missed Ken,
thank you for everything CSI.*



Kenneth E. Schmidt, 78, was born on March 24, 1947 and passed away peacefully on Monday, November 3, 2025, surrounded by his loving family.

He was a member of the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) and held numerous leadership positions over the last several decades. In addition, the annual CSI convention every summer doubled as the Schmidt family vacation, so his entire family has wonderful memories of CSI.

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- A reminder that **Leadership Training** powerpoint information is available. We encourage all new Leaders to please review the information. Look for your role here:
<https://www.csiresources.org/greatlakesregion/training/leader-training>
- **CSI Member Product Reps** - please send us your Logos to get showcased in the GLR Newsletter. Contact staylo2021@outlook.com
- **Newsletter Content. Say something! You have a voice.** Sound off in the newsletter. Contact staylo2021@outlook.com
- **Chapter Presidents** – please forward the “in grace” Members to your Chapter Membership Chairs and ask them to personally reach out to the Members in your Chapter that are on the “in grace” list.

Any questions contact: breese@ghafari.com

ARE YOU READY TO GET YOUR CDT CERTIFICATION?

Test your knowledge - CDT Certification Sample Quiz Questions – November 2025

Keeping the **Jack P. Morgan, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, CDT**, Quizmaster Tradition going.

Edited and updated by Edwin L Avink, FCSI, CCS, CDT

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1. Under the Design-Build project delivery method, there are several benefits to the Owner that include all of the following except:
 - a. The Architect/Engineer represents the owner's interests
 - b. The Architect/Engineer and Contractor compromise the Design-Build entity
 - c. The Design-Builder has specialized knowledge of design and constructability
 - d. Single entity is responsible
 2. The specified correction period (typically one year) and specified extended warranties begin:
 - a. Upon final payment
 - b. On the date of substantial completion
 - c. One year from occupancy of the project
 3. A defined portion of work that is priced separately is:
 - a. A Unit Price
 - b. Lump Sum
 - c. Alternate
 4. A particular material may be indicated several times on the drawings but is specified in how many locations?
 - a. One
 - b. Two
 - c. According to the number of trades involved
 - d. As determined by Division 01
 5. In specification writing, the two basic grammatical sentence moods, which can be used to clearly convey specification requirements, are:
 - a. Imperative and Indictive
 - b. Suggestive and Imperative
 - c. Prescriptive and Descriptive
 - d. Performance and Indictive
-

CERTIFICATION QUIZ ANSWERS

Answers based on the CSI Project Delivery Practice Guide, 3rd Edition:

1.- a [PDPG, 3.1.4.2]; 2.- b [PDPG 8.12.9]; 3.- c [PDPG 4.2.3.3]; 4.- a [PDPG 5.8.2.1]; 5.- a [PDPG 5.3.3.2]



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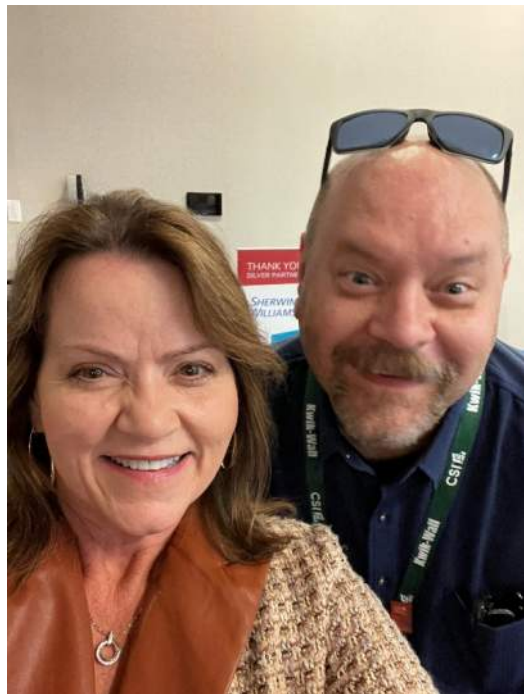
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