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## Specnique Gets a Facelift

Specnique 2006a was finally released in late September. The new version includes long-anticipated enhancements such as the ability to include custom Table of Contents entries (for non-specification items such as Drawings), a project section cross-referencing tool, more and improved reporting features, and a number of user-interface improvements to make the software even easier to use.

One significant change of interest to new or prospective users is the switch to "subscription" pricing. With this new approach, Digicon will be requesting updates every year. In return, we will be re-investing this annual income into software improvements. We hope that this new strategy will allow us to deliver more improvements at a faster rate, and speed the adoption of this new generation software.

Existing Specnique subscribers will be notified by e-mail when the updated software is available.

## SpecSuite 2006-Q4 Update (October)

### Sections Updated

This calendar quarter includes updated sections from Canadian Master Specification (CMS), MiniSPEC (MS), OutlineSPEC (OS), and HomeSPEC (HS). These sections have been updated due primarily to changes in standards cited within the CMS and MiniSPEC sections. These updates also address section internal cross references in MiniSPEC. Two (2) new sections that address personal and light-weight vertical and inclined lifts, have been added to CMS, MiniSPEC, and HomeSpec.

A summary of sections, and their changes, are listed here:

| Spec | Section Number | Section Title           | Discipline*<br>Packages | Status  |
|------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| CMS  | 07 11 13       | Bituminous Dampproofing | ACSL                    | Updated |

| Spec | Section Number | Section Title   | Discipline*<br>Packages | Status  |
|------|----------------|---|-------------------------|---------|
| CMS  | 07 12 13       | Bituminous Sheet Waterproofing                            | ACSL                    | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 13 00       | Sheet Membrane Waterproofing                              | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 14 00       | Fluid Applied Waterproofing                               | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 21 13       | Board Insulation  | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 21 16       | Blanket Insulation  | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 21 19       | Foamed-In-Place Insulation                                | AHR                     | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 21 23       | Loose Fill Insulation                                     | AHR                     | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 21 26       | Blown Insulation  | AHR                     | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 21 29       | Sprayed Insulation  | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 24 00       | Exterior Insulation And Finish Systems                    | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 50 05       | Preparation For Re-roofing                                | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 50 11       | Single Ply Roofing – Loose Laid Ballasted - Conventional  | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 50 13       | Single Ply Roofing – Mechanically Attached - Conventional | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 50 19       | Single Ply Roofing – Protected Membrane                   | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 51 13       | Built-up Asphalt Roofing - Conventional                   | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 51 53       | Single Ply Roofing - Fully Adhered - Conventional         | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 52 11       | SBS/APP Modified Bitumen Membrane - Conventional          | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 55 51       | Built-up Asphalt Roofing - Protected Membrane             | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 55 52       | SBS/APP Modified Bitumen - Protected Membrane Roofing     | AR                      | Updated |
| CMS  | 07 92 00       | Joint Sealants  | AHR                     | Updated |
| CMS  | 14 42 13       | Inclined Wheelchair Lifts                                 | A                       | Added   |
| CMS  | 14 42 16       | Vertical Wheelchair Lifts                                 | A                       | Added   |
|      |                |   |                         |         |
| MS   | 01 60 00       | Product Requirements                                      | AME                     | Updated |
| MS   | 07 21 10       | Board Insulation  | A                       | Updated |
| MS   | 07 21 15       | Blanket Insulation  | A                       | Updated |
| MS   | 07 21 25       | Blown Insulation  | A                       | Updated |
| MS   | 14 42 10       | Inclined Wheelchair Lifts                                 | A                       | Added   |
| MS   | 14 42 15       | Vertical Wheelchair Lifts                                 | A                       | Added   |
|      |                |   |                         |         |
| HS   | 07 21 05       | Insulation  |                         | Updated |
| HS   | 14 42 05       | Inclined Wheelchair Stair Lifts                           |                         | Added   |
|      |                |   |                         |         |

| Spec | Section Number | Section Title           | Discipline*<br>Packages | Status  |
|------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| OS   | 03 03 31       | Concrete Restoration    |                         | Updated |
| OS   | 03 30 10       | Concrete Frame          |                         | Updated |
| OS   | 03 50 10       | Associated Concrete     |                         | Updated |
| OS   | 04 20 50       | Masonry Assemblies      |                         | Updated |
| OS   | 04 20 60       | Decorative Masonry      |                         | Updated |
| OS   | 04 40 50       | Stone Assemblies        |                         | Updated |
| OS   | 08 40 10       | Glazed Assemblies       |                         | Updated |
| OS   | 14 20 10       | Vertical Transportation |                         | Updated |
| OS   | 14 30 10       | Inclined Transportation |                         | Updated |
|      |                |                         |                         |         |

\* Discipline package codes: A = Architectural, C = Civil Engineering, E = Electrical, H = Heritage, I = Interiors, L = Landscape, M = Mechanical, R=Roofing/Waterproofing, S=Structural

## CCDC 2 Update

Our check with the powers that be, on the status of the (still) forthcoming CCDC 2 (Canadian standard form of contract for stipulated price) indicates a strong possibility of a 2006 Edition.. We await this impending revision release. Our Divisions 00 and 01 sections will all be impacted by this new Edition. The current sections relating to the 1994 Edition will be kept available for a while, separate from the new sections that will address the new contract form.

## Division 01 Development to Address BIM

Digicon is currently developing new Division 01 sections that will be addressing BIM (Building Information Model) subjects as they pertain to specifications. These documents will focus on the administrative and application aspects of this legally perplexing issue, affecting consultants who develop drawings (and virtual models) of a project using CAD modeling software. These particular specification sections will allow consultants to provide for:

- recognizing exclusive copyright ownership by a consultant-of-record, of a project's design interpretation as expressed on project drawings,
- the growing practice of copying (sharing) these electronic drawings to contractors (and subcontractors) for their use during the construction processes,
- permitting contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers to utilize these drawings to create detailed shop drawings and the like,
- recognition of a contractor's (and subcontractor's) developed portion as their respective copyright, and
- continuation of a consultant's copyright of project design, to these parties.

These Division 01 BIM sections under development are "ground-breaking" in their application to projects. Formal contract documents associated with BIM subjects have yet to be seen in the Canadian construction industry – but BIM design is beginning to occur, and it will only increase. Digicon has been exploring this relatively new subject and will be developing specific specification sections, for the exclusive benefit of our subscribers.

## New IFD Library Development to Support BIM

Digicon recently attended an international meeting in Lisbon, Portugal, to learn of new developments leading toward new technology in the BIM world. This technology is being followed (and supported) by CSC as well. The results

will be announced through these newsletters and other articles in publications such as CSC's Construction Canada magazine.

The news from Lisbon is that two European partners (from Norway and Netherlands) have been working on a terminology library, which will be compatible with modeling software that is compatible with the IFC standard currently adopted (or being adopted) by the major CAD vendors (and other software applications). This new library is being termed "IFD Library", and will contain the existing contents from the legacy Barbi (Norway) and Lexicon (Netherlands) programs.

These IFD Library partners have offered to share their development work to the rest of the world (representing approximately \$5 million in development cost), in return for assistance to populate their library with terminology and definitions. This topic of a terminology library hits close to the heart for CSC.

Both CSC and Digicon are expected to join with the European partners as Canadian contributors by signing a Letter of Intent at an upcoming meeting in Washington, DC, USA. CSI is expected to participate as a USA contributor (final decision from CSI is pending).

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## BrandedSPEC goes Live!

Digicon now offers a new source for master specifications, and best of all ... it's FREE to users (check out the first BrandedSPEC files at our [BrandedSPEC Page](#) online!

As the name suggests, BrandedSPEC is a compilation of branded (proprietary) master specifications that have been written to specify a particular manufactured product. The cost of development and maintenance of BrandedSPEC sections is borne by the manufacturers themselves, and offered to the public at no cost.

The BrandedSPEC offering is a better solution than existing specifications offered by manufacturers themselves (or those offered by the popular internet portals), because the file formats will be 100% compatible with the existing Digicon editing software options. In addition, Digicon will be enforcing our high quality standards for text content before they are offered to the public.

Digicon plans to encourage product manufacturers to develop ProductFormat documents for their individual products, which enable specifiers to accurately specify their products for a project using the matching BrandedSPEC documents.

Manufacturers should contact Digicon at [Spex.ca](#) if they wish to participate in the BrandedSPEC program.

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## ProductFormat for Product Literature

ProductFormat is a standard which Digicon has developed and honed over the last 10 years or so, and its primary purpose is to standardize on the format (or presentation) of product information in a manner which parallels a specification section.

ProductFormat is anticipated to do for product information what SectionFormat does for specification sections in a Project Manual. ProductFormat:

- provides a useful and consistent organization of technical data for a specifier or designer to assess, as they make their decisions on whether or not to accept and specify a product for a project,
- encourages product manufacturers and distributors to cite their product's properties in a manner that assists a specifier's decision making process,
- organizes critical product data in a manner which is necessary for project applications utilizing BIM (Building Information Model) technology (refer to the BIM description elsewhere in this newsletter).

This document is intended for manufacturers to explain all of the relevant product properties, in a format which is easily reviewed by specifiers. With the advent of impending standards that allow electronic linking between 3D CAD

/ costing / specifications, we will need a standard such as ProductFormat to connect the relevant product properties to these other applications.

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## Relevant Links

This section will not evolve into a network of links everywhere, but serve to link readers to topics which are included in our newsletter.

- Construction Specifications Canada (<http://www.csc-dcc.ca>)
- Construction Specifications Institute (<http://www.csinet.org>)
- Digicon Information Inc. (<http://www.digicon.ab.ca>)
- OmniClass (<http://www.omniclass.ca> and <http://www.omniclass.org>)
- Spex.ca (<http://www.spex.ca>)

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| <b>Camrose Office</b><br>4312 - 52 Street Camrose, AB T4V 1T6<br>Telephone: 1-780-672-8525<br>Facsimile: 1-780-672-9882 e-mail: <a href="mailto:w2@digicon.ab.ca">w2@digicon.ab.ca</a> | <a href="http://www.spex.ca">http://www.spex.ca</a><br>1-800-610-SPEC | <b>Calgary Office</b><br>125 Covington Bay N.E. Calgary, AB T3K 4A9<br>Telephone: 1-403-226-3272<br>Facsimile: 1-403-226-3296 e-mail: <a href="mailto:david@digicon.ab.ca">david@digicon.ab.ca</a> |
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