

Wtca Update

WTCA Management Notes Now Available

Learn more about the latest tool from WTCA

ast month you learned about Tech Notes; this month Management Notes are taking center stage. WTCA's new Management Notes address critical issues that component manufacturers face in the operation of their business.

Management Notes mimic the format of Tech Notes in that sections of the document are organized into the Background, Issue, Analysis and Conclusion of a particular topic. As its name might suggest, the scope of topics covered in Management Notes will differ significantly. For instance, while Tech Notes are often used to address design responsibility issues, Management Notes cover topics that relate to risk management, human resources practices, citation avoidance, transportation regulation, safety and other business operations.

Component manufacturers are encouraged to use *Management Notes* to educate regulatory groups and other outside entities in the marketplace on the industry's interpretation of regulations, laws and codes.



by WTCA Staff

management notes

Management Notes cover topics that relate to risk management, human resources practices, citation avoidance, transportation regulation, safety and other business operations.

The first ever Management Note, titled "California Wall Panel Transport & Permit Process," addresses a recent interpretation of the law by a California Highway Patrol (CHP) officer and citation over optimal load positioning of wall panels and the necessity of a non-divisible over width load permit. While the component manufacturer was successful in defeating the citation in court, the CHP officer claimed he did not agree with the ruling and would continue to issue citations to vehicles hauling wall panels loaded in the horizontal position.

This document, sponsored by the California Engineered Structural Component Association (CalESCA), discusses wall panel production and outlines the industry's concerns regarding wall panel handling and transport. It further discusses the industry's understanding of California Vehicle Code (CVC) and statute by clearly outlining the reasons that wall panels should continue to be transported horizontally when utilizing a flat-bed trailer.

at a glance

- □ WTCA has created an educational resource to address component manufacturers' business and management issues called Management Notes.
- □ The first *Management Note* available discusses the necessity of non-divisible over width load permits per the California Highway Patrol.
- □ Future *Management Notes* will cover a range of topics from records retention to storm water management plans.

A popular topic for component manufacturers is records retention, which is currently in development. Component manufacturers have also expressed a need for Management Notes addressing these topics: sawdust generation and collection, storm water management plans, new employment reporting requirements under the Social Security Administration, employee overtime regulations, and a hearing test requirements guide. Visit www.sbcindustry.com/mgmtnotes.php to view new Management Notes. SBC

Is your chapter or company challenged with a marketplace or business issue that could be covered in a Management Note? If so, contact Sean Shields, sshields@qualtim.com.

WTCA Creates...

Madison, WI - WTCA is pleased to announce the formation of its Cold Formed Steel Council (CFSC). Comprised of steel component manufacturer members of WTCA, CFSC will focus



on protecting and advancing the structural building component industry with a special emphasis on steel component manufacturing issues.

"This will be the most beneficial move the cold formed steel business has seen," said Joe Odgers, Sales Manager for Bama Truss & Components, Inc. and CFSC co-chair. "Creating the council and working with WTCA offers members the opportunity to participate in key WTCA committees, network with component manufacturers on common issues, and have access to tools and resources for steel component manufacturers that are unprecedented."

The goal of CFSC (and WTCA) is to create a fence of protection around component manufacturers through risk management and education. The new council will offer a host of services that build off of the work that the structural building component industry has been working on including: risk management tools; Technical Notes providing assistance on building codes, professional engineering laws and design responsibilities; the annual Building Component Manufacturers Conference; the SBC Legislative Conference; approved insurance broker programs, and coverage of steel-related issues in *Structural Building Components Magazine*. New services that will soon be available include: online training; steel-focused Building Component Safety Information (BCSI) series publications; and an In-Plant CFSC Quality Control program.

"The time is right to start CFSC," said Odgers. Outlining the united front the industry now has on key issues that face all component manufacturers, he added, "The market has matured over the past few years, and the cold formed steel business is here to stay. Being a wood and steel component manufacturer, we know intimately that our business is not a wood versus steel business; it is truly a component manufacturing business. Wood components and steel components are very complementary product lines for us-we're really all simply in the building component business."

For more information on participating in WTCA's CFSC, contact WTCA at 608/274-4849.

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Open Quarterly Meeting Highlights: August 2-4 2006, San Diego, CA

In August, 70 members and staff gathered in San Diego, CA for the WTCA Open Quarterly Meeting. An Engineering & Technology Committee Meeting and the Component Manufacturers' Roundtable were held on Wednesday. Thursday was brimming with additional committee meetings, as the Legislative, Marketing, Management & Business Insurance, Quality Control and Membership Committees all met to work through priorities, receive updates on current projects and plan for the future. The productive week concluded with a full Board meeting on Friday morning.

Some highlights from the week include:

- Prior to WTCA's OQM TPI held its project committee meetings, which were very productive. Chapter 3 is completed with a few minor issues to finalize. The industry collaboration and teamwork on recrafting TPI 1 is excellent and makes the entire process very valuable.
- One of the tremendous aspects of this OQM was the great discussion at each meeting. It was clear that there was strong interest in the topics being discussed, and in many cases the discussion could have gone on for guite some time.
- For component manufacturers, the Component Manufacturers' Roundtable continues to be one of the more interesting and informative meetings taking place. So much so that it was decided to extend the time for this meeting to ensure that there is plenty of time to cover important CM issues. At this meeting, the group discussed lumber

grading issues, recent building collapses, software licensing, industry consolidation, and the lumber trading data survey.

- On Thursday, several committees met and discussed the next steps in moving us toward effectively accomplishing the priorities set at the beginning of the year. A few highlights follow:
- At the Marketing Committee meeting, members reviewed a new proposed component manufacturing certification program tentatively entitled SCORE (Structural Component Operations Reaching for Excellence). By participating in various WTCA programs, CMs will be able to set themselves apart in the marketplace and market to their customers that they are on a path of continual improvement and enhanced professionalism. Companies will be able to attain different levels of certification through WTCA.
- The Legislative Committee discussed combining efforts with the National Lumber & Building Material Dealers Association for next year's Legislative Conference.
- The Management Committee provided excellent feedback on the In-Plant Basic Training program, targeted toward training plant personnel. The course is slated to be completed by December 1.
- In the QC Committee meeting, the committee approved a motion to recommend to the board that the In-Plant WTCA QC certification pricing be updated to a fee-based approach.
- The Membership Committee approved the creation of a two-day Annual Regional Workshop & Conference to replace the two sepa-

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For more information about WTCA membership, contact Anna (608/310-6719 or astamm@gualtim.com) or visit www.sbcindustry.com.

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WTCA OQM Highlights Continued from page 30

rate workshops that have been held in previous years. The target audience will be both managers and technical staff. Attendees will be able to participate in the entire two-day event or simply attend the portion that provides the most benefit to them.

- · A high point of the meetings was Thursday's boat trip through the San Diego harbor followed by a tasty dinner. A huge thanks goes to Ken Cloyd of Cal Truss who pulled this together for all the attendees to enjoy!
- The Board meeting on Friday topped off an excellent week of meetings and gave chapters the opportunity to bring up important matters happening across the country. Some key motions that passed include:
- Motion to adopt to WTCA's new mission statement, which can be found on the WTCA website at www.sbcindustry.com/aboutus.php.
- Motion to move the dates of the 2007 annual legislative conference to April 16-18, and coordinate joint activities between WTCA and National Lumber & Building Materials Association (NLBMDA) to leverage the advocacy strength of the combined membership.
- Joint motion with the Executive Committee to adopt a new pricing model for the WTCA QC program.
- Motion for WTCA to use the Cold Formed Steel Council as a developmental model for a council process and implement other councils as needed to best serve the diverse market-specific interests of the entire WTCA membership. SBC

The next WTCA Open Quarterly Meeting will be held October 7 at the Hyatt Regency in Houston, TX, following BCMC 2007. For more information, contact WTCA staff at 608/274-4849 or wtca@sbcindustry. com, or visit www.sbcindustry.com.





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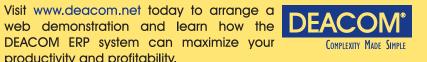
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