



## RCI's Seventh National Convention in Retrospect

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RCI's Seventh National Convention was held in Nashville, Tennessee, Music City--where the sound ranges from Candy Country to Fiddles & Steel (like God intended for it to be). Once again, under Convention Chairman Barry Krum's direction, the convention went flawlessly.

As with tradition, the first days of the schedule were set aside for meetings of committees, regions, and directors of the Institute. It has been said that a camel is a horse designed by a committee. This could be true, but it is apparent that committee accomplishments are now more tangible than ever. No longer is the central purpose of committee meetings to establish the date of the next meeting. Real agendas are materializing.

Among the highlights was the Research Committee's guest, Dr. Walter Rossiter, Jr. of the National Institute of Science and Technology. Walt's purpose of visit was to enlist assistance in data collection of in-situ modified bitumen roof systems. A more detailed description of his task is found as a press release elsewhere in this issue.

On Sunday, twenty-seven members sat for the CRC Exam. This 8-hour exam is always offered in conjunction with our convention. The next exam is scheduled for October 17, 1992 in Los Angeles CA, Kansas City MO, and Raleigh NC.

Region I and Region II held meetings on Monday. Region I elected a new Region Director: **William Marcum**, Construction Engineering Consultants, Millhelm PA.

As a sponsoring member of the Roofing Industry Committee on Wind Issues (RICOWI), RCI was pleased to host their Spring meeting during our convention. Chartered in 1990, RICOWI's goals include coordination of research, standardization of test procedures and a better understanding of roof wind issues. Issues discussed at the recent meeting included wind tunnel research on steep roofing, RCI's Disaster Response program, SBCCI roof wind requirements, planned modifications to FM test procedures and pressure equalization techniques. Phil Dregger, RCI's representative, reported that RICOWI was interested in continuing to meet in conjunction with RCI's national conventions and that he was elected to serve as Treasurer of RICOWI.

The RCI Exhibit Hall officially opened Monday, March 16, 1992 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM and continued March 17, 1992 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Barry Krum had to revise and expand the exhibit hall floor plan this year to accommodate all who wanted to participate--a happy dilemma indeed! This year we had several (8-10) first-time exhibitors with RCI as well as our faithful supporters to round out the 73 booths sold. We thank all exhibitors. This volunteer organization depends upon their support. In return we provide for them the most talented group of specifiers/users in the world. (Yes, RCI is well into the international domain). We thank the following companies for their support:

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ALL-WEATHER CRETE  
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AMOCO FOAM PRODUCTS COMPANY  
AUTO FOAM SALES & SERVICE  
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BONDCOTE ROOFING SYSTEMS  
CARLISLE SYNTEC SYSTEMS  
CARPENTER INSULATION & COATINGS CO.  
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CONTINENTAL ROOF SYSTEMS, INC.  
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CREATIVE CONSTRUCTION COMPONENTS  
CRETCHER-LYNCH & COMPANY

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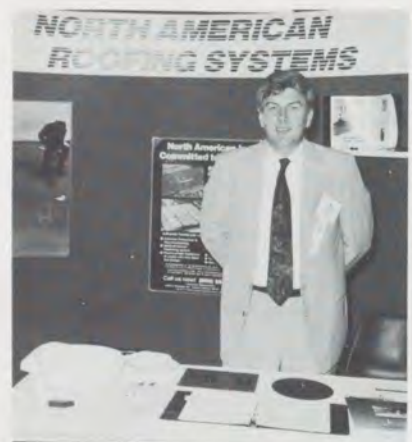
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Exhibit Hall



RCI's New Display



North American is our sponsor for this issue

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U-FLOW ROOF DRAIN SYSTEMS INC  
UNITED COATINGS  
U.S. INTEC INC.  
W. P. HICKMAN CO.

After the closing of the Exhibit Hall, RCI was pleased to show appreciation for all the representatives of the exhibiting companies at a reception held in their honor.



When the sign-up for booths for 1993 was announced, there was a mad dash for the easel holding next year's floor plan. Each booth sold was identified by a yellow or a green tack. This had great significance. The green tack represented booths sold by RCI's unofficial "Saleswoman of the Year," Dee Huff! No representative had a chance against such persuasion. In all, 37 of the 67 available booths were sold on the spot.

There was one delightful change this year--the attendance by more of the spouses. The one-day planned tour has always been enjoyed by the spouses, but this year, thanks to the efforts of Dee Huff, a spouse hospitality room was set up and informal activities planned. We hope to continue in this tradition at future conventions.

Technical Sessions commenced on Tuesday with an expansion of last year's topic, "When Is Wet Too Wet?" By Lee Ann Lankton, a registered engineer with Firestone. Lee Ann presented SPRI's (Single Ply Roofing Institute) preliminary paper covering design criteria to determine the suitability of recovering an existing roof assembly considering the effects of existing moisture trapped within the insulation of the existing roof. SPRI has developed a theoretical model to compute the "Time to Dry" for naturally venting moisture out of wet insulation considering the principles of equilibrium moisture content, vapor pressure, vapor transmission and permeability of components. A handout with formulas and tables was distributed.

Session II featured the distinguished James Sheahan, CRC of J.P. Sheahan and Associates, who discussed a method of non-destructive testing for determining the waterproof integrity of roof membranes and seams. Tracer gases are injected beneath the membrane and are used to locate leaks during and after construction of the roof. This method allows for 100% of the seams and membrane to be tested.

Session III, "Minimize Taxes/Maximize Wealth" presented by Beth Davies of Pension Consulting Services and Kevin Rogers, CFP, of Shearson Leahman Brothers, emphasized tax planning and establishment of pension and savings plans for small consulting firms.

Session IV was a return visit by Dow U.S.A.'s Kenneth Isley, Esq. Dichotomies and pitfalls of roof warranties were the topics. Ken discussed roof membrane manufacturer warranties, legal theories, interpretations, and guidelines when working with warranties.

Session V was a SPI/PFCD presentation consisting of Don A. Best, Best Roofing, Oklahoma City, OK and a SPUP panel of three. Topics included components and mixtures in the manufacturing process, protective coatings, and application procedures.

Session VII featured Dow's Dave Roodvoets who discussed disposal options of roof materials after tear-off. Options discussed were incineration, which recovers energy, and recycling, which reduces waste and saves energy. The old standby of sending materials to the "Landfill" has become the least environmentally acceptable and is feeling pressured because of the "NIMBY" (Not in My Backyard) sentiments throughout the country. A handout was distributed listing collection points and recyclers for polystyrene products.

The President's Banquet on Tuesday night was a time to recognize our leaders, volunteers, and those who have attained levels of distinction. It was also a time to sit back, relax, revisit with friends, enjoy a scrumptious reception buffet and banquet meal, and toe-tap to the country rhythm of a local band. Upon arriving at the littered-porch, calico-curtained, ramshackle entrance to the banquet hall, being greeted by the Jack Daniels inspired cowpoke leaning against the bale of hay, gazing over the red-checked covered tables to the cornfield backdropped stage, you knew you were in for a good time and some surprises! The reception co-sponsored by Dow Plastics, G.M. Kassem, JPS Elastomerics, Manville, T.Clear Corporation, Topcoat, and W.P. Hickman was really a meal in itself, featuring chicken wings, meatballs, and catfish fried the way it should be.

The banquet began with a welcome and a prayer from RCI's current president, Donald E. Bush. After a meal fit for a king, Master of Ceremonies and President-Elect, Richard Horowitz began the awards presentations. John L. Willers, Chairman of the Consultant Credentials Committee, presented individually-numbered certificates to the

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SPI/Polyurethane Foam Contractors Division's Exhibit



Technical Session



Technical Session



## RCI's Seventh National Convention in Retrospect

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RCI members who have attained their certification during the past year. The new Certified Roof Consultants, who are now a part of an elite group of 95, are the following RCI members:

**James H. Agans CRC**  
The Agans/White Group  
3238 Sharp Rd.  
Glenwood, MD  
301-442-1880

**Brian E. Barrows CRC**  
Mac Brady Associates Inc.  
110 N. La Grange Rd. #13  
La Grange, IL 60525  
708-354-1343

**Troy F. Brooks CRC**  
Sierra Env. Mgmt. Corp.  
P.O. Box 11924  
Fresno, CA 93775-1924  
209-485-9825

**Thomas A. Ewing CRC**  
Ewing Associates Inc  
515 Converse Street  
Longmemadow MA 01106-1712  
413-567-9544

**Smith A. Funk PE AIA CRC**  
The Celotex Corp.  
5016 W. Dickens Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33629  
813-873-4102

**Rick Harris CRC**  
Harris Roof Consulting  
200 South Irena Avenue  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277  
213-316-5440

**James M. Kellum CRC**  
Kellum Construction & Consulting  
4136 7th Avenue  
Temple, PA 19560  
215-921-2567

**C. Allan Kidd CRC**  
Canon Consulting & Eng. Co.  
P.O. Box 17007  
Spartanburg, SC 29301  
803-574-6500

**Jeffrey R. Mitchell CRC**  
PSI  
24355 Capitol Ave  
Detroit MI 48239  
313-255-4200

**Russell E. Murphy CRC**  
PSI  
5400 West Elm Street #210  
McHenry IL 60050  
815-385-9600

**Daniel J. Neuhaus CRC**  
PSI  
3333 Quebec Street Suite 4080  
Denver, CO 80207  
303-394-2411

**R. Edward Owen CRC**  
Coleman-Ervin-Johnston  
610 S. Main #200  
Tulsa, OK 74119  
918-582-7129

**Edward A. Sheridan PE CRC**  
Morrison Hershfield  
6 Ivylea Street  
Nepean, Ontario Canada K2G 4X5  
613-727-9802

**D.B. Young, Jr. CRC**  
D.B. Young & Associates, Inc.  
933 Douglas Avenue  
Altamonte Springs FL 32714-2010  
407-682-0125

**Matias A. Fernandez CRC**  
Caribbean Roofing Consultants, Inc.  
5-M Street, Villa Caparra  
Guaynabo PR 00966  
809-788-6060

**Robert J. Varner CRC**  
NTH Consultants Ltd  
38955 Hills Tech Drive  
Farmington Hills MI 48331-3432  
313-553-6300

**Timothy Barrett CRC**  
Barrett Co  
P.O. Box 421  
Millington NJ 07946  
908-647-0100

**David R. Hawn CRC**  
PSI  
2930 Eskridge Rd #B  
Fairfax VA 22031  
703-698-1981



President Bush returned to the podium to briefly outline the many accomplishments of the year, to formally recognize the incoming president, Richard Horowitz, and to present "Outstanding Volunteer" awards to deserving members who have gone that extra mile--the start of a new tradition. The recipients of the "Outstanding Volunteer" awards for 1991-1992 are the following:

**Richard M. Horowitz AIA CRC**, RCI president-elect. Richard has a successful business outside of RCI, but from the amount of time he devotes to RCI, it is easy to forget that.

**Joe F. Hale**, RCI Second Vice President. Another dynamo, who was instrumental in pushing through RCI's Educational Program and Registration Program.

**John L. Willers PE CRC**, need we say more--RCI's Consultant Credentials Committee, a committee that is run efficiently, a model committee!

**Jerry C. Bartels** and **Marie Bartels**, who have led the Public Relations Committee. Have you seen our RCI ad in national magazines? Did you see RCI's own Exhibit Display at the Convention? Thank this team!

**Lyle D. Hogan PE CRC**, Publications Committee Chairman. Have you noticed how professional INTERFACE newsletter has become? You've seen nothing yet--wait until you see the new, expanded format. Please re-read the article in the March 1992 edition, "A Call for Words" and take it to heart.

**Richard L. Cook CRC**, Chairman of the Government Relations Committee. Rick has been instrumental in compiling a mailing list, drafting letters, and mailing out letters to key government contacts in hopes of eventually seeking recognition for the roof consulting profession. Rick has also been a presenter at past RCI Basic Roofing Seminars.

**Philip D. Dregger PE CRC** Region Director for Region VI. Phil has been the first director to offer four meetings "Technical Forums" per year. He has worked tirelessly to develop renewed interest in RCI for current members, as well as attracting many new members to RCI. Phil also is an excellent speaker, who always gives the professional touch.

**James E. Magowan CRC**, Immediate Past President and Chairman of the Quality Assurance Committee. Did this man serve his year as President and then sit by the sidelines? No Way! Jim has not missed a beat, was prominent at practically all Executive Committee meetings and all Board meetings, and in his spare time, of course, resurrected the Quality Assurance Program. Don Bush has some big shoes to fill.

**Barry S. Krum**, Convention Chairman. If you attended the convention in Colorado Springs last year and this year's convention in Nashville, you will know why this man received a spontaneous standing ovation when his name was called!

After these presentations, Richard Horowitz had the pleasure of presenting RCI's outgoing president, Don Bush, with the "Past-President's" plaque.

Another of the highlights of the awards presentations is the announcement of those members who have been elevated to the status of "Fellow of the Institute." Two RCI members were bestowed this year:

**Donald E. Bush, Sr. CRC**

**Joe F. Hale**

These two leaders of RCI join nine others who were honored in the past.

Bill Edwards, Interim Chairman of the Construction Documents Committee, had the honor of awarding RCI's Second Annual Project Manual Competition certificates. There are two categories of competition--Presentation and Technical. The winners of this year's competition are the following:

**FIRST PLACE FOR BEST PRESENTATION**

**Thomas W. Hutchinson CRC**

Legat Architects

Crystal Lake IL

**SECOND PLACE FOR BEST PRESENTATION**

**Phil H. Dawson PE CRC**

HDH Associates

Salem VA

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President's Banquet



President's Banquet

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### FIRST PLACE FOR BEST TECHNICAL MERIT

**Richard P. Canon PE CRC**

Canon Consulting & Engineering  
Spartanburg SC

### SECOND PLACE FOR BEST TECHNICAL MERIT

**John L. Willers PE CRC**

S&ME  
Raleigh NC

The final piece of business was the drawings for cash prizes. The lucky winners this year were:

First Prize (\$1,000) Edward Betker, Inspec, Minneapolis MN

Second Prize (\$500) John Bigham, Allen & Hoshall, Memphis TN

Third Prize (\$250) Sam Huff, Huff Consulting, Anaheim CA

Finally, it was time to sit back and enjoy the entertainment provided by COUNTRY SONG, a six-piece group which included a female vocalist, two male vocalists, piano, bass, drums, and fiddle. And, starring for at least one song, a trio of very familiar RCI faces who I'm sure are well on their way to a music career. COUNTRY SONG amazed the attendees by performing time after time requests from the audience. One member jokingly gave the band a three (3) on his evaluation form because they did not know all the words to "El Paso." Of course, this was the same member who downgraded the Exhibit Hall Contest because as he stated, "I did not win."

The technical sessions continued on Wednesday.

Session X was a presentation by Drew Bachman of Koppers, "The Resurgence of B.U.R." Drew discussed the benefits and advantages of built-up roofing when compared to single-ply roofing and the increase in market share of built-up roofing. Design guides prepared by ARMA (Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association) were distributed.

Session XI was a presentation by Dick Canon, Canon Consulting & Engineering. Dick presented case histories of metal decks when in contact with phenolic foam insulation and methods employed during construction to correct these problems.

RCI's 1992 Annual Meeting was conducted Wednesday afternoon. The Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers for 1992-1993:

#### First Vice President

**Joe F. Hale**

#### Second Vice President

Sam W. Huff CRC

#### Secretary

Arthur O. Sark

#### Treasurer

Christopher L. English AIA CRC

The above slate of officers were unanimously accepted. As per the Bylaws, the current First Vice President automatically assumes the office of President. **The President of RCI for 1992-1993 is Richard M. Horowitz AIA CRC**

As a result of Christopher English accepting the office of Treasurer, **William Stevenson** of Shive-Hattery Engineers, Cedar Rapids, IA will be the Interim Director for Region III.

At the Annual Meeting, RCI's new president, Richard Horowitz, gave the "State of the Institute" address. This was followed by reports by region directors, committee chairmen, and an explanation of RCI's Educational Program and Registration Program. This was one of the best attended and informative meetings held. The accomplishments of the past 12 months have been phenomenal. There was definitely electricity in the air.

There were auxiliary concurrent one-day seminars on Thursday. The first was presented by Glen-Gery Brick and SMACNA. Mike Gurevich of Glen-Gery Brick discussed brick masonry problems pertaining to movement control, water penetration, and parapet design. Three representatives from SMACNA discussed sheet metal detailing, design references which are available, and sample specifications for custom fabricated metal roofing.

The second seminar was RCI's own "The Basics of Roofing" Level One. The presenters of this seminar were Rick Cook, Dave Siple, Rick Bohan, and Joe Hale--all RCI members. This was the 5th presentation of the newly formed seminar, and we



have come a long way since the first seminar in Charlotte in October 1991. According to verbal comments and comments made on the evaluation sheets, people are hungry for the information we offer and they can't wait for Level II and Level III.

In summary, the Convention must be characterized a success. The hotel was four stars. The technical programs superb.

For those who could not attend, your time and money are well placed by planning to meet us in 1993 in Orlando, Florida, March 28 - April 1, 1993. You will receive in geometric proportion to that which you contribute.

Dr. Walter Rossiter, Jr. of the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) addressed the Research Committee of the Roof Consultants Institute. The purpose of his visit was to enlist help in compiling uniform data concerning performance and behavior of modified bitumen roof systems. The intent of the work is to provide direction for research funding toward what is revealed in the study as any common denominators of field behavior. Another benefit is to provide a field data base to support development of standards by ASTM.

In a prior study on Corrosion of Fasteners, information submitted by RCI members was most beneficial in identifying factors affecting corrosion. The aim of the present study is to develop a computer data base reflecting, among other parameters, variations in climate, exposure, surfacings, construction configurations, etc. RCI represents an extremely geographically diverse body of qualified technologists knowledgeable in roof inspections. Depending on the RCI response, more than 500 individual roof examinations may be included in the study which will culminate in publication.

RCI supports this study and encourages participation from all members capable of providing uniform data collection. For more information, contact Walt Rossiter at NIST at 301-975-6719.

Last year RCI implemented a national advertising campaign. We placed ads in the following magazines: Architecture, Buildings, Monitor, and School & College.

Beginning in May 1991, RCI Staff asked each caller who wanted the services of a roof consultant (referral calls) or wanted RCI membership information (inquiry calls) how he/she heard about RCI.

From our advertising campaign as well as from other sources (such as other associations; articles written by RCI members in trade publications; attendees at our convention, region meetings, and RCI Basic Roofing Seminars; and our best source - our current RCI members!), RCI received 140 referral calls for the services of roof consultants and 384 requests for membership information.

We received 73 new members from May - December, 1991. Only you can give us the results of our referral service. Give us a call; we would like to hear if you received work as a result of RCI's referral service. We plan to continue our advertising campaign in 1992. We'll publish the results on a periodic basis.

Question submitted by Bruce Wittenbaum, Achievement Industries Inc, Cincinnati, OH

What would be considered reasonable test methods and values when testing physical properties of butyl contact adhesive EPDM seams found to be suspect as defective? I have been evaluating, visually, the thickness of splice adhesive at cut edge through seam, peel strength (must average 3 lbs./in. or more), plus observations during physical properties testing. This question usually occurs for me with new installations (projects in process), and, occasionally, aged/completed projects with problems.

Please submit your comments, suggestions, helpful hints, etc. to RCI Headquarters.

If you have a technical question that you would like to ask your fellow RCI members, send it to RCI Headquarters, Attention: Lyle Hogan.

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## Dr. Rossiter Addresses Research Committee

## RCI Advertising Campaign

## Question Column



## Minutes

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES OF MINUTES OF RCI OFFICIAL MEETINGS

In order to keep you well informed of all RCI accomplishments and future endeavors, the Board has authorized the publishing of Executive Summaries on a periodic basis in the INTERFACE. These summaries will include new procedures, policies, and new member benefits that may influence you. Our aim is to use as many avenues as possible to keep you informed about your organization.

For your information, the RCI Board of Directors meets four (4) times a year--two teleconferences and two face-to-face meetings. The Executive Committee meets each month by teleconference. The Region Directors hold a teleconference as needed.

The RCI Executive Committee is chaired by the President and includes the President, First-Vice President, Second-Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, and Executive Manager. The RCI Region Directors includes the seven (7) region directors and is chaired by the First Vice President. The RCI Board, chaired by the President, includes the Executive Committee, the Region Directors, and two past presidents.

Summary of Minutes of Board and/or Executive Committee Meetings for March/April 1992:

1. Results from RCI's National Advertising Campaign are to be published in INTERFACE on a regularly basis.
2. To retain existing members and enlist new members, the Region Directors are directed to assign membership chairs in each state in their region. These state "chairs" are to contact RCI members in their state at least once a year and to provide names of potential RCI members.
3. The revised CRC Application submitted by the Credentials Committee was approved.
4. The revised CRC Self-Study Guide was approved.
5. The CRC Renewal Proposal was adopted. The CRC Renewals shall be for a period of three (3) years and those applying for renewal shall show evidence that they have attained three (3) CEU's, dealing with roofing, for the three years prior to their application for renewal. The renewal fee will be \$100 every three years.
6. The Registered Roof Observer Program was approved.
7. The Code of Ethics Committee is to review the current RCI Code of Ethics and make recommendations for changes and/or improvements.
8. The Long-Range Planning Committee is writing a position paper on "Definition of Roof Consultant."
9. The Research Committee is seeking grants for RCI's own research projects.
10. The RCI Affiliate Membership Category is to be amended as follows: Each RCI Professional and/or Industry member is allowed to individually sponsor up to three (3) people from his firm to become Affiliate members of RCI. The current three (3) year membership limitation for affiliate is to be waived. The Affiliate Membership fee will remain \$150.00/year. The Affiliate member will be a non-voting category.
11. Each RCI Member in good standing is eligible to have a one year complimentary subscription of INTERFACE sent to a client of his own choosing. Contact RCI HQ with your request.
12. RCI Members can earn .6 RCICEUs that can be applied to CRC Renewal for each article written by them and published in INTERFACE.



In his article "What Does RCI Do Anyway?", (*Interface*, March 1992) President Horowitz noted that among the things that, "RCI Doesn't Do Yet (But Hopes To Someday): is assemble and make available to its members a Data Base of Roofing Information" (a task nearly as daunting as President Kennedy's initiative to put a man on the moon before the end of the 60's). The Executive Committee has decided that someday is now and named this project INFORMATION CENTRAL.

Information Central will be a technical information library maintained at the national headquarters in Raleigh, NC. It will be organized to allow information retrieval by author, title, specific topic, or general category. At first this information will be available in standard hard copy format, but we are exploring the possibility of implementing "on-line" access in the future. The scope of Information Central will be limited only by the imagination of our membership.

Here are the highlights of what the Executive Committee would like to see Information Central do:

- Index *Interface* articles (these are a great source of information);
- Index articles written by RCI members for publication elsewhere;
- Catalog manufacturers' specifications and details in both electronic and written format as available;
- Catalog building code documents (again, in both electronic and written format as available);
- Catalog manufacturer's technical information (current and historical information from existing and defunct companies in the industry);
- Index RCI textbooks, guides and manuals of standard practice;
- Catalog proceedings from the various industry taskforces and committees (i.e., RICOWI, RCI/NIST, RCI/ARMA);
- Catalog information from convention presentations; and,
- Catalog materials from other disciplines (legal, medical, environmental, etc.) that relate to the industry.

Information Central is an ambitious and dynamic project. New information will be added to the catalog as it is received. The major milestones for the implementation process will be:

- July 1992-Look for an article in *Interface* outlining Information Central's progress to date (hopefully noting that we were inundated with information from our members as a result of this article) and documenting the procedure to request information in the database.
- September 1992-Look for an article in *Interface* updating the project's status, refining the request for information procedures and outlining the configuration of the current catalog of available information.
- November 1992-Look for a progress report in *Interface* on Information Central and additional information on the database and what's in it.
- Convention 1993-Printed copies of the current master catalog of information will be available for the members. This catalog will show you all the information available (and, conversely, highlight those areas where we need to gather more information). By this time Information Central should be a robust database to which you have contributed and from which you have benefitted.
- Look for a yearly update of the master catalog to be issued at convention time. All members will be issued the appropriate sections with which to update their copies.

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## Information Central



## Information Central

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You hold the key to making Information Central the industry's best information resource. We are asking all RCI members-PROFESSIONALS, INDUSTRY, ASSOCIATES, AFFILIATES, QUALITY ASSURANCE OBSERVERS, AND STUDENTS to provide us with the "fodder" necessary to establish the database. All that "stuff" that's been sitting around in boxes since you reorganized your files last year would sure help. Send us those technical bulletins, photocopied articles, textbooks, or whatever. We would be especially grateful to those who provide us with original articles, studies, research, text from speeches or presentations, almost anything at all. Inserted in this issue is a cover sheet that you can use to summarize the information you're sending. The cover sheet will speed the process of entering the information into the database, insure that it is listed and cross referenced in the most appropriate ways, and give us a listing of who sent what. All contributions will be gratefully acknowledged in Interface.

What Information Central ultimately becomes is up to you the RCI member. It can be the best information resource in the industry, but it requires your knowledge, support and vision to insure that it reaches this goal.

## Book Review

*Reviewed by  
Lyle D. Hogan PE CRC*

### **Problems in Roofing Design** by B. Harrison McCampbell, AIA

The referenced book was provided to RCI Headquarters for review as requested by the publisher, Butterworth-Heinemann. The text commences with a sobering introduction, describing the litigation-ridden nature of our trade. The user friendly Table of Contents itemizes the explored cases of improperly addressed construction features and the results thereof.

The book appears to be aimed principally toward architects/specifiers. The examples cited have a somewhat limited focus, consisting mainly of built-up/bituminous roof assemblies, mostly over nailable decks. The examples are thus mainly representative of Pacific Coast observations, but do not deal with mistakes made in other parts of the country, for instance, with thermosetting polymers, various other deck types, extreme interior environments, fire and wind losses, etc.

There is good representation of complex flat roof junctures with steep roof configurations. The discussion is accompanied by both a photo and a 2-point perspective drawing depicting a remedy. The author appears to advocate smooth-surfaced, lightweight assemblies, a trend gaining acceptance in the industry and a posture shared by this writer.

Some of the few anomalies observed on thermoplastic membranes fall short of fully exploring the apparent non-performance of this type of material. Elsewhere, topics covered or addressed by the author are generally explored thoroughly. The format is interesting and the work would complement any roof technologist's library. It has me looking forward to subsequent volumes which could deal with the many other combinations of materials and accessories. As we have come to know, only some of those combinations work well.

To order Problems in Roofing Design (224 pp, 101 b&w photos & 81 illustrations), send request and \$39.95 to Butterworths, 80 Montvale Avenue, Stoneham, MA 02180 OR call 1-800-366-2665 Monday-Friday, 9:00 - 4:30 ET.



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