

CMCI Contact

News from the Construction Manager Certification Institute

Congratulations to Our New CCMs!

See page 3 for a list
of our newest
Certified Construction
Managers!



BIM, Sustainability Workshops Help Earn Recertification Points

See page 4 or visit
www.cmaanet.org to
learn more about these
and other CM workshops
sponsored by CMAA.

New Recertification/Renewal Policy Adopted

CMCI's Board of Governors has approved a new recertification/renewal policy that increases the emphasis on Professional Development as the prime area in which CCMs must remain active in order to earn the "points" needed to renew their credential.

The new structure begins a transition that will eventually see all CCMs on a three-year recertification cycle. Effective January 1, 2009, those CCMs currently in their initial five-year period will be able to complete that term, and new CCMs will start out with a three-year term. Those completing a five-year term will continue to be assessed an annual \$75 maintenance fee for the remainder of that cycle unless they elect to switch to a three year period.

The new structure also consolidates the number of categories of recertification activities from three to two, increases the number of points provided for some activities, and requires CCMs to accumulate 45 points during each three year period. A recertification fee of \$200 will be assessed for each three year cycle instead of the annual fee of \$75.

Recertification Committee Chair Linda Phillips of the US General Services Administration noted, "We think a three year cycle is appropriate for all CCMs as they continue their Professional Development. The new point system makes it easier to accumulate the required points."

The new structure focuses on Profes-

sional Development, requiring 30 of 45 points to be earned in this category. Professional Involvement requires 15 points. Carl Sciple, Chair of the Board of Governors, said, "Professional Development has to be at the core of our recertification policy. Our industry is very dynamic, and CCMs need to be aware of, and competent in, any number of new techniques and technologies. I see the Board's action as an affirmation of this commitment to Professional Development."

The Professional Development category focuses on attendance at forums, conferences, seminars, and other training. CMAA-sponsored activities – the National Conference and Leadership Forum, *CMs TalkLive!* webinars, self-paced certificates, and chapter meetings – are singled out as key Professional Development activities.

Several point categories have been increased to reflect the time expended to complete an activity. In particular, writing books and articles have increased weight. CMIT mentoring has been added as an item that will garner points for CCMs. The entire list is at <http://cmaanet.org/certification-renewal>.

CCMs will be sent detailed information about the new policy in the coming weeks. Questions about the new policy should be directed to Tabitha Costello at tcostello@cmaanet.org.

Keeping the CCM Experience Refreshed

By Rick Rye



A marathoner told me once that it was the training, the conditioning, and the test of endurance that produced personal dividends, much more so than crossing the finish line and receiving the winning medal. When I asked him how he keeps the enthusiasm for the drudgery of training and the time spent in the long runs, he replied, "I keep it as fresh as I can. I am always looking for new routes, new people to run with, and I never stop measuring my little successes."

Being a CCM is much more than being awarded a credential. By your commitment and endurance demonstrated through experience and the certification process you have taken the first step toward a sustainable practice of professional and responsible performance as well as a commitment to professional development and life-long learning..

Rick Rye is a CMCI Governor Emeritus and heads the Dallas office of Hill International. An immediate past chair of the CMCI Board of Governors, he recently completed eight years of service to the Institute.

When thinking about how to keep it fresh, I'd like to share my "top ten" from the long list of possible ways.

1. Make your professional commitment visible. First and foremost, initiate your own public relations campaign. Start this by

updating your resume and any profiles that your company or other organizations keep. Exploit the Internet and emails to get the word out to your friends and associates. Use alumni associations to post your CCM accomplishment on class notes. If your manager or supervisor is not fully informed of your accomplishment, make sure they know what you have gone through and how it will contribute to the organization's business goals and objectives. Make suggestions to your manager on how your CCM can strengthen specific project teams and proposals.



2. Be seen and known as a professional. There is no better way of being recognized as a professional than by acting like one. The professional identity is recognized far more through results and performance than by a credential. Demonstrate your knowledge by thinking and acting constructively, critically, and creatively. Use the practices and applications learned from years of study and experience. There is always a strong market for solid talent.

3. Be success-enabled. Like my marathoner friend, keep a record of successes. All successes, no matter how small, are lessons

learned and best practices that can be used time and time again and built upon for even bigger successes. Being prepared to share those successes will gain the attention of your peers and may receive special attention from your client and/or manager.

4. Be a resource and referral agent. One of the most effective ways of networking is to be a resource of information and a help in finding the right information. This does not necessarily mean being an expert on all subjects, but when an associate or client runs into a problem be prepared to offer a source for possible solution. A client or potential client will never forget your effort to help with his problem.

5. Know what is going on. Networking is a vital part of keeping abreast of what is really going on in the professional community. Stay active with your local CMAA chapter and other Construction Manager and owner organizations. Be aware of what is going on in CMAA and CMCI to promote the value and credibility of the CCM. Each publication of the *CM Advisor* and the *CMCI Contact* contains articles and information that is to your specific professional benefit. Write your own article and request consideration for publication.

6. Step beyond your comfort zone.

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Challenge yourself to gain skills and experience that will be valuable to both you and the CM profession. For example many people avoid public speaking or they feel inadequate when attention is drawn to themselves. Consider development of your communication skills and take an engaged role with a group to gain confidence. Volunteer for a CMAA committee. Sharing your thoughts and ideas just might make a difference to the whole organization.

7. Teaming is key. We always hear the cliché, "If we join forces we can achieve more." In fact, this is true. It takes effective project teams in order to succeed at delivering project missions. But if you want to become a good project leader and team leader, it is not sufficient to be a great intellect. One also needs to have the capability to deal with people effectively, lead them, mobilize them, and motivate them. Teaming attitude and spirit is the first step toward leadership. You have proven your intellect by receiving the CCM; step up and take a leadership role.

8. Project that professional confidence. Have you ever met a doctor or lawyer that did not project a tremendous amount of personal and professional confidence? Some of this certainty comes from their accomplishment in gaining professional certification or licensure. Like the successful marathoner, they have accomplished a monumental goal. A CCM is the internationally recognized credential for professional Program and Construction Management services. Learn to project the con-

fidence of the professional service provider that you have proved yourself to be.

9. Be a techie. Construction programs and projects are unique and dynamic. There are many choices to be made by many people and it is up to the professional CM to integrate and coordinate all the different pieces of information. Earlier this year, The University of Texas at Austin received a \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation to tech new technology to construction workers. The grant is to help expand the adoption and use of new technologies into the normal course of doing construction business. Wiki and social networking may have been unfamiliar terms in the past, but they are here to stay, and are even preferred by younger folks.

10. Share the knowledge. Perhaps one of the most rewarding tasks an experienced professional can do is pass along his or her knowledge. The CMAA committees, the CMAA University, and CMCI all seek experienced professionals to participate in professional development activities like mentoring, training, seminars, and chapter work. Give a seminar to a group of university CM students or at a CMAA student chapter. You will be surprised at the questions, the enthusiasm, and the interest these young people display.

Keeping the CCM experience fresh will not only add enthusiasm to your work, but will also help identify you as a true professional.

New CCMs

Congratulations to the newest members of the Class of 2008!
1098 Certified to Date!

David Brian Adelberg, Analytical Planning Services, Inc.;
Scott Battles, General Services Administration;
John Becvar, Knudson & Associates;
Terry Brown, Kutztown University;
John Clark, US Army Corps of Engineers;
Jack D'Andrea, STV Construction, Inc;
Brian Dittenhofer, Hill International;
Scott F. Duckwitz, Walbridge;
Scott Engum, Shaw Energy & Chemicals Group;
Michael Flaherty, STV Construction, Inc.;
James Fratoni, Hill International;
Toby Fritz, Dick Corporation;
J. Wade Griffis, San Diego Water Authority;
R. Michael Godfrey, Godfrey Engineering, LLC;
Robert Harrison, General Services Administration;
Ernesto Jarvis; McKissack and McKissack;
Darrell Ray Jenkins, M.B. Kahn Construction Co., Inc.;
Jeffrey King, Jacobs;
Darrin Lambrigger, PB Americas, Inc.;
Paul Mochel, Valley Construction Management;
Phil Moffitt, Nabholz, Construction Corporation;
Michael John Mologne, Hill International;
Steven Niskanen, Spaw Maxwell Company, L.P.;
George Odorizzi, Department of Veterans Affairs;
Tony Ramirez, Harris & Associates;
Dennis Keith Ring, George W. Auch Company;
Anthony Rivas, W. G. Mills, Inc.;
Douglas Stovall, Metcalf & Eddy, Inc.;
James Thompson, Harris & Associates;
Vinay Uchil, PB Americas;
Coy Veach, Freese & Nichols, Inc.;
Scott Wardle, Michael Baker Jr., Inc.;
Robert A. Wright, Heery International, Inc.;
Ronald Zwerdling, Jacobs.

Find Three

During the National Conference in San Francisco, CMCI staff approached any number of people and asked if they were interested in certification. We met many enthusiastic CCMs, some eager prospects, and some lapsed applicants. When they heard how we have made the process more accessible, some were somewhat taken aback. Our goal, we stressed, is to certify qualified applicants. To that end, we created a reformatted application packet, streamlined our web page, published a newsletter, and formed a cadre of CCMs who are willing to assist prospects in completing the application. We've also developed a syllabus on the application for use by our chapters. We held free webinars on the application process. We established a social networking site where prospects, applicants, and candidates can interact.

The response to these developments that have occurred in the last year varied from "I didn't know that!" to "How can I get started?" CCMs were impressed with the support mechanisms the Institute has introduced to assist qualified individuals from application to examination.

In the "Culture of Certification," we believe that the best CMs will be *certified* CMs. When we ask CCMs if they know of any potential prospects who would be qualified to be a CCM, they almost always say yes.

So, CMCI is asking *each* CCM to identify three individuals they know and recommend that they pursue our designation. Once identified, ask them to download our application packet. Encourage them to email or call the CMCI office with questions and concerns. If they need a mentor for the process, we'll arrange it. Or send us

their names and contact information and we'll do the rest.

As we grow the number of Certified Construction Managers, we strengthen the health of the profession; we add visibility and vitality to the industry; and, we increase the professionalism of all who practice CM.

BIM, Sustainability Workshops

CMAA's Technology Seminar on Building Information Modeling (BIM) at the Tower Club in Vienna, Virginia on January 13 will emphasize practical implementation issues. Attendees at this workshop will hear from Deke Smith, Executive Director of National Institute of Building Sciences, Charles Matta, FAIA, Director, Federal Buildings and Modernizations, GSA, and a representative from Mortenson Construction, one of construction's most technically savvy and prolific designers.

CMAA's Sustainability Seminar on January 23 hosted by Jacobs in their Arlington, Virginia office will feature presentations by GSA, CoE, Solarwal, Noveda, Deutsche Asset Management, Reynolds Energy Services, E3 Bank and the U.S. Green Building Council. Topics discussed will include "Financing Sustainable Projects," "Breakthrough Green Building Technologies," and more.

Both workshops provide three recertification points each. CMAA is registered with the American Institute of Architects as an approved provider of Learning Units (LUs). Conference registrants may earn and report 6LUs, 6 PDHs, or .6CEUs. Visit www.cmaanet.org for details. Register by December 31 to take advantage of our "early bird" rates!

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CMCI Contact is published by the Construction Manager Certification Institute, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Construction Management Association of America, Inc. The views expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Association, the Institute, its officers or staff.

For general inquiries about the certification program, requirements or other related issues, please contact Tabitha Costello, Certification Associate, at tcostello@cmaanet.org or 703.677.3374.

For information about the status of an application or recertification, and for all other inquiries, please contact Kate Brundage, Certification Manager, at kbrundage@cmaanet.org or 703.677.3372.

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