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STRUCTURAL BUILDING  
**COMPONENTS**  
THE FUTURE OF FRAMING



# Editor's Message

## SBCRI: The Possibilities Are Limitless

by Bob Becht

SBCRI breathes new life  
into the industry.

When I entered this industry many years ago, I never imagined that we would be faced with such a revolutionary opportunity. Of course, I'm speaking of the Structural Building Components Research Institute (SBCRI), built in Madison, WI. Though it is not even one year old, the unique capabilities our industry now has because it exists are boundless. It is no doubt a tough time for many component manufacturers (my company included!), but it's also an exciting time for the industry because we're standing on the cusp of learning some critical information about the products we supply every day. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all SBCRI donors who have helped take SBCRI from concept to creation in the last few years.



The unique capabilities our industry now has because SBCRI exists are boundless.

Selfishly, I have some things I hope are tested in SBCRI. This facility exists to benefit the industry, and I encourage all of you to think of the things in your own businesses that would be helpful to have more test data and analysis on. The only limits on the possibilities of SBCRI are our own imaginations.

The industry testing done at SBCRI will be shared with the memberships of WTCA and TPI. The funding of this testing will be jointly provided by these organizations per the Joint Testing Venture Agreement finalized just a few months ago. Over the course of the next several years, TPI and WTCA will invest almost \$2 million in targeted industry testing projects that will benefit our businesses and our products. The financial commitments made by these organizations to SBCRI will provide the industry with the unique opportunity to learn a tremendous amount about building components that has not been an option in the products' sixty years of existence.

If you haven't already, check out more about the facility at [www.sbcinfo.info](http://www.sbcinfo.info), and keep checking **SBC** for continual updates about the testing happening at SBCRI.

On a different topic, our industry has been challenged with record-low housing starts for many months now. As we head into the building season, I hope you find that there is some recovery happening in your market. If this is the case, remember that WTCA is your #1 resource for educational training tools and technical resources. The article on page 20 provides an example of just how many options are avail-

Continued on page 8

### at a glance

- ❑ SBCRI is a one of a kind world-class testing lab located in Madison, WI dedicated to testing building components.
- ❑ TPI and WTCA have committed to investing almost \$2 million in the next several years for industry testing projects.
- ❑ Take advantage of your WTCA membership by using the products and services developed for component manufacturers.





The industry celebrated the completion of SBCRI in late June of last year with a ribbon-cutting and open house in Madison, WI. Since that time, a number of tests have been completed as staff continues to hone testing and reporting processes. In February, the SBCRI Steering Committee set priorities for future tests. The article on page 26 outlines these projects. The article on page 30 explores a specific testing project that serves as a great example of what is possible through testing. If you are interested in touring the facility, contact Megan at mdahl@qualtim.com.

Editor's Message

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able to you...all just a phone call away. Each one of these products and services developed by WTCA were created to serve members' needs, and many of them can be customized or used in ways that best suit your business needs. You don't have to reinvent the wheel; call WTCA first! **SBC**

SBC Magazine encourages the participation of its readers in developing content for future issues. Do you have an article idea for a future issue or a topic that you would like to see covered? Email your thoughts and ideas to editor@sbcmag.info or call 608/310-6706.

Welcome to our newest  
SBC Program Advertiser...

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(Silver Advertiser)

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Many thanks for your support!

Publisher

Truss Publications, Inc.  
6300 Enterprise Lane • Suite 200 • Madison, WI 53719  
Phone: 608/310-6706 • Fax: 608/271-7006  
trusspubs@sbcmag.info • www.sbcmag.info

Editor

Robert Becht  
Chambers Truss, Inc. • rbecht@sbcmag.info

Art Director

Melinda Caldwell  
608/310-6729 • mcaldwell@sbcmag.info

Managing Editor & Circulation Director

Libby Maurer  
608/310-6724 • lmaurer@sbcmag.info

Editorial Assistant & Staff Writer

Emmy Thorson-Hanson  
608/310-6702 • ethorson-hanson@sbcmag.info

Editorial Review

Suzi Grundahl  
608/310-6710 • sgrundahl@sbcmag.info

Advertising Sales & Marketing

Peggy Pichette  
608/310-6723 • ppichette@sbcmag.info

Jan Pauli

608/310-6746 • jpauli@sbcmag.info

Kirk Grundahl

608/274-2345 • kgrundahl@sbcmag.info

Staff Writers for April

Molly E. Butz • Ryan Dexter • Emily Patterson  
Marisa Hirsch • Sean Shields • Anna L. Stamm

Accountant

Mike Younglove  
608/310-6714 • myounglove@sbcmag.info

Computer Systems Administrator

Rick Saindon  
608/310-6717 • rsaindon@sbcmag.info

Send all ad materials, insertion orders, contracts & payments to:

Truss Publications, Inc.  
6300 Enterprise Lane • Suite 200  
Madison, WI 53719  
Phone: 608/310-6706 • Fax: 608/271-7006  
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The mission of Structural Building Components Magazine (SBC) is to increase the knowledge of and to promote the common interests of those engaged in manufacturing and distributing structural building components. Further, SBC strives to ensure growth, continuity and increased professionalism in our industry, and to be the information conduit by staying abreast of leading-edge issues. SBC's editorial focus is geared toward the entire structural building component industry, which includes the membership of WTCA - Representing the Structural Building Components Industry. The opinions expressed in SBC are those of the authors and those quoted, and are not necessarily the opinions of Truss Publications or WTCA.

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5750 Main Street N.E. • Minneapolis, Minnesota 55432-5437 U.S.A. 763-571-2400 • Fax: 763-571-7379

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# STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS™

THE FUTURE OF FRAMING

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6300 Enterprise Lane • Suite 200 • Madison, WI 53719  
608/310-6706 phone • 608/271-7006 fax  
[www.sbcmag.info](http://www.sbcmag.info) • [admgr@sbcmag.info](mailto:admgr@sbcmag.info)