

NEWSLETTER



Dear Great Lakes Region Members,

Welcome to 2026!

We hope that this mid-month message finds you well and that your 2026 is off to a great start. Some people make New Year's resolutions to eat better or hit the gym; This year, let us grow the membership by dragging—politely inviting—those colleagues who always ask good questions but never come to meetings. Let us challenge ourselves with more education sessions that leave us saying, “I should have known that... but I'm glad I do now.” For some, 2026 can finally be the year of “I'm taking that certification exam” instead of “I'll do it next year.” If we do all that together, we will finish the year with chapters that's bigger, sharper, better connected—and maybe even a little more entertaining—than the one we started with. Soon information about the 2026 Region Conference will trickle in, so stay tune for that.

How are we doing regarding finding the next leadership for 2026?

Let us make one of our main goals for 2026 to feel genuinely involved in our chapters—show up, speak up, and help shape what we do together this year.

Warm wishes as always,

The Great Lakes Region Board of Directors

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CHAPTERS

North Coast

CSI Next

Evansville

Grand Rapids

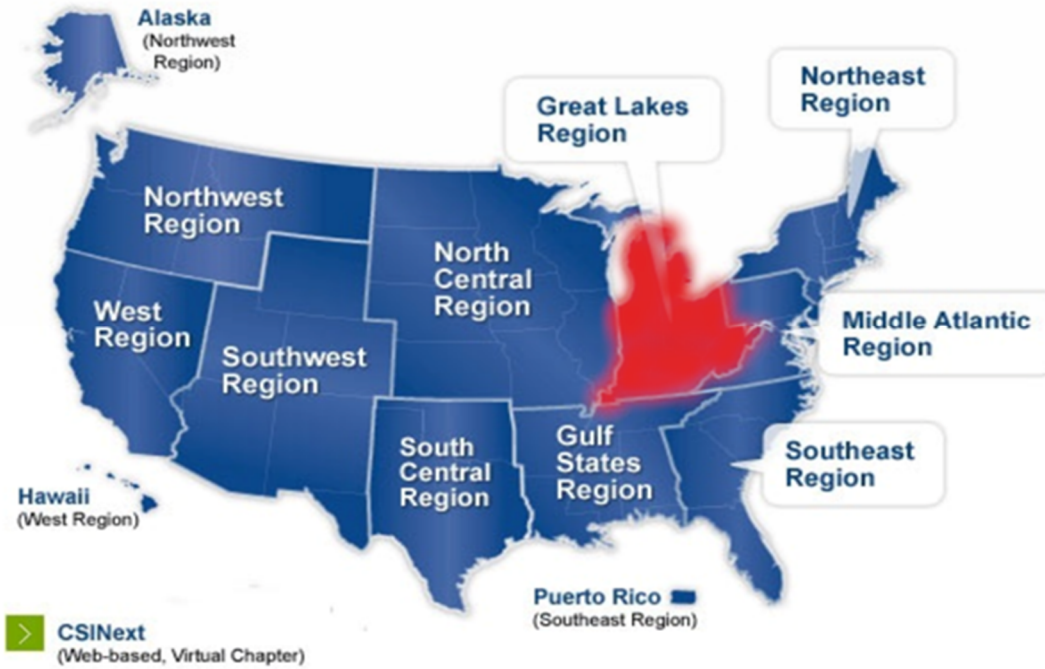
Indianapolis

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)

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Here are **some of the things your Region and Region Officers do** 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 things 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/aee06327-4be3-4390-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 2026!

Please Join Us - We need YOU!

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- **Is it time to renew YOUR MEMBERSHIP, let's get it done today!**
- the Great Lakes Region has a **Membership Assistance Program** for those who may be experiencing financial difficulties
- **Members** currently over **590** and counting Members in our Region
- **Chapter events:** Go to Chapter websites
- **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.
- Save the dates on National Calendar at <https://www.csiresources.org/institute/calendar>
- **Save the date GLR Conference dates: May 7 – 9, 2026, Louisville.**
- Save the date SCIP date May 17-19, 2026, St. Louis, MS
- Save the date CSI National Conference October 7-9, PHX, Az

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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 – January 2026

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

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

-
1. Division 01 Sections apply broadly to the execution of the work of all the other sections of the specifications. In addition, they expand on certain administrative and procedural provisions of the:
 - a. Drawings
 - b. Construction Agreement
 - c. Conditions of the Contract
 - d. Procurement Documents
 2. The volume containing the Specifications, Conditions of the Contract, information to bidders, instructions to bidders, and the bid form is called:
 - a. Spec Book
 - b. Preliminary Project Descriptions
 - c. Project Manual
 - d. Submittals
 - e. None of the above
 - f. All of the above
 3. Contract documents consist of:
 - a. Agreement between Owner and Contractor, Conditions of the Contract, drawings, and modifications, other documents listed in the Agreement
 - b. Agreement between Owner and Contractor, Conditions of the Contract, drawings and specifications, Project Manual, and shop drawings
 - c. Agreement between Owner and Contractor, Conditions of the Contract, drawings and specifications, instructions to bidders, bid form, addenda, modifications, other documents listed in the Agreement
 - d. None of the above
 4. Division should be used to:
 - a. Provide a location for General and Supplementary Conditions
 - b. Provide a means to modify standard sections of the specifications
 - c. Provide a logical arrangement for specifying administrative, procedural, and temporary facilities
 - d. Provide a location for specifying special construction and materials the bidders might overlook
 5. The agreement form, before modifications, should be reviewed carefully by the"
 - a. Owner's Legal Counsel
 - b. Owner
 - c. Architect and Owner
 - d. Contractor
-

CERTIFICATION QUIZ ANSWERS

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

1 – c [PDPG, 5.6.3]; 2 – c [PDPG 5.6]; 3 – a [PDPG 5.1.2]; 4 – c [PDPG 5.6.3]; 5 - a [PDPG 7.3]

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Terrazzo & Marble Supply Companies has a long, successful history of partnering with architects and designers as a top choice supplier and distributor of Terrazzo, Resinous, and Stone materials. Our carefully curated selection and customer centric approach offers a high level of excellence to industry professionals and consumers alike. We specialize in specification reviews, accredited CEU's, and custom sampling.

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Contact: Scott Taylor staylo2021@outlook.com

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Yearly Reporting Requirements

To ensure continuity in operations, including timely dues payments to chapters, and to acknowledge compliance with the affiliation agreement, every component is asked to complete two reports per year:

May 31 Report

Submit: Officer and leader roster for upcoming fiscal year

September 30 Report

Attest that:

- The component is in good standing to conduct business (current with state and current with IRS)
- Directors and officers' insurance is in place
- General liability insurance is in place
- Banking information is current

Identify:

Any enabling document that changed in previous fiscal year-

- Submit updated copies if have not already
- If bylaws were updated, must also confirm reviewed by independent legal counsel experienced with non-profit, tax-exempt organizations prior to adoption.

Submit:

- Financial documents from the previous year, including state of activities, balance sheet, and cash flow.
- Potential recruitment and customer lists

These reports will be available at least two months ahead of their due date and will be accessible through the Chapter and Region Leader Community.

In the case that a component is not able to meet one of these obligations, the component and CSI national will work together to create a plan to become compliant.



To Those CELEBRATING
YOUR CSI MEMBERSHIP Anniversary
This Month!