



Publisher's Message

It's Show Time!

Look out, Houston—
BCMC's coming to town!

by Libby Maurer

You've heard the cliché before: "Bigger and better in Texas." In about a month, the Building Component Manufacturers Conference (BCMC) will arrive in Houston to turn that cliché into reality. Just its second time traveling to Texas in the show's 26-year run (BCMC '91 was held in San Antonio), BCMC 2006 will present the same traditions you know and love as well as some exciting new additions. The reality of BCMC is this: there is no other single event with as many exhibitors, equipment demonstrations, educational sessions and networking opportunities as BCMC. If you haven't registered yet, there's still time. Check out the complete BCMC Show Guide, starting on page 50. But before we meet in Houston on October 4, let's look at what else this issue has to offer.

Found: a set of minutes from the first WTCA meeting in history! On May 6-7, 1983, 16 manufacturers set a new course for the component manufacturing industry, set goals, elected a board of directors and formed committees. We tracked down some of the manufacturers who attended that meeting to find out what it was like to make history. Don't miss "Time Warp: What It Takes to Make a New Association" for a trip back to our roots.

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When it comes to fire performance and wood trusses, the Carbeck Structural Components Institute (CSCI) has become an important resource for the building components industry. CSCI's debut educational CD, *The Fire Performance of Wood Trusses*, has been used by WTCA Chapters since 2002 in presentations to various fire service groups around the country. Earlier this year, the CD received a major update and a new name: *Wood Truss Construction and Fire Performance*. Since its release earlier this year, a number of chapters have put the new modularized presentation to good use. Turn to page 47 to find out how CSCI and its new educational tools are primed to make a huge impression on the fire service.

In the third part of our series on mergers and acquisitions, Doug Cerny discusses the role of advisors and consultants in the sale of your business. In "Consultants & Advisors," find out why confidence can be a hindrance, what to look for when assembling your team of professionals, and why it is important for each party to have a global view of the sale process.

As of this writing, the nation has tip-toed through hurricane season without consequence. In "Hurricane Lessons Learned & Re-Learned," Alpine's Charlie Hoover reflects on his three decades of exposure to hurricanes, reminding us that there is always another big storm lurking. Reading the proverbial lessons learned and the building codes changed, one wonders if our buildings and residences are safer, if the electric and power infrastructure of our cities has been reinforced, and whether we are any more emotionally prepared for the next storm damage. Have we learned our lesson? **SBC**

at a glance

- ❑ This issue of **SBC Magazine** contains the BCMC Show Guide.
- ❑ WTCA has come a long way since it was organized in 1983; read about the events that took place at its first meeting in "Time Warp: What It Takes to Make a New Association."
- ❑ Alpine's Charlie Hoover remembers the history of hurricane damage in the United States and what we've learned from them in "Hurricane Lessons Learned & Re-Learned."

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