



# SCIPping Along

January 2006

Kerin (Dane) and Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, Editors

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| President:                  | John Regener, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP            |
| Vice President:             | Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP  |
| Vice President - Education: | Michael Chambers, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP            |
| Vice President - Webmaster: | David E. Lorenzini, FCSI, CCS, SCIP                |
| Treasurer:                  | David Metzger, FAIA, CSI, SCIP                     |
| Secretary:                  | Helga Brady, CSI, CCS, SCIP                        |
| Immediate Past President:   | Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, AIA, CSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP |

## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:**

### **John Regener, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP**

President

About four years ago, significant changes began in SCIP after a couple of decades of lengthy debates. The changes have not been without difficulties, as the very purposes and nature of SCIP have been examined. The philosophical discussions continue and are necessary as we respond to the changing world of construction management and documentation. It has been a disconcerting time for some but overall SCIP is morphing from an impromptu annual gathering of several dozen very independent and highly-opinionated construction specifications writers to year-round activities for a growing membership of several hundred very independent and highly-opinionated construction specifications writers, joined now by others with similar interests and tendencies who do not fully qualify to be members of SCIP but who want to join in SCIP's activities. As a result, SCIP needs to "grow up" and become a real organization.

SCIP's "infrastructure" now needs to be formalized and the services provided to SCIP members need to be developed and made more substantial and timely. This does NOT mean that SCIP will become a replacement for or a competitor to CSI. It means that SCIP will be prepared to function in the sophisticated business and professional environment of design and construction. SCIP's fundamental purpose will continue to be to serve the interests of its construction specifier members. To do so, development and growth must occur.

The following are major categories where changes have and will continue to happen:

#### Organizational Structure:

Revisions to SCIP's bylaws were put to a vote of the membership last summer. The revisions were approved. This resulted in better definition of SCIP membership and more clearly allowed participation by those who do not fully qualify to be SCIP members. These others are primarily in-house specifiers and specialty designers and specifiers (such as door hardware consultants and roofing consultants). The bylaws revision also changed the manner in which annual dues are set. Now, the SCIP Board --- just as in the case of most associations --- sets the dues. This helps more timely financial management on the income side of the ledger.

SCIP has been functioning in an ad hoc manner, without incorporation. After researching the merits of incorporation versus maintaining the unincorporated state of the past, the SCIP Board decided to pursue incorporation. A law firm in Washington, DC has been engaged which specializes in incorporation and other legal services for non-profit organizations. David Metzger, FAIA, CSI, CDT, NCARB, SCIP and David Lorenzini, FCSI, CCS, Assoc AIA, SCIP and I met with

the attorney and concluded that the firm's attitude, experience and willingness to work a small organization such as SCIP were excellent.

Incorporation will enable SCIP to function better with other organizations and with agencies such as the IRS. Several CSI Chapters have experienced tax problems, which will be headed off, hopefully, as the incorporated SCIP gets better organized. One of the main benefits is to the leadership of SCIP. It helps in the area of liability. This is why almost all associations are incorporated.

The law firm has reviewed SCIP's bylaws and there will need to be some revisions to bring the bylaws better in conformance with governing laws. These revisions will be put to the membership for approval/disapproval (vote) in the near future.

#### Alliances:

CSI initiated a couple of years ago a proposal for formal alliance between CSI and SCIP. CSI has entered into or is in the process of establishing alliances with other professional associations. After lengthy discussions and reviews, the CSI-SCIP alliance has been signed-off by both organizations.

What does this mean for SCIP? It means little change in what SCIP has been doing for a long time. That is, SCIP through its members has been and will continue to be involved in CSI's education and format activities and SCIP will promote CSI's programs (particularly the annual CSI Show & Convention) to SCIP's members. SCIP members will continue to be actively involved in the leadership of CSI on organizational and program levels. Most major endeavors by CSI for the past have been lead by SCIP members.

In return, CSI will promote SCIP as a resource for locating qualified construction specifications writers and CSI will provide a booth in the annual CSI Show and complimentary meeting space for SCIP's annual meeting. For its part, SCIP will continue to put a professional face on what is a construction specifications writer. SCIP will be a vehicle for CSI to reach the specifier community. This is seen as a win-win arrangement.

During the past year, SCIP has asserted its maverick nature by involvement in two Ecobuild programs, distinct from CSI. SCIP members participated in Ecobuild America ("National Specifiers Conference") in Orlando, FL in June 2005 and in Ecobuild Federal in Washington, DC in December 2005. The education programs were excellent but the attendance was low. Those who attended reported favorably on the content of the education sessions and this will be a matter for SCIP's leadership to consider for future involvement in the Ecobuild program scheduled for Chicago in June 2006 and activities of other organizations.

Future alliances with other organizations, such as Door and Hardware Institute (DHI) and engineering associations (such as those represented by EJCDC) are under consideration. Even participation with organizations such as AIA, DBIA, IFMA and other similar organizations is not out of the realm for SCIP involvement. Comments from SCIP members and participation in these alliances are welcome.

#### Finances:

Perhaps the greatest concern, after getting the infrastructure in place, is the financial state of SCIP. There are two sources of revenue for SCIP: dues and contributions. SCIP has maintained a \$25 per year dues for members and "correspondent" (now, "affiliate") since ... forever! Dues were not increased because there were no defined expenses to apply the dues against. Now, with growth in year-round programs, the financial needs have grown.

Expenses for new programs, such as the website, the display booth, promotional materials, communications and other relatively minor reimbursements have been covered by contributions from building product manufacturers. In fact, there are building product manufacturers literally waiting in line to support SCIP activities. But this money does not necessarily come without "strings." Manufacturers want access to SCIP's mailing list and to advertise on SCIP's website. The SCIP Board is in the process of developing policies regarding our relationships with sponsors and this will be a topic for discussion at the annual SCIP Business Meeting in Las Vegas. We must decide how much we want to take from business interests and how much we want the membership to bear SCIP's expenses.

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Related to this is the annual budget for SCIP. SCIP has operated without a formal budget. This will change and a budget will be presented at the annual SCIP Business Meeting. The budget will identify how much money is needed and where the money will come from. We need to carefully consider how SCIP's finances work and that is an important reason to attend and participate in the annual SCIP Business Meeting.

**CONGRATULATIONS:**

**CSI Fellowship**

SCIP continues to be well-represented in the ranks of CSI's Fellows. Congratulations to the following SCIP Members elevated by CSI to Fellowship:

- Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, RA, CSI, CCS, SCIP
- Rebecca L. Foss, MLA, CSI, CCS, SCIP, LEED AP (posthumous)
- David Metzger, FAIA, CSI, CDT, NCARB, SCIP
- Jonathan M. Miller, CSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA, NCARB, SCIP

SCIP Affiliate Anne Whitacre, CSI, CCS, AIA, MAI has also been elevated to Fellowship.

**Engineering News Record**

SCIP Vice President and candidate for SCIP President, Dennis J. Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP has been named by the editors of Engineering News Record as one of the top 25 newsmakers of 2005 in the design/construction industry, for innovations and achievements featured in the magazine in 2005. Dennis was cited for his leadership in the development of MasterFormat 2004, the industry standard for organizing construction information, used by architects, engineers, facility owners, and contractors throughout the US and Canada. He is also in consideration to receive the Award of Excellence, ENR's highest honor, which will be announced in April. For more information see [www.enr.com/people/people/archives/060109-1.asp](http://www.enr.com/people/people/archives/060109-1.asp)

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

**Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, AIA, CSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP**

Immediate Past President

**SCIP 2006-2008 Board of Directors:** The nominating Committee made up of Mark Kalin, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP; John Raeber, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP; and Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP have recommended the following individuals be included in the ballot for election of officers to the Board of Directors. Additional nominations for all offices, except President, may be included as write-in candidates on the ballot. To preserve continuity it is the policy of the Nominating Committee to only consider individuals serving on the current Board of Directors for the office of President.

| <b><u>Office</u></b>       | <b><u>Nominees</u></b>   |
|----------------------------|--|
| President:                 | Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP                              |
| Vice President:            | Robert Johnson, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP<br>Margaret Chewning, CSI, CCS, SCIP |
| Vice President/Education:  | Linda Stansen, RA, CSI, CCS, SCIP<br>Dean McCarty, CSI, CCS, SCIP              |
| Vice President/Website:    | David Lorenzini, CSI, CCS, SCIP  |
| Secretary:                 | Michael Chambers, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP<br>Nina Giglio, CSI, CCS, SCIP         |
| Treasurer:                 | David Metzger, FAIA, CSI, CDT, SCIP  |
| Immediate Past President:* | John Regener, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP  |

\* Not an elective position

Ballots will be mailed to members before February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006, with instructions for the return of the ballot included. Ballots will be tabulated and verified by the Secretary and the results of the Election announced at the Annual Meeting.

**CSI Board of Directors and Executive Committee:** Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, SCIP, a past President of SCIP has been nominated and is running for Vice President of CSI. You are invited to review her qualifications (Biography and Candidates Statement) on the CSI Website and are encouraged to support her election to this office.

**SCIP AT THE CSI SHOW AND CONVENTION, LAS VEGAS:**  
**Las Vegas Convention Center, March 28<sup>th</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003.**

The preliminary schedule for SCIP activities follow. CSI's announcement for their annual Show and Convention identifies the SCIP activities as "by invitation." ALL SCIP Members and Affiliates are invited and encouraged to attend the SCIP activities on Tuesday March 28, 2006 at the MGM Grand Convention Center, in Las Vegas. Invitations will also be extended to other specifications writers using CSI's member forum and the discussion forum on 4specs.com.

For planning purposes, reservations are requested for the lunch, afternoon discussion forum and dinner/entertainment (the latter being mandatory). Please notify Linda M. Stansen, CSI, CCS, RA, SCIP at [stanspecs@comcast.net](mailto:stanspecs@comcast.net) to reserve a place at the lunch, afternoon discussion forum and dinner/entertainment (state which).

**Annual Board Meeting:**

Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006; MGM Grand Hotel, location to be announced.

4:00 to 6:00 PM - Board Meeting; observers welcome.

7:00 to 9:00 PM - SCIP officers and invited guests only.

**SCIP Annual Meeting:**

Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006; 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM; MGM Grand Hotel, location to be announced.

SCIP Members and Affiliates only.

8:00 to 10:00 AM - Registration and Continental Breakfast.

9:00 to 10:35 AM - Annual SCIP Business Meeting.

10:45 to 12:15 AM - Roundtable Discussion.

**SCIP Luncheon:**

Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006; 12:30 to 1:45 PM; MGM Grand Hotel, location to be announced.

SCIP Members, SCIP Affiliates and invited guests only; limit 60.

Awards presentation; Luncheon Program speakers to be announced.

**NOTE:** Reservations for the Luncheon must be E-mailed to Linda Stansen  
[www.stanspecs@comcast.net](mailto:www.stanspecs@comcast.net) not later than 3:00 PM Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

**Specifiers Forum Hosted by SCIP:**

Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006; MGM Grand Hotel, location to be announced.

SCIP Members, SCIP Affiliates and invited guests.

2:00pm to 3:30pm Discussion

3:30pm to 3:45pm Sponsored Break

3:45pm to 5:00pm Discussion 1:30 to 3:00 PM – Presentation of EIEIO

In-house and out-sourced specifiers will come together during the "Forum" to discuss subjects of general interest to all specifiers. If necessary, the group will do "break-outs" to discuss specific subjects. It will not be a lecture format. Open invitations will be issued through a CSI website discussion group and through 4specs.com. Individual invitations will be issued to prominent in-house specifiers.

**SCIP/Arkema Dinner:**

Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006; 6:00 to 8:00 PM; location to be announced

Sponsored by Arkema (Kynar 500).

6:00pm to 7:00pm Dinner

7:00pm to 8:00pm Entertainment

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**NOTE:** Restricted to SCIP Members; **Reservation Required** and must be E-mailed to Linda Stansen [www.stanspecs@comcast.net](mailto:www.stanspecs@comcast.net) not later than 3:00 PM Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

### **SCIP Booth:**

Wednesday March 29<sup>th</sup> thru Friday March 31<sup>st</sup>; 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM; Exhibit Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center.

Once again, SCIP will have a booth in the CSI Show. Ron Beard, CCS, CSI, SCIP [www.beardccs@erols.com](mailto:www.beardccs@erols.com) will be the contact for set up, displays and staffing, assisted by President John Regener, AIA, CCS, CCCA, CSI, SCIP. Volunteers are needed for 1- to 1-1/2 hour periods in the booth during the three days that the Show is open. This is an interesting and even fun experience. Volunteers are also needed to assist in the displays and promotional materials.

### **CSI Show and Convention – Education Programs:**

SCIP has endorsed the education sessions presented on Wednesday March 29 through Friday March 31, 2006 during the CSI Show & Convention. The program topics feature a renewed emphasis on construction specifications and other subjects of interest and benefit to construction specifiers. SCIP members are encouraged to attend the education sessions and to take advantage of the time made available for viewing the exhibits and interacting with the exhibitors. Make SCIP's presence known during these activities.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

#### **SCIP Presence at National Events:**

#### **American Institute of Architects National Convention & Design Expo, Los Angeles, CA:**

Los Angeles Convention Center; June 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006

#### **EcoBuild America, Chicago, IL:**

Navy Pier; June 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006

#### **SCIP Meetings at CSI Region Conferences:**

West Region: Reno, NV; November 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Middle Atlantic Southeast Bi-Region: September 28<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>, Roslyn, VA.

Other Regions: **We are looking for volunteers to organize and lead SCIP Meetings at other CSI Regions. Please contact Dennis Hall if you are interested in helping organize these meetings.**

### **NEW DIRECTIONS:**

#### **Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP**

Vice President

The traditional annual meeting is taking on a whole new meaning for SCIP in 2006. Under the leadership of John Regener, CSI, AIA, SCIP, the organization is moving into a new era. A little less than 40 years ago, SCIP began as an informal gathering of a handful of specification consultants that met in a hotel lobby in San Diego as a part of the 1965 CSI Convention and today it is on the verge of establishing itself as a leading force in promoting and representing the preparers of written facility information.

In 2005, the organization entered into its first strategic alliance with another organization, the Construction Specifications Institute. Can other alliances be far behind? Construction Specifications Canada, the National Institute of Building Sciences, and others have been mentioned as possible alliance partners. And with NIBS taking the lead this year in bringing

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together industry organizations to create the National Building Information Model Standard, there are those that believe that SCIP needs a place at the table.

John and other members of the SCIP Board also have met with an attorney in Washington, DC to explore the cost and requirements of incorporation. This meeting included discussions on the management of the organizations affairs. And while a headquarters and executive director may be years in the future, if the organization is going to reach its potential, part-time professional management may be closer than we think.

Over the last several years, a lot of crazy ideas have been proposed. But "crazy" may only have meant that the time was not right when they were first proposed. Below are a few of the ideas that it may be time to bring back.

Name: Specification Consultants in Independent Practice  
vs  
Society of Construction Information Professionals

Membership: Individuals  
vs  
Firms  
  
Open  
vs  
Restricted

Restricted: Specification Consultants  
vs  
Facility Information Consultants

Purposes: Establish guidelines, standards, principles, for individuals and firms engaged in the practice of specification consulting, commissioning, and organizing construction and facility information.

Provide a forum for the exchange of information and practices among individuals and firms engaged in the practice of specification consulting, commissioning, and organizing construction and facility information.

Promote the members in attracting qualified staff, work, and knowledge.

Promote the integration of facility information throughout the facility life-cycle.

Services: Discussion Forum for the exchange of knowledge  
Links to member web sites  
Searchable database of member services  
Create and share guide documents  
Annual Conference for education and information sharing

Organization: Incorporation as a non-profit organization  
Executive Director  
Headquarters

Alliances: CSI  
CSC  
AIA  
ICIS  
NIBS  
OCCS

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## **EVENTS AND EDUCATION:**

### **Michael Chambers, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP**

Vice President/Education

Over the last 6 years SCIP has increasingly recognized the inherent value of professional education and has effectively implemented programs both regionally and nationally. SCIP also understands that professional education provides excellent promotional and marketing opportunities for the organization and its members. SCIP, as an organization, views professional education as a key responsibility to its members and to the construction industry.

SCIP has sponsored the Specifiers Forum at both CSI and AIA and individual members have been presenters and panel members for many programs around the country. These presentations have wide ranging topics well beyond specifications and have been well received by construction industry professionals. SCIP has established itself and many key members as significant players in professional education.

SCIP is expanding its membership opportunities and in response should expand its educational opportunities. SCIP members should be alert for educational opportunities among peers and related industry organizations. Educationally, SCIP members have a broad spectrum of issues to present beyond specifications and related contract document issues. Many of us have expertise in organizing construction documents using the new UDS, many of us are knowledgeable in codes and standards, several of us have experience in accessibility, programming, or POE. A growing number of us have become certified LEED APs as the demand for green/sustainable design support increases.

SCIP has made professional education a top priority and individual members need to participate to the greatest extent possible. Look for opportunities to develop and present programs for local AIA and CSI chapters. Do not forget the engineers and interior types. Also, experience indicates that many knowledgeable LEED APs are not very adept at specification and project manual issues. Work with local green committees and USGBC chapters to provide technical specification education in support of LEED accreditation.

Your SCIP Board stands ready to help with program development and regional support for professional educational opportunities. If you have any questions or suggestions for growing SCIP's educational opportunities please contact any Board member or your Education VP at 415-239-6566 or [michael@mcaspecs.com](mailto:michael@mcaspecs.com).

## **WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

### **David Lorenzini, FCSI, CCS, SCIP**

Vice President/Website

Activity on the SCIP website averaged about 10,000 hits a year for the first 8 years until 2005 when the hits doubled. This appears to indicate that SCIP is becoming more visible as an influential organization in the construction industry.

The website has gone through two updates since its introduction in September 1996. Currently we have a more modern look with more functions reserved for members only. (In order to access the Members area, contact the webmaster for assignment of a user name and password.)

The home page has been redesigned to present current news of interest and quick links to frequently accessed pages. In addition, current SCIP publications and contributed articles are accessible from the home page. The current monthly series by Ralph Liebing are a unique look at our profession, past and present. The home page also list SCIP sponsors. These are firms who have sponsored SCIP activities during the past year, such as meetings and dinners. The SCIP website does not accept payments for ads.

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SCIP posts Work Ads for companies offering employment opportunities that our members may be interested in. We currently list an ad for one of our members, a relocated Katrina victim, who is looking for new employment.

There is still much work to do. We have plans to implement more changes, but they require services of an outside web programmer with expertise in databases. Our most important goals include the following:

1. Convert existing member roster into database format. The biggest task for managing the website is updating changes to the SCIP membership directory. It is amazing how many changes members make to their contact data. We plan to provide a single database that can be accessed and modified by both Treasurer and Webmaster, while being displayed in real time on website. We also plan to provide the ability for users to sort on primary fields such as city or state to enable clients to find specifiers in their local area.
2. Implement user profiles whereby members have their own username and password, and can update personal information on their own. This will also allow each member to have a basic web page to customize or to link to an existing website.
3. Implement FTP capability for file sharing while maintaining security. It has always been a goal that the website would be a place to share specification sections on hard-to-find or unusual products or systems.
4. Implement on-line payment of dues and fees to events. This includes the possible use of a free PayPal program to allow members to charge expenses to their credit cards.
5. Provision of discussion forums for Committee and Board members. We already have the pages set up, but they have not been put into use.

To comprehend the full scope of website resources and a visual diagram on how to navigate to those pages, click on the Site Map link under QuickLinks.

#### PUBLICATIONS:

The *KnowHow* has been the official journal of SCIP since December 1971, publishing articles of technical interest to specifiers. Recently, it has been inactive due to lack of an editor. While we are looking for an editor with electronic publishing skills to move the traditional paper format into the electronic age, we are hoping to find a volunteer who can assemble the next few issues traditionally.

*SCIPpingAlong* is a newsletter produced by board members to communicate Board business and news about SCIP. You are reading the first issue since Spring 2003.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

**David Metzger, FAIA, CSI, CDT, SCIP**

Treasurer

SCIP membership is at an all-time high. We currently have 159 members, 1 retired member, and 25 affiliates, for a total membership of 185. Highlights of the modified membership categories, approved by SCIP members last year as a bylaws change, are as follows:

The "Member" category now includes employees of an independent consultant who are engaged primarily in the preparation of construction specifications.

The "Affiliates" category replaces "Correspondents". Recognizing that SCIP is the primary group for construction specifiers, this category now includes those who practice as an

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employee, engaged primarily in the preparation of construction specifications, for an architectural or engineering firm, a design-build firm, a construction manager, an owner, the facility design group of a public agency or corporation, or a master specifications publisher. Additionally, there is now no time limit that one can remain an affiliate (as there previously had been a 5 year limit on eligibility as a Correspondent).

The Affiliate category, as has been noted by John Regener, establishes that in-house specifiers, specialty design consultants and others who do not qualify for SCIP Member status are welcome to participate in SCIP. This is consistent with the CSI-SCIP alliance partnership agreement for SCIP to represent the general specifier community.

What are the benefits of belonging to SCIP? I think there are two primary ones: The exchange of knowledge, both at the member's forum at the annual SCIP meeting, and throughout the year via e-mail; and the pleasure of meeting friends and colleagues at the annual meeting. SCIP Members receive a complimentary set of Sweets catalogs each year. A SCIP pin has been available for several years; if you have not received one, contact Dane Dodd-Hansen and he will give you yours at the SCIP meeting in Las Vegas.

New this year! SCIP membership certificates will be available to those attending the CSI Convention, and mailed to all members and affiliates later in the year.

I look forward to seeing you again, or to meeting you for the first time, in Las Vegas.

### **AWARDS:**

**Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, AIA, CSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP**

Immediate Past President

For the past 3 years SCIP has granted Awards in the following categories:

Award of Merit: Acknowledging service of the Immediate Past President and retiring Board Members.

Rascal Award: Presented annually to an individual who has rendered outrageous service to SCIP. Nominations will be accepted for consideration until March 1, 2006.

EIEIO Awards: Presented to nominated SCIP members that have at least six (6) professional acronyms for professional registration, membership in professional organizations or certifications appended to their name (fellowships in AIA, CSI, CSC or ASLA counts as double). Nominations will be accepted for consideration until March 1, 2006.

Certificates will be awarded to this years recipients at SCIP events during the CSI Convention.

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