

CONSTRUCTION **SPECIFICATION** WRITING **STUDY SESSION**







WHO IS CONSPECTUS?

Conspectus, Inc. is a national specification consultancy, employing 16 specifiers, providing high quality, <u>industry-</u> <u>leading specifications</u> and related consulting services on thousands of projects for some of the most prestigious design and engineering firms, government agencies, and private entities domestically and internationally.

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING



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CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING





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KNOWLEDGE AREAS

Domains:

1	9/12	Planning, Development
4	9/19	Research
2	09/26	Coordination
6	10/03	Production, Part 1
6	10/10	Production, Part 2
3	10/24	Procurement
5	10/31	Analysis

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING



& Organization



ITEMS TO NOTE

GENERAL FYI

- No CDT[®] certification highly advisable to **also read Project Delivery Practice Guide (PDPG).**
- Yes CDT[®] certification brush up on the PDPG.
- Exam is based on CSI[®] Construction Specifications **Practice Guide (CSPG)** content, and may not always reflect the real world; we will note items which may not align.
- Those who wrote the CSPG are not the same as the exam writers; study guides have divided the source material read the entire book.
- We encourage interaction in the chat and will also provide time for Q&A at the end of each session.

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING





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CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING



Construction Specification Writing Session 2: Planning, Development, and Organization

AIA LO1

Discover the imperative questions to ask while conducting research on materials and systems for product selection.

AIA LO2

Research applicable code requirements, sustainability requirements, and product standards for building materials. Evaluate product suitability for project conditions and the direct impact these choices can have on creating and maintaining health, safety, and welfare for building occupants.

AIA LO3



Review key product selections with product representatives and see how this communication can increase opportunities to help the project reach full potential.



DOMAIN 4: RESEARCH



- **4**A selection.
- Research applicable code requirements. **4**B Evaluate product suitability for project conditions. 4C Review key product selections with product 4D
- - representatives.
- Research applicable product standards. **4E**

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING

Conduct research on materials and systems for product



DOMAIN 4: RESEARCH



- 4A Materials & Products.
- 4B Codes & Regulations.
- 4C Project.
- 4E Reference Standards.
- 4D Product Representatives.

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING

ucts. ons.

ards. htatives (What is Possible?)(What is Required?)(What is Needed?)(What is Standard?)



RESEARCH INTRODUCTION

WHERE DO WE START?

Analysis **Paralysis**



CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING



Down the Rabbit Hole





POLL Introduction Questions

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING





Question 1a

How many years of experience do you have in the Design & Construction field?



A. 1-5 years

- B. 5-10 years
- C. 10-20 years

D. 20+ years





Question 1b

How much do you enjoy research?

- A. Not at all... (next question, please!)
- B. It's OK... (but I'd rather have a root canal)
- C. It's not for everyone.... (especially not aunts and uncles)
- D. I enjoy it... (but I get bored sometimes)
- E. I love it!.... (sometimes I even research how to research)







How do you retain and organize information? (Software platforms?)







Question 1d

When do you do your research?



- A. Before I get a project.
- B. Programming and Schematic Design.
- C. Design Development and Construction Documentation.
- D. When the contractor asks me to.
- E. When the lawyers ask me to.





Research - General Steps During Programming

Programming Research:

- Establish Goals.
- Collect and Analyze Facts.
- Uncover and Test Concepts.
- Determine Needs.
- State the Problem.

(What does the Owner what to achieve?)(What is known?)(How are the goals achieved?)(What is needed? How much Will it Cost?)(What is the direction the design should take?)



Research





Research - General Steps During Design

Design Research (summarized):

- Review Owner's Project Requirements.
- Review AHJ Requirements and Code.
- Propose products.
- **Collect Product Information.**
- Incorporate Product Information into the Design.
- **Document Product Information Technical Aspects.**
- Summarize Product Cost and Estimate Project Cost.
- **Evaluate Product Sustainability.**





Research

Research - General Steps During Product Selection

Product Research (Summarized):

- Identify the type of product required.
- Establish product requirements and performance.
- Research product.
- Identify appropriate products.
 - 4A Materials & Products.
 - 4B Codes & Regulations.
 - 4C Project.
 - 4E Reference Standards.
 - 4D Product Representatives.

CSPG REF: 8.3

(What is Possible?)(What is Required?)(What is Needed?)(What is Standard?)



RESEARCH **MATERIALS & PRODUCTS** (COMPETENCY 4A)



LO1 List the factors that must be considered when researching materials, products, and systems. LO2 Identify common sources and methods of obtaining product information.

Conduct research on materials and systems for product selection.

(WHAT IS POSSIBLE?)

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING



COMPETENCY 4A | LO #1 & LO#2

Type of Products

Materials. Commodities. Products.

- Standard Products.
- Custom Products.
 - Prepayment.
 - Submittals.
 - Custom Colors.
 - Lead Time.
 - Testing & Certification.
- Proprietary Products.

Assemblies / Fabrications. Equipment.





Selection is based on evaluating products against specific criteria derived from the project's requirements, applicable codes, and industry standards.

- Product performance criteria.
- Product quality.
- Manufacturer.
- Installation and code requirements.
- Product availability and project schedule.
- Cost.
- Project conditions.





Product Performance Criteria:

- Performance testing.
- Field testing.
- Frequency of testing available.
- Conditions and circumstances of other installations.
- Optimal conditions of use.
- Compatibility with adjacent products.









Product Quality:

- Durability.
- Uniformity.
- Site or Field Fabricated.
- Product history and development.
- Length of time on the market.
- Reference Standards.... More to come.







Manufacturers:

- History / Record of production?
- Warranty terms.
- Certification of Installers.
- Responsiveness before, after, and during construction.
- Location.
- Distribution network to suppliers.
- Product Representatives.... More to come!











Installation and Code Requirements:

- Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).
- OSHA Requirements.
- ADA Requirements.
- ... more to come.









Product Availability and Project Schedule:

- Number of Manufacturers available.
- Supply Chain issues.
- Fabrications times.



CSPG REF: 8.2









Cost:

- Initial Cost.
- Maintenance Costs.
- Replacement Costs.
- Operating Costs.







Project Conditions:

- Owner's Project Requirements.
- Renovation or New Building?
- Public or Private project?
 - Open Bid or Negotiated Bid?



CSPG REF: 8.2







Sources of Product Information

Today, most product information is readily available online from:

CSPG REF: 8.3

- Manufacturer's Websites.
- Authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ). •
 - Jurisdiction website, UpCodes, Code Development Agency Website.
- Product standards websites.
 - ANSI, ASTM, ASME, ASHRAE, and more; MADCAD.
- Printed catalogs.
- Product datasheets.
 - Contains Testing, Performance, Reference Standard and product options.
- Trade shows.
 - CSI, AIA, DBIA, and more; World of Concrete.
- Product Representatives.



Schedules For Documentation

After product evaluation, an approved product data schedule is included in the specifications section or on the drawings.

- When placed in a specification section, schedules are included at the end of PART 3—EXECUTION.
- Schedules that include materials from multiple specification sections should be included in the drawings or included in a separate specification.



ACOUS	TIC PANEL CEILING	
APC-1	MANUFACTURER:	ARMSTRONG
	PRODUCT:	OPTIMA PB - TEGULAR
	SIZE:	24" X 24" X 1" IN 15/16" GRID
	COLOR:	WHITE
	APPLICATION:	TYPICAL CEILING TILE
APC-2	MANUFACTURER:	ARMSTRONG
	PRODUCT:	OPTIMA PB HEALTHZONE - TEGULAR
	SIZE:	24" X 24" X 1" IN 15/16" GRID
	COLOR:	WHITE
	APPLICATION:	SCRUBBABLE CEILING TILE - LABS
APC-3	MANUFACTURER:	ARMSTRONG
	PRODUCT:	ULTIMA HIGH NRC - TEGULAR
	SIZE:	24" X 72" X 7/8" IN 15/16" GRID
	COLOR:	WHITE
	APPLICATION:	CORRIDOR CEILING TILE
APC-4	MANUFACTURER:	ARMSTRONG
	PRODUCT:	OPTIMA PB - TEGULAR
	SIZE:	48" X 48" X 1" IN 15/16" GRID
	COLOR:	WHITE
	APPLICATION:	LOBBY CEILING TILE
APC-5	MANUFACTURER:	ARMSTRONG
	PRODUCT:	ULTIMA HEALTHZONE HIGH NRC
	SIZE:	24" X 24" X 7/8" IN 15/16" ALUMINUM GRID
	COLOR:	WHITE
	APPLICATION:	WASHABLE, FOOD GRADE
APC-6	MANUFACTURER:	ARMSTRONG
	PRODUCT:	KITCHEN ZONE - SQUARE LAY IN
	SIZE:	24" X 24" X 5/8" IN 15/16" GRID
	COLOR:	WHITE
	APPLICATION:	RESTROOMS AND AS INDICATED



POLL Material/Product Questions

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING





Question 1

Which of the following is not a common product research source and method?

- A. Manufacturer's website.
- B. Manufacturer's guide specification.
- C. Product presentations.
- D. Trade show.
- E. Conferences.





Question 2

Which of the following is a consideration factor when evaluating products?



- A. Product performance.
- B. Product quality.
- C. Product Warranty.
- D. Product cost.





Question 3

When placed in a specification section, schedules are included at the end of _____.

- A. Part 1 General
- B. Part 2 Products
- C. Part 3 Execution
 - D. Its own specification section.





RESEARCH **CODE & REGULATIONS** (COMPETENCY 4B)



- requirements.

Research applicable code requirements.

(WHAT IS REQUIRED?)

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING

LO1 Identify requirements that must be met for a project to comply with applicable federal, state, and local codes. LO2 Select products that meet applicable code

LO3 Determine whether a meeting with AHJs is necessary for code modification requests or interpretations.



COMPETENCY 4B | LO #1

Type of Regulations

Regulations:

- Building Codes.
- Land Development Regulations (Zoning).
- Accessibility (Law).
- Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA).

Authorities Having Jurisdictions:

- Federal Agency.
- State Agency.
- Locality.




Research Applicable Code Requirements

The A/E needs to understand federal, state, and local codes applicable to the design.

- There might be instances where some codes create conflicts that require interpretation by the AHJ.
 - AHJs are the organizations, agencies, or departments that have control over an aspect of construction within an area in which they are given responsibility.





COMPETENCY 4B | LO #2

Code Compliance For Projects

Verify that code requirements and product performance align.

- How do you know that a product is compliant?
 - Compare code requirement with product performance and testing.





COMPETENCY 4B | LO #2

Example – Interior Finish

2021 International Building Code (IBC)

803.1.2 Interior wall and ceiling finish materials tested in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723.

Interior wall and ceiling finish materials shall be classified in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723. Such interior finish materials shall be grouped in the following classes in accordance with their flame spread and smoke-developed indices.

Class A = Flame spread index 0-25; smoke-developed index 0-450.

Class B = Flame spread index 26-75; smoke developed index 0-450.

Class C = Flame spread index 76-200; smoke-developed index 0-450.

Exception: Materials tested in accordance with Section 803.1.1 and as indicated in Sections 803.1.3 through 803.13.

https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IBC2021P2/chapter-8-interior-finishes





CON SPEC TUS

Example – Interior Finish

2021 International Building Code

TABLE 803.13 INTERIOR WALL AND CEILING FINISH REQUIREMENTS BY OCCUPANCY^k

	SPRINKLERED			NONSPRINKLERED		
GROUP	Interior exit stairways and ramps and exit passageways ^{a, b}	Corridors and enclosure for exit access stairways and ramps	Rooms and enclosed spaces ^c	Interior exit stairways and ramps and exit passageways ^{a, b}	Corridors and enclosure for exit access stairways and ramps	Rooms and enclosed spaces ^c
A-1 & A- 2	В	В	G	А	Ad	Be
A-3 ^f , A-4, A-5	В	В	G	А	Ad	G
В, Е, М, R-1	В	Gm	C	А	В	G
R-4	В	G	G	А	В	В
F	G	G	G	В	C	G
Н	В	В	C ^g	А	А	В
I-1	В	G	G	А	В	В
I-2	В	В	B ^{h, i}	А	A	В
I-3	А	Aj	G	А	А	В
I-4	В	В	B ^{h, i}	А	А	В
R-2	G	C	G	В	В	G
R-3	G	C	G	C	С	G
S	G	C	G	В	В	G
U	No restrictions			No restrictions		

https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IBC2021P2/chapter-8-interior-finishes

Research

Felt Wallcovering Product Data Sheet

WEIGHT 25 oz/ly (775 g/lm)

WIDTH 63" (160 cm)

CONTENTS 100% recycled polyester

RECYCLED CONTENT 95% post-consumer recycled content by weight

BACKING Fused polyester

THICKNESS 0.12" (0.3 cm)

PATTERN MATCH Non-reverse hang, random match

FIRE TEST ASTM E84 Tunnel Test Adhered: Class A, flame spread 5, smoke developed 10 (test procedure is comparable to UL 723, NFPA 255 and UBC 8-1)

ASTM E84 Tunnel Test Unadhered: Class A, flame spread 0, smoke developed 90 (test procedure is comparable to UL 723)

CAN/ULC S102 Tunnel Test: flame spread 15, smoke developed 45

HEALTH STANDARDS California Section 01350 Health Product Declaration (HPD)



COMPETENCY 4B | LO #3

Meetings With AJHs

If the A/E anticipates a need for an interpretation, the information should be forwarded to the AHJ for review before the meeting and may required the following:

- Design Drawings.
- References.
- Product literature.
- Material ratings.
- Product certifications.





POLL **Code & Regulation Questions**

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING







Compare _____ requirements with product performance and testing.



A. Code.

- B. Regulation.
- C. Law.
- D. Standard.





Question 2

What information should be sent to AHJ prior to meeting with them for interpretations?

- \mathbf{i}
- A. Building Code.
 - B. Design Drawings.
 - C. Product literature.
 - D. Material ratings.





Question 3

The _____ needs to understand federal, state, and local codes applicable to the design.



- A. Architect.
 - B. Contractor.



- C. Engineer.
- D. Owner.





RESEARCH PROJECT (COMPETENCY 4C)

prevailing project site conditions.

Evaluate product suitability for project conditions.

(WHAT IS NEEDED?)

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING

LEARNING

OBJECTIVES

LO1 Evaluate product suitability against the owner's

- requirements and the design intent.
- LO2 Compare products from multiple manufacturers to
 - determine product acceptability.
- LO3 Determine a product's expected performance based on



Evaluate Product Suitability

What is the rubric for a successful product?

Design Objectives – Owner Project Requirements:

- Historic Preservation.
- Aesthetics.
- Cost Effectiveness.
 - Life Cycle Cost. •
 - Available Funding.
- Functional / Operational.
- Productive.
- Safe/Secure.
- Sustainable.
- Resilience.
- Accessible.

Product Comparisons

If the product type is available from more than one manufacturer, investigate several manufacturers to determine acceptability.

- Find product data for both (websites and product data sheets and cut sheets).
- Verify criteria are aligned with the same test.
- Verify code minimum requirements.
- Verify Owner's minimum requirements.





Product Comparisons - Example

Felt Wallcovering Product Data Sheet

WEIGHT 25 oz/ly (775 g/lm)

WIDTH 63" (160 cm)

CONTENTS 100% recycled polyester

RECYCLED CONTENT 95% post-consumer recycled content by weight

BACKING Fused polyester

THICKNESS 0.12" (0.3 cm)

PATTERN MATCH Non-reverse hang, random match

FIRE TEST ASTM E84 Tunnel Test Adhered: Class A, flame spread 5, smoke developed 10 (test procedure is comparable to UL 723, NFPA 255 and UBC 8-1)

ASTM E84 Tunnel Test Unadhered: Class A, flame spread 0, smoke developed 90 (test procedure is comparable to UL 723)

CAN/ULC S102 Tunnel Test: flame spread 15, smoke developed 45

HEALTH STANDARDS California Section 01350 Health Product Declaration (HPD)

Research

Vinyl Wallcovering Product Data Sheet

Physical Properties	and the second second
Product Weight	200
Vinyl Weight	170
Fabric Weight	30
Thickness*	0.0
Fabric(base/backer)	Poly-Cotton Osnaburg (standa
Breaking Strengths Ibs. force	
Machine Direction-warp	Exceeds Ty
Cross Machine Direction-fill	Exceeds Ty
Tearing Strength, Scale	
Machine Direction-warp	Exceeds Ty
Cross Machine Direction-fill	Exceeds Ty
Temperature	
Cold Crack resistance @ 20 °F	
Heat Aging (7 days at 158 °F)	Does not become stiff, be
Specifications / Testing / Certification	to be a star when a star in
Federal Specifications	CCC-408
CFFA Specification	CFFA-W-1
Fire Testing	the second second second
ASTM-E84 Tunnel Test Class A	Meets or exceeds requirements for fl
NFPA286 Corner Burn Test Class A	Meets or exceeds requirements for fl
NFPA265 Corner Burn Test Class A	Meets or exceeds requirements for fl
BS476 Part 6&7	Meets or exceeds requirements for fl

CSPG REF: 8.9

Results

oz. per lineal yd.

'oz. per lineal yd.

oz. per lineal yd.

.015 to 0.030 in.

ard) or Polyester Nonwoven (special order)

Results

ype II minimum of 50lbs.

ype II minimum of 55lbs.

Results

ype II minimum of 25lbs.

ype II minimum of 25lbs.

Results

No change

rittle, discolored, or show loss of grain

Results

-D Type II Class A

01-D Type II Class A

Results

ame spread, smoke developments and flashover ame spread, smoke developments and flashover ame spread, smoke developments and flashover ame spread, smoke developments and flashover



The specifier should ascertain the other consultants' determinations of characteristics of the project site.

- Environmental severity classification.
- Energy code climate zone.
- Wind loads calculations.
- Salt exposure.





Environmental Severity Classification:

- Seismic Class.
- Tornado Risk.
- Flooding Risk.
- Snow Load Issues.
- Rainfall Amounts.
- Wildfire Risk.



https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/tornado





Energy Code Climate Zone:

• International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).



https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IECC2021P2/chapter-3-ce-general-requirements





Wind Load Calculations:

- ASCE 7 Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures.
 - Contains many other environmental severity classifications, too. •





https://ascehazardtool.org/

Research



COMPETENCY 4C | LO #3

Project Site Conditions

Salt Exposure:

- Coastal Salt Water.
- De-Icing Chemicals.











Product's Expected Performance

Products are designed and manufactured to withstand a limited set of project conditions, including the following:

- Installed location on site.
- Temperature.
- Humidity.
- Wind and solar exposure.
- Seismic risks.
- Atmospheric pressure.
- Exposure to corrosive gases, hazardous chemicals, or possible contamination.

- Interior applications.
- Exterior applications.
- Space constraints.
- Frequency of use.
- Security, vandalism, or theft concerns.
- Owner's or manufacturer's maintenance
 - program.

CSPG REF: 8.9

TIP! Review project site conditions with product performance testing.





POLL Project Questions

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING





Question 1

Product suitability is based on evaluating the products against specific criteria derived from the owner's ______.

- A. requirements and the design intent.
 - B. requirements and budget.
 - C. budget and standards.
 - D. requirements and standards.



Question 2

What are characteristics of a project site?



- A. Environmental severity classification.
- B. Population density.
- C. Wind loads calculations.
- D. Salt Exposure.





Question 3

If the product type is available from more than one manufacturer, what must be investigated to determine acceptability?

- A. Product data.
- B. Aligned criteria when tested with same test.
- C. Code minimum requirements.
- D. Owner's minimum requirements.





RESEARCH REFERENCE STANDARDS (COMPETENCY 4E)



LO1 Distinguish betwee
LO2 Recognize the add
LO3 Identify duplication
standards are use
LO4 Identify the sustan
LO5 Determine if a mode
project goals.

Research applicable product standards.

(WHAT IS STANDARD?)

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING

- Distinguish between reference standards and codes.
- LO2 Recognize the advantages of using reference standards.
- LO3 Identify duplications and conflicts when two or more
 - standards are used for a given product.
- LO4 Identify the sustainability metrics of products.
- LO5 Determine if a more sustainable product can achieve the



COMPETENCY 4E | LO #1

Reference Standards, Code, and Law

Reference Standards:



ASTM INTERNATIONAL Helping our world work better





Codes:





Law:







Shaping Tomorrow's Built Environment Today



American Iron and Steel Institute





CDT and PDPG Definitions

Codes, regulations, and standards

Codes, regulations, and reference standards establish minimum requirements for the design and construction buildings and structures that compose the built environment.

Codes

- Mandatory •
- Developed and maintained • by model code-writing organizations with industry input
- Enforceable after adopted by local authority having jurisdiction

Regulations

- Mandatory •
- Developed and written by authorities having jurisdiction for specific purpose
- Unlike code, may impose • fines for failing to comply

PDPG REF: Pages 176-189

Research

Standards

- Voluntary
- Some reference standards adopted by codes and regulations
- Based on considerable amounts of research and testing by private organizations



COMPETENCY 4E | LO #2

Type of Reference Standards

Material Standards. Product Standards. Design Standards. Test Method Standards. Installation Standards. Performance Standards.



PDPG REF: 9.4 / 4.4.4



Reference Standards - Advantages

There are many advantages for the use of reference standards, including the following:

CSPG REF: 8.11.1

- Quality assurance.
- Uniformity.
- Reduced conflict and duplication.
- Reduced work.

(Associations know their industry.)(Consensus among the industry.)(Documents are reviewed by industry experts.)(References reduce verbiage.)





Reference Standards - Cautions

Users of reference standards should be familiar with the following issues:

- Applicability.
- Quality.
- Design criteria.
- Availability.
- Duplication and conflict.
- Optional provisions.
- Multiple standards.

(Does it apply?)

(Is the minimum standard enough?)
(Is the minimum standard too high?)
(Is the standard well-known in the industry?)
(If using two, where do they conflict?)
(Did you select from the options listed?)
(Are multiple standards listed?)

Research

CSPG REF: 8.11.1



Sustainability Metrics - General

Sustainability Design:

- Site Optimization.
- Energy Performance and Conservation.
- Water Use and Conservation.
- Materials and Resources.
 - Reduce / Reuse / Recycle.
 - Regional Materials.
 - Rapidly Renewable Materials.
- Environmental Quality.
 - Air Quality (Low VOC / High Ventilation).
 - Acoustic Quality.
 - Thermal Comfort.
 - Daylighting.
- Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation.



PDPG REF: 1.15.1

Research





COMPETENCY 4E | LO #4

Sustainability Metrics

The A/E also should understand the sustainability and environmental impact of the products being evaluated.

Ecolabels: Identify sustainability performance.









CSPG REF: 8.11.2





COMPETENCY 4E | LO #5

Sustainable Goals

The sustainability of a product over the product's entire anticipated lifespan should be evaluated during product selection.

Sustainability Standards: Evaluate environmental performance. •



CSPG REF: 8.11.2





POLL **Reference Standard Questions**

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING





Question 1

What is a reference standard?

- A. A method of specifying that establishes material, product, and installation requirements by referencing an industry-accepted standard.
- B. A document established by consensus that provides rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or results.
- C. A reference incorporated into a document by referring to its developing association name, number, title or other commonly used designation.
- D. A research method using a standard set of reference documents.







Codes and regulations: Mandatory

Reference standards:



- A. Are never code
- B. Voluntary
- C. Government authored
- D. Marketing





Question 3

What are potential issues of reference standards?

- A. Availability
- B. Duplication
- C. Singular Provisions



- D. A & B
- E. A & C
- F. All of the above






There is one sustainability standard for each state.







RESEARCH **PRODUCT REPRESENTATIVE** (COMPETENCY 4D)



- LO2 Identify the types of information typically available on manufacturer websites.
- LO3 Compare a product's documented properties and
 - limitations against the design criteria for a project.
- LO4 Analyze product manufacturer guide specifications for
- biases and accuracy.

Review key product selections with product representatives.

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING

- LO1 Recognize the value of a manufacturer product
 - representative's role as a consultant.



Product Representatives

The product representative is often consulted to determine product details and product viability.

- Experts on their Products and Information.
 - Selection Advisor for Design.
 - Solutions Advisor for Construction.
- Current Industry Trends.







Product Representatives - Questions

Questions to ask a product representative as a consultant:

- Would the Product Representative recommend the use of the product for this application?
- Do they train and/or certify installers?
- What issues have they seen in the field?
- Are there changes in production/manufacturing?
- What are the comparable products?
 - They know their own competition.







Product Representatives – Manufacturer Websites

- Catalogs.
- Product datasheets.
- Installation instructions.
- Safety Data Sheets (SDSs).
- **Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs).**
- Health Product Declarations[®] (HPDs).
- Test reports.
- **Evaluation service reports.**
- Drawing details and building information model (BIM) objects.
- Manufacturer guide specifications.
- Contact information for product representatives.
- Continuing education presentations, seminars, and whitepapers.





COMPETENCY 4D | LO #3

Product Representative - Product Properties

The product's documented properties and limitations should be compared against the design criteria established for the project.

• Ask a Product Representative to help you with this comparison.



TECHNICAL DATA		
PROPERTY		
FLASH POINT		
PENETRATION		
FLOW		
TOUGHNESS		
RATIO OF TOUGHNESS TO PEAK LO		
WATER VAPOR PERMEABILITY		
WATER ABSORPTION		
LOW TEMPERATURE FLEXIBILITY (-:		
LOW TEMPERATURE CRACK BRIDG		
HEAT STABILITY		
VISCOSITY		
WATER RESISTANCE (5 days @ 50		

SOFTENING POINT

ELONGATION

*or alternatively not less than 77°F (25°C) (values published are min. req)

CSPG REF: 8.10



	TEST METHOD	RESULTS
	ASTM D-92 CGSB-37.50-M89	≥500°F (260°C)*
	ASTM D-5329 CGSB-37.50-M89	98 mm @77°F (25°C) 187mm @122°F (50°C)
	ASTM D-5329 CGSB-37.50-M89	1.0 mm @140°F (60°C)
	CGSB-37.50-M89	16.0 Joules
AD	CGSB-37.50-M89	0.069
	ASTM E-96, Procedure E CGSB-37.50-M89	0.3 ng/Pa(s)m2
	CGSB-37.50-M89	0.11 gram weight gain
25°C)	CGSB-37.50-M89	No delamination, adhesion loss or cracking
iING (-25°C)	CGSB-37.50-M89	No cracking, adhesion, loss or splitting
	CGSB-37.50-M89	No change in viscosity, penetration, flow or low temperature flexibility
	CGSB-37.50-M89	11.0 seconds
)°C)	CGSB-37.50-M89	No delamination, blistering, emulsification or deterioration
	ASTM D-36	180°F (82°C)
	ASTM D-5329	1000% minimum

*or alternatively not less than 77°F (25°C) above the manufacturer's maximum recommended application temperature.



COMPETENCY 4D | LO #4

Manufacturer Guide Specifications

Things to look for when reviewing guide specifications:

- Typos.
- Incorrect, non-applicable, or outdated testing standards.
- **Proprietary requirements.**
- **Specified Means and Methods.** •

What is the intent of the manufacturer guide spec?

Marketing.

Research

- Information Listing.
- Legal Protection.
- **Detailed Installation Instructions/Data.**

PART 1 — GENERAL

1.01

SUMMARY 1.02

A. The work of this section includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Fluid applied waterproofing system

- Insulation

The fluid applied membrane shall consist of the following:

- - Section 033000 Cast-In-Place Concrete

 - Section 071100 Dampproofing
 - Section 076000 Flashing and Sheet Metal

 - Section 334600 Subdrainage

SECTION 071418 FLUID-APPLIED WATERPROOFING DECK SYSTEM

RELATED DOCUMENTS

A. All of the Contract Documents, including General and Supplementary Conditions and Division 1 General Requirements, apply to the work of this section.

- Prefabricated drainage composite
- Protection board
- B. System Description

Vertical Application: Vertical applications at parapet walls, upstands, etc. shall be coated with a minimum thickness of 80 mils applied in two 40 mil layers

Horizontal Application: Horizontal applications shall be coated with a minimum thickness of 80 mils applied in one 80 mil layer.

C. Related Sections: Other specification sections which directly relate to the work of this section include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Section 042000 Unit Masonry
- Section 079200 Joint Sealants
- Section 079500 Expansion Control



POLL **Product Representative Questions**

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING





Question 1

When comparing a product's properties and project criteria who can give you up to date technical information?

- A. Project engineer.
- B. Third Party Website.
- C. Product representative.
 - D. Local contractor.





Question 2

Meeting with Product Representatives are:

- A. An opportunity to have a discussion on the merits of different construction types.
- B. An opportunity to have a free meal and drinks.
- C. An opportunity to discover a new product for a project in construction.
- D. An opportunity to talk about installation of different products.







Question 3

Manufacturer guide specifications are:

- A. A good reference for product handling and attributes.
 - B. Usable in any project type.
 - C. A & B.
 - D. None of the above.





Question 1a

How many years of experience do you have in the Design & Construction field?



A. 1-5 years

- B. 5-10 years
- C. 10-20 years

D. 20+ years





Question 1b

How much do you enjoy research?

- A. Not at all... (next question, please!)
- B. It's OK... (but I'd rather have a root canal)
- C. It's not for everyone.... (especially not aunts and uncles)
- D. I enjoy it... (but I get bored sometimes)
- E. I love it!.... (sometimes I even research how to research)







How do you retain and organize information? (Software platforms?)







Question 1d

When do you do your research?



- A. Before I get a project.
- B. Programming and Schematic Design.
- C. Design Development and Construction Documentation.
- D. When the contractor asks me to.
- E. When the lawyers ask me to.





RECAP: RESEARCH



- **4**A selection.
- Research applicable code requirements. **4**B Evaluate product suitability for project conditions. 4C Review key product selections with product 4D
- - representatives.
- Research applicable product standards. **4E**

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING



Conduct research on materials and systems for product



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US



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CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION WRITING



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