

Event Recap CSi2eye - March 16, 2017

By: Joseph A. Stypka, FCSI, CCS, FAIA

CSI Chicago Chapter's 4th Annual CSi2eye took place on Thursday, 16 MAR 17 at East Bank Club. 36 Product Representatives from 21 companies met with 30 Design and Construction Professionals over a period of 8 hours in almost 300 eye-to-eye sessions. Thousands of construction ideas were discussed.

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My seven morning sessions discussed ideas about dual density insulation to resist impact yet conform better to substrate; using rockwool insulation as part fire-rated curtain walls; dynamic coefficient of tile (0.42); the incredible differences between ceramic and porcelain tile; how to integrate minimal metal grid systems into monolithic appearance acoustical ceilings and ceiling features; using ceiling islands of 40 percent to achieve full acoustical coverage; how to thermally and acoustically separate parking garages from residential units above; capabilities for acoustically separating indoors from outside; vacuum-insulated panels are here; phenolic insulation has made a come-back; how to simplify the fire-separation around fire cabinets; access panels are available with an r-value of 13; floor doors can be fire-rated and aluminum; more ways to drain and ventilate rainscreen cavities; the benefits of various thermal breaks for curtain wall versus storefront; AAMA 611 versus AAMA 612.

Whew!! The ideas to think about in one morning are like designing a whole building in three hours! Luckily there was also a break in there.

Then we had a scrumptious, healthy plated lunch. Steve Black of Power Construction was the winner of the morning Gift Card Drawing.

The speaker was Mark S. Graham, Vice President, Technical Services with the National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA). Mark is an excellent public speaker and is able to convey serious technical information in a manner that keeps one involved. His topic was "Long Term Performance and Aged R-Values



Article continued on the next page...

Event Recap CSi2eye - March 16, 2017 (Cont.)

of Polyisocyanurate Insulation”, but he did not limit himself to that. Mark was full of technical information and did not shy away from discussing the controversial parts of r-value testing and aging. He will be free with passing along his talk and any other information to those interested.

Without going into details there are two points one should obtain from Mr. Graham's presentation:

1. Do NOT specify r-value. Instead specify thickness, type, class, and grade of insulation.
2. Because commercial roofs last on average 17 years the upgrade in r-value should probably be limited to going from 15 to 20 as that is projected to have a 15 year payback.

That brings us to the afternoon. My seven sessions included ideas on STPU Silyl Terminated Polyurethane, vapor permeable air barrier; connections of air barriers to roofs and waterproofing; proactive moisture mitigation systems; MMA (methyl methacrylate) flooring is still out there smelling as bad as ever, but curable below freezing; there is a new standard in preparation for hurricane resistant automatic sliding doors; triple glazed insulated glass units are still not typically cost-effective in Chicago for energy efficiency, although they may be useful acoustically; the availability of oversized glass is growing (120 sq ft, with maximum 120" wide x 192" high); welcome to Chicago, Mitch Hawkins; non-combustible MCM; unlike his booklet photo Bob Nixon has a beard just the same as I am trying to achieve; magnesium oxide (MgO) boards are becoming available in the US to be used for exterior sheathing and fire-rated assemblies; and there were only so many ideas to be absorbed in one day.

Then we were able to wind down a little with a reception. More networking, tasty hors d'oeuvres, and beverages were had by all. William Radford of Jensen & Halstead was the winner of the afternoon Gift Card Drawing.

I look forward to the next CSi2eye!

