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Digicon and SpecSUITE News

Technical Support - our New Edmonton Office

Digicon's new Edmonton office “technical support” contact information and phone number is:

Digicon Information Inc.
12207 58 Street, Edmonton, AB T5W 3X6
Tel: 1-780-758-4147

David Watson voted ICIS Secretary for 2008

In late 2007, the International Construction Information Society (ICIS) held a vote between two proponents for the position of Secretary. Digicon's President, David Watson, was voted to the position and has already attended the first ICIS Board meeting in early March.

Both Digicon and CSC are long-time members of ICIS. The next ICIS Delegates Assembly will take place June 15-18, 2008 in Berlin, Germany.

Specnique - 2008 Improvements

Digicon is in the final stages of preparing a new update to Specnique. We are pleased to announce that we now have our latest release of Specnique our special editing software. Substantial enhancements to the 2008 version of Specnique include a greatly expanded electronic "sticky note" feature and an upgraded licensing system.

This new release was not quite ready at press time; please check back to the Spex.ca News or Software pages during April to find out when Specnique is released, and what new features have been added. We also need a little time to update the User Manual with the new features. Specnique subscribers will automatically be notified by e-mail.

BrandedSPEC* - Proprietary Specs by Spex.ca

BrandedSPEC is truly a win-win concept for suppliers and specifiers. Manufacturers are provided access to all of Spex.ca customers, and Spex.ca customers have access to quality, proprietary specifications that are compatible with their specification software tools. Spex.ca customers who like this free service should encourage it by asking manufacturers to participate.

Manufacturers interested in participating should contact Geri Watson directly at 780-628-4494, or through the Spex.ca toll-free number 1-800-610-SPEC (7732).

*BrandedSPEC is a library of branded (proprietary) master specifications that have been specially 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 construction industry FREE. For more information browse to the Spex.ca BrandedSPEC Page online.

PRODUCTFORMAT® Published

PRODUCTFORMAT is a new organizational document for Canada, endorsed by Construction Specifications Canada (CSC) for use by product manufacturers, distributors, suppliers, product importers and others providing materials and product information to the construction industry. CSC and the industry have used *SectionFormat* to organize specifications for years, *PRODUCTFORMAT* is to help organize construction product information in a form and arrangement that is both useful and beneficial to owners, design professionals, contractors, subcontractors, and others.

PRODUCTFORMAT is free and available for download and use now at the Spex.ca [Free Documents](#) page.

SpecSUITE Update Frequency

Digicon will continue to issue updates four (4) times a year. We have improved our ability to electronically track and implement changes to industry standards to our specifications, with an objective to keeping all of our specifications current to a maximum of 1.5 years from the current published date.

CCDC 2 - 2008: Supported by CMS and MiniSPEC

In this April 2008 update, Digicon has updated the CMS and MiniSPEC Division 00 and 01 documents to address these new CCDC contract forms. CMS and MiniSPEC now include references to both the new CCDC contract forms as well as the existing 1994 Edition forms.

Digicon will continue to support the older CCDC 2 - 1994 version documents into the near future. Both versions will be kept available and supported until the industry is comfortable with the new version. The CMS and MiniSPEC updates for April include all Division 00 and 01 documents.

CSC/CSI Formats Implemented in SpecSUITE

Digicon has followed or participated in the development of SectionFormat and PageFormat. When the standards were near final draft stage, Digicon elected to begin implementing the new article titles recommended in the new SectionFormat. Shortly, Digicon will update SpecMacros to implement new recommendations for page organization identified in the PageFormat standard.

LEED® Implementation in CMS and MiniSPEC

To assist CMS master specification subscribers, we now have Division 01 sections with full sustainability recognition included. CMS users can now more easily accommodate and specify the documentation and site administration obligations requirements for LEED projects.

The reason we selected LEED as the process to use for a project is because LEED is the only sustainability program that addresses an entire project from establishing project design criteria, selecting materials and products, specifying this criteria in specification language, monitoring the construction processes for full compliance, and commissioning the work - all in a single program, and in one specification section.

This updated text, specific to LEED projects, is primarily contained within CMS Division 01 sections. The technical sections that specify LEED compliant products will be governed by the requirements of Division 01. The process of selecting LEED compliant materials and products will have been completed by the design team, and the specifications serve to enforce those decisions. Materials and products that may be suggested by a contractor can be decided by a substitution process during the course of the work. This arrangement will better enable specifiers to appropriately edit, coordinate, and later, administer a LEED project.

CSC has commissioned a specialist team to create a CSC sustainability TEK·AID which will include an explanatory Digest plus associated specification sections. Digicon is playing a key role on that team. Of course, this new CSC TEK·AID will be available on the Spex.ca website, when it is released for publication expected mid-2008.

Industry News

CCDC 2 - 2008 Published / Seminars

The new long-anticipated update to CCDC 2 - Stipulate Price Contract Form has been released to the public. In January, CSC delivered a variety of seminars covering the changes to the new version in most major cities in Canada. CSC continues to deliver secondary sessions on an as-needed basis, for those who couldn't attend the first series.

The CSC Calgary Chapter is hosting a lunch/afternoon seminar on April 29. Contact the CSC Calgary Chapter web site for details (<http://www.cscalgary.ca>). Other chapters may also be planning more seminars; contact your local chapter to find out.

If interested in attending a CCDC 2 seminar, contact CSC at www.csc-dcc.ca and add your name to the growing list.

CSC National Conference - Halifax in May

CSC hosts its annual conference in Halifax, NS this year on May 28 - 31, 2008. Digicon will, as always, be participating. For details, check out the conference web site at <http://www.cscconference.ca>.

CSC/CSI SectionFormat and PageFormat Updates

Construction Specifications Canada (CSC) and Construction Specifications Institute (CSI - USA) have published the new 2008 version of *SectionFormat* and *PageFormat* standards.

CSC/CSI SectionFormat is the 3-part organization standard widely used in North American specifications, and provides standard terms to be used for specification article titles.

CSC/CSI PageFormat provides the recommended page layout for specification sections, including headers, footers, numbering, font and page spacing, etc.

Spex.ca publishes all of our specifications to these two standards. Both standards are in the publication of specifications. These two standards apply to the subject content and page layout for specifications, and are now available on our SPEX.CA website - www.spex.ca.

Hazardous Substances - Deleting Sections From Division 01

Digicon has deleted four (4) specification sections from the existing Division 01 Library. These sections included handling or removal of "hazardous" substances (or the specifying of same). What prompted this action for us was the release of the new CCDC 2 2008 and certain changes that occurred. CCDC2-2008 made it abundantly clear to us that design professionals should not be addressing this subject in their project documents (except those consultants who are professionally trained and licensed to do so).

Upon further investigation, we noted that both RAIC and ACEC have statements in their standard "client / consultant" agreements that present a disclaimer statement regarding professional responsibility related to hazardous substances. We went a step further and checked the documents published by the professional liability insurer (the agency used by many of the design consultants in Canada). They are very clear in advising that if any professionally licensed consultant in Canada (except those specifically licensed) becomes involved with hazardous substances, they will have their professional liability policy declared null and void for that project. Please be forewarned if this situation may apply to your practice or your projects.

IFD Library Workshops in Washington, DC and Berlin, Germany

As most SpexNews readers may recall, IFD Library is a CSC project dealing with a world-wide terminology standard for software developers - specifically concerning modelling (BIM) technology. This project is picking up steam, and continuing workshops have been planned for Washington, DC April 6-9, 2008 and in Berlin, Germany on June 16 & 17, 2008. The Washington workshop is being organized by the IFD Library partners in partnership two with buildingSMART chapters and the International Code Council (ICC) based in the USA.

David Watson of Digicon is the representative for CSC (an IFD Library Partner), and will be involved in both of these planned workshops.

NMS News

NMS is now on their revised update schedule of two (2) times a year. Their next update will be July 2008.

SpecSuite 2008-Q2 Update

CMS and MiniSPEC Updated

In this calendar quarter, we have updated sections from Digicon's SpecSUITE Master Specifications, incorporating various technical and standards changes - with a particular focus on Divisions 00 and 01. Sections in divisions 10 thru 13 will be structured with the latest editions (2008) of CSC SectionFormat and PageFormat, recently released.

ALL subscribers should delete the four sections regarding the handling of hazardous materials or contaminated sites. Please review the section titled [Hazardous Substances](#) earlier in this newsletter for an explanation.

Sections Updated This Quarter

Updates this quarter include the following summary of specific sections – applicable Libraries are listed below:

Library	Section #	Section Name	Discipline*	Status
CMS	000107	Seals Page	All	Updated
CMS	001113	Advertisement for Bids	All	Updated
CMS	001116	Invitation To Bid	All	Updated
CMS	002113	Instructions To Bidders	All	Updated
CMS	003134	Subsurface Investigation Report	All	Updated
CMS	004113	Bid Form - Stipulated Price	All	Updated
CMS	004133	Bid Form - Cost Plus	All	Updated
CMS	004143	Bid Form - Unit Prices	All	Updated
CMS	004145	Bid Form - Civil Works	All	New
CMS	004173	Supplementary Bid Information Form	All	Updated
CMS	005100	Notice Of Award	All	Updated
CMS	005113	Bid Rejection Notice	All	Updated
CMS	005213	Agreement - Stipulated Price	All	Updated
CMS	005233	Agreement - Cost Plus	All	Updated
CMS	005243	Agreement - Unit Price	All	Updated
CMS	005245	Agreement - Civil Works	All	New
CMS	005613	Definitions - Stipulated Price	All	New
CMS	005633	Definitions - Cost Plus	All	New
CMS	005643	Definitions - Unit Price	All	New
CMS	005645	Definitions - Civil Works	All	New
CMS	007213	General Conditions - Stipulated Price	All	Updated
CMS	007233	General Conditions - Cost Plus	All	Updated
CMS	007243	General Conditions - Unit Price	All	Updated
CMS	007245	General Conditions - Civil Works	All	New
CMS	007303	Supplementary Conditions - Stipulated Price	All	Updated

Library	Section #	Section Name	Discipline*	Status
CMS	007306	Supplementary Conditions - Cost Plus	All	Updated
CMS	007309	Supplementary Conditions - Unit Price	All	Updated
CMS	007312	Supplementary Conditions - Civil Works	All	New
CMS	011000	Summary of Work	All	Updated
CMS	011200	Multiple Contract Summary	All	Updated
CMS	011400	Work Restrictions	All	Updated
CMS	011510	Restoration Project Procedures	All	Updated
CMS	011900	Specifications and Documents	All	Updated
CMS	011910	Electronic Model Database	All	Updated
CMS	012100	Allowances	All	Updated
CMS	012210	Contract Unit Prices	All	Updated
CMS	012900	Payment Procedures	All	Updated
CMS	013100	Project Managing And Coordination	All	Updated
CMS	013200	Construction Progress Documentation	All	Updated
CMS	013300	Submittal Procedures	All	Updated
CMS	013518	LEED Requirements and Procedures	All	Updated
CMS	013523	Health And Safety	All	Updated
CMS	013526	Environment Protection	All	Updated
CMS	013541	Waste Managing and Disposal	All	Updated
CMS	013543	Hazardous Materials	All	Deleted
CMS	013545	Procedures for Contaminated Sites	All	Deleted
CMS	013547	Health and Safety for Contaminated Sites	All	Deleted
CMS	013549	Managing Toxic Waste	All	Deleted
CMS	014100	Regulatory Requirements	All	Updated
CMS	014200	References	All	Updated
CMS	014300	Quality Assurance	All	Updated
CMS	014500	Quality Control	All	Updated
CMS	015100	Temporary Utilities	All	Updated
CMS	015200	Construction Facilities	All	Updated
CMS	015300	Temporary Construction	All	Updated
CMS	015526	Traffic Control And Procedures	All	Updated
CMS	015713	Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control	All	Updated
CMS	015720	Temporary Indoor Air Quality Control	All	Updated
CMS	015800	Project Identification	All	Updated
CMS	016100	Product Requirements	All	Updated
CMS	016200	Product Exchange Procedures	All	Updated
CMS	017000	Examination And Preparation	All	Updated
CMS	017300	Execution	All	Updated
CMS	017330	Cutting And Patching	All	Updated
CMS	017400	Cleaning And Waste Processing	All	Updated
CMS	017516	Start-Up Procedures	All	Updated
CMS	017519	Testing, Adjusting And Balancing	All	Updated
CMS	017810	Closeout Submittals	All	Updated
CMS	017840	Maintenance Requirements	All	Updated
CMS	017900	Demonstration And Training	All	Updated

Library	Section #	Section Name	Discipline*	Status
CMS	019100	Commissioning	All	Updated
CMS	019400	Facility Decommissioning	All	Updated
CMS	101100	Visual Display Surfaces	A,I	Updated
CMS	101419	Signage	A,I,L	Updated
CMS	101434	Illuminated Exit Signage	A,I	Updated
CMS	101453	Traffic Signs	A,C	Updated
CMS	101454	Street Signs	A,C	Updated
CMS	101455	Sign Structures	A,C	Updated
CMS	101470	Non-slip Floor Tape Markings	A,I	Updated
CMS	101475	Tactile Warning Devices	A,I	Updated
CMS	102112	Solid Plastic Toilet Compartments	A,I	Updated
CMS	102114	Metal Toilet Compartments	A,I	Updated
CMS	102115	Plastic Laminate Toilet Compartments	A,I	Updated
CMS	102124	Cubicle Curtains	A,I	Updated
CMS	102213	Wire Mesh Partitions	A	Updated
CMS	102222	Demountable Gypsum Partitions	A,I	Updated
CMS	102227	Folding Panel Partitions	A,I	Updated
CMS	102228	Accordion Folding Partitions	A,I	Updated
CMS	102613	Wall And Door Protection	A,I	Updated
CMS	102814	Toilet and Bath Accessories	A,I	Updated
CMS	103100	Manufactured Fireplaces	A,I	Updated
CMS	104413	Fire Extinguisher Cabinets	A	Updated
CMS	105113	Metal Lockers	A,I	Updated
CMS	105523	Mail Boxes	A	Updated
CMS	105591	Mail Chutes	A	Updated
CMS	107313	Awnings	A,L	Updated
CMS	107500	Flagpoles	A,L	Updated
CMS	111210	Parking Control Equipment	A,L	Updated
CMS	111313	Loading Dock Bumpers	A,L	Updated
CMS	111316	Loading Dock Seals And Shelters	A,L	Updated
CMS	111320	Loading Dock Levelers	A,L	Updated
CMS	113100	Residential Appliances	A	Updated
CMS	114000	Food Service Equipment	A	Updated
CMS	115213	Projection Screens	A,I	Updated
CMS	115300	Laboratory Equipment	A	Updated
CMS	116625	Basketball Backstops	A	Updated
CMS	118226	Waste Compactors And Destructors	A	Updated
CMS	122114	Horizontal Louver Blinds	A,I	Updated
CMS	122115	Vertical Louver Blinds	A,I	Updated
CMS	122216	Drapery Track And Accessories	A,I	Updated
CMS	122400	Window Roller Shades	A,I	Updated
CMS	123100	Manufactured Metal Casework	A,I	Updated
CMS	123200	Manufactured Wood Casework	A,I	Updated
CMS	124843	Floor Mats	A,I	Updated
CMS	131100	Swimming Pools	A	Updated

Library	Section #	Section Name	Discipline*	Status
CMS	131713	Hot Tubs	A,I	Updated
CMS	132126	Cold Storage Rooms	A	Updated
CMS	132416	Saunas	A,I	Updated
CMS	132426	Steam Baths	A,I	Updated
CMS	133423	Fabricated Structures	A,L	Updated
CMS	134900	Radiation Protection	A	Updated
CMS	213000	Fire Pumps	M	Updated
CMS	226000	Medical Gas Systems	M	Updated
CMS	312505	Erosion and Sediment Control	A,S,C,L	New

MiniSPEC	002110	Instructions to Bidders	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	003130	Subsurface Investigation Report	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	004110	Bid Form - Stipulated Price	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	007270	General and Supplementary Conditions	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	010000	Summary	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	013000	Administrative Requirements	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	015000	Temporary Requirements	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	016000	Product Requirements	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	017000	Close-Out Requirements	All	Updated
MiniSPEC	101415	Signage	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	102110	Metal Toilet Compartments	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	102215	Wire Mesh Partitions	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	102225	Accordion Folding Partitions	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	102810	Toilet and Bath Accessories	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	103110	Manufactured Fireplaces	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	107315	Awnings	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	111315	Loading Dock Bumpers	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	111321	Loading Dock Levelers	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	113110	Residential Equipment	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	122110	Horizontal Louver Blinds	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	122120	Roll-Up Window Blinds	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	122210	Drapery Track and Accessories	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	122410	Window Shades	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	124845	Floor Mats	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	131715	Hot Tubs	A	Updated
MiniSPEC	132415	Saunas	A	Updated

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

Relevant URL Links

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



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- BrandedSPEC (<https://secure.spex.ca/index.php?page=branded/index.php>)
- CCDC Documents: (<http://www.ccdc.org/home.html>)
- Construction Specifications Canada (CSC) (<http://www.csc-dcc.ca>)
- Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) (<http://www.csinet.org>)
- Digicon Information Inc. (<http://www.digicon.ab.ca>)
- IFD Library (<http://www.ifd-library.com>)
- International Alliance for Interoperability (IAI) (<http://www.iai-international.org>)
- International Construction Information Society (ICIS) (<http://www.icis.org>)
- Canadian Green Building Council (CaGBC): (<http://www.cagbc.org>)
- MasterFormat 2004 (free downloadable PDF on Spex.ca Free page): (<https://secure.spex.ca/index.php?page=freedocs/index.php>)
- OmniClass (<http://www.omniclass.ca> and <http://www.omniclass.org>)
- Spex.ca (<http://www.spex.ca>)

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