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A GLOSSARY OF CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS TERMINOLOGY

THE CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN CHAPTER

1777 CHURCH ST., N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 332-1110

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MASTER INDEX OF [REDACTED] GOVERNMENT GUIDE [REDACTED] SPECIFICATIONS FOR [REDACTED] CONSTRUCTION [REDACTED]

THIRD EDITION

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN CHAPTER
OF THE CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE

This document is published as a service to the construction industry. As long as the federal contracting agencies continue to publish separate series of construction specification, there will be a need for a single source reference of the guide specification extant within the federal establishment. Judging from the popularity of the first two editions of the Master Index, this document meets the need.

ORGANIZATION OF THE DOCUMENT

The Master Index is divided into two major parts. The first part contains headings for each of the federal agencies that promulgates a guide specification series. Included also, but listed separately, is the Federal Construction Council which is secretariat for the cooperative effort of several major contracting agencies who produce the Federal Construction Guide Specifications. Under each heading in the first part is a brief description of the agency's activities, the nature of the construction under its purview, information on how to procure the agency's guides, and its current listing of guides. The second part of the Master Index, contains a master cross-reference index keyed to the units of work presented in the Construction Specifications Institute document, Masterformat.

Its "LOW" cost of \$11.50 per copy (including postage and handling) is possible because of the Chapter's members gift of time. Also this document is being distributed punched for three ring loose leaf binding, allowing for the flexibility of the users to insert in their own binders, to allow for future additions and revisions.

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PURPOSE

This document is published as a service to the construction industry. As long as the federal contracting agencies continue to publish separate series of construction specifications, there will be a need for a single source reference of the guide specifications extant within the federal establishment. Judging from the popularity of the first two editions of the Master Index, this document meets the need.

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09310	09310	Ceramic Tile
09411	09411	Bonded Terrazzo
09500	09500	Acoustical Treatment
09513	09511	Ceiling Lay-In Panels (and Suspension System) for Use with Background Masking

FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL

FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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CE-202.06	02365	Piling; Composite, Wood and Cast-In-Place Concrete, Uniform Taper and Constant Section
CE-202.07	02366	Piling; Concrete, Precast
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01002	00800	Supplemental Special Conditions (For Separate Construction Contracts Involving Construction Management and Phase Construction)

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THE CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN CHAPTER

1777 CHURCH ST., N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 332-1110

June 24, 1982

Dear Subscriber:

With your purchase of our publication, "Glossary of Construction Specifications Terminology", you were promised any additional sections that were completed by June 1. Although we are one year late, enclosed please find the following completed sections for insertion in to your glossary.

Section 05500	Metal Fabrication
Section 07310	Shingles
Section 09200	Lath and Plaster
Section 10600	Partitions
Section 12300	Manufactured Cabinets and Casework
Section 13120	Pre-Engineering Structures
Section 15050	Basic Materials and Methods
Section 16500	Lighting
Section 16550	Highway and Roadway Lighting

Since this is an on-going project, we will have additional sections in the future. When these sections become available, they will be offered to you at a nominal cost.

Very truly yours,

Charles M. Stover, CSI
Managing Editor

CMS:dj

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A GLOSSARY OF CONSTRUCTION

SPECIFICATIONS TERMINOLOGY

Compiled by

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
METROPOLITAN CHAPTER
CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE

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FOREWORD

The members of the District of Columbia Metropolitan Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), past and present, recognized an industry-wide need for the compilation of frequently encountered terms and definitions experienced in the writing and interpretation of construction specifications. In early 1974, in response to this need, the Co-Chairman of the Technical Committee, Robert J. Berg, and Vincent M. Spaulding recommended to Chapter president Sybe K. Bakker and the members of the Board of Directors that the D.C. Metropolitan Chapter C.S.I. undertake the development of a glossary of construction specification terminology.

Their recommendation was approved and work on the glossary proceeded for the next four years under the direction and support of Chapter presidents Sybe K. Bakker (1975 - 1976), George W. C. Kingston (1976 - 1977), and Jorgen Graugaard (1977 - 1979) and the members of their respective Boards of Directors. Work on the glossary was completed at the end of the 1979 - 1980 chapter year and a recommendation from the Technical Committee, then chaired by Vincent M. Spaulding (1976 - 1980), that the glossary be published was approved by the members of the Board of Directors.

The development of this glossary from its inception to its completion was an immense task which could not have been accomplished without the combined effort and the many hours of hard work devoted to the project by numerous members and friends of the Chapter.

The project was unusual because maximum Chapter member participation was utilized and the many areas of expertise of the members was drawn upon.

This glossary has been prepared as a service to all members of the construction industry responsible for the preparation or interpretation of construction specifications and its development has been encouraged by the Institute. If users of this document find it helpful, then the effort put forth by the Chapter has been worthwhile.

Robert B. Molseed, AIA, CSI
President, D.C. Metropolitan
Chapter of the Construction
Specification Institute
(1979 - 1981)

PREFACE

The terms defined in the glossary are arranged in accordance with the CSI 16 Division Format for construction specifications and are compiled according to CSI preferred section titles, e.g., DIVISION 4 - MASONRY, SECTION 04210, BRICK MASONRY. This arrangement is intended to permit specifiers, architects, engineers, general contractors, material dealers and students to find the exact term they are seeking within the Division and Section of the glossary where that item of work would be specified in a project specification or manufacturers' technical literature.

It is believed that a glossary arranged as described above will assist greatly in reducing misinterpretation of the meaning of construction terms by relating the term to the specific subject or material to which it refers. This arrangement is especially beneficial when terms have different meanings depending on trade usage.

Recognizing that the task of developing our own definitions would be formidable and that the terms normally found in construction specifications often originate with various members of the construction industry, the glossary consists of a compilation of terms and definitions written by various professional organizations, trade and manufacturers' associations. The use of terms and definitions developed by members of the construction industry also assures the inclusion of construction terminology reflecting those interpretations most accepted and recognized by members of the industry.

As near as possible, the terms and definitions were incorporated into the glossary approximately as received with format changes only to obtain a uniform presentation. However, the Chapter reserved the right to delete or relocate terms not relating to the specific subject or material to which a particular CSI Section title refers, or to delete terms considered commonly known to persons involved in the writing and interpretation of construction specifications.

It is the hope and intent of the members of the Technical Committee that this Glossary will contribute to the preparation of superior specifications and the elimination of ambiguities and conflicts therein.

Vincent M. Spaulding, R.A., CSI
Chairman, Technical Committee
Editor in Chief

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This glossary has been made possible because of the professional organizations, trade and manufacturers' associations and materials manufacturers who so generously contributed terms and definitions. An alphabetical listing of the contributors of terms and definitions with the abbreviations used at the end of each definition identifying the contributor is contained in the glossary. The procedure of following each definition with the source was adopted to give direct credit to each contributor and to give users of the glossary the benefit of knowing the source of the definition. In cases where the same definition for a term was received from more than one contributor, each contributor was identified by including each contributor's abbreviation. When different definitions for a term were received, all definitions were included in the glossary and each contributor identified. Unfortunately, it was not possible to acknowledge the origin of all the terms and definitions as some of the definitions were received from notes of chapter members who had accumulated them over the years, and others were provided without identifying the sources.

This glossary has also been made possible due to the many individuals who have been called upon for assistance. On the title page, credit is given to the section editors who were instrumental in making decisions on which terms to include in the glossary and under which preferred CSI section title, and to those section editors who also served as Division Chairmen whose additional responsibility it was to coordinate terms into CSI Divisions. Special mention is made here of the participation of Everett G. Spurling, Jr., FAIA, FCSI, for his many valuable suggestions during the development of the glossary.

Special acknowledgment is made to Charles M. Stover, CSI, for his mighty labors as Managing Editor responsible for graphics, formatting, typesetting and printing, and to Joseph H. Kasimer, Esquire, CSI, for his "Words on the Law".

Sincere appreciation is expressed to Mortimer M. Marshall, AIA, FCSI; Robert W. Nordstrom, AIA, FCSI; Freeman W. Williams, PE, CSI; Lewis W. Giles, Jr., AIA, CSI; Richard H. Welles, PE (CSI retired); Thomas E. Lewis, FCSI; Jerrily R. Kress, AIA, CSI, James D. O'Brien, CSI; Donna A. Robb, CSI; Robert K. Robson, CSI; Lawrence Katz; Ernest B. Webb, CSI; Keneth E. Blood, CSI; Dell R. Ewing, CSI; James Jackson, AIA, CSI; H. Leslie Simmons, AIA, CSI; Matthew E. Locraft, CSI; Julia Ann Souey, CSI; Roy J. Scheel, CSI; Victor P. Bindi, Jr., CSI; and the many others, so many as to be impossible to list them all here, who expressed encouragement and support for the project.

Grateful thanks is expressed to Colleen M. Pringle for typing the many letters mailed to various organizations and associations requesting terms and definitions for use in the glossary; to Deborah R. Allen for her assistance in typing the administrative correspondence associated with the development of the glossary and to Alfreed D. Tolins, PE; Frank Maibroda, Charles P. Skelly, and Columbus B. Key, Jr., for their assistance in providing terms and definitions for the glossary.

Finally, special gratitude goes to Jane Rossi Clark for her many hours of hard work typing the glossary. Without her valuable help and patient cooperation as typist and general reviewer, this glossary might never have been completed. The glossary was typeset by Mrs. Clark using the latest word processing equipment and techniques for computerizing specifications, involving storing sections on cassette tape masters, therefore providing a means for adding, revising and expanding current and future sections. Sincere thanks are expressed also to the architectural firm of Vlastimil Koubek, AIA, for allowing the use of their word processor for the transformation of the glossary into the final manuscript.

The loose leaf binder was chosen by the Committee in anticipation that the glossary will be an on-going project with additions and revisions as years go by.

Vincent M. Spaulding, R.A., CSI
Editor in Chief

CONTRIBUTORS

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ARI	Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute
AA	Aluminum Association
ABA	American Arbitration Association
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials
ACI	American Concrete Institute
AIA	American Institute of Architects
AITC	American Institute of Timber Construction
AISC	American Iron and Steel Institute
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
APA	American Plywood Association
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Material
AWWA	American Water Works Association
AWS	American Welding Society
AWPA	American Wood Preservers Association
AI	Asphalt Institute
ARMA	Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association
AGC	Associated General Contractors of America
BIA	Brick Institute of America
BHMA	Building Hardware Manufacturers Association
BSI	Building Stone Institute
CRI	Carpet and Rug Institute
CISPI	Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute
CISCA	Ceilings & Interior Systems Contractors Associations
CTI	Ceramic Tile Institute
CLI	Chain Link Institute
CFFA	Chemical Fabrics & <u>Film Association</u>

CRSI Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute
 CSI Construction Specifications Institute
 DOE Department of Energy
 EGSMMA Electrical Generating Systems Marketing Association
 FTI Facing Tile Institute
 FFCS Food Facilities Consultants Society
 FORUM Vol. XIV. No. 4 (Spring 1979) of The Forum
 GTA Glass Tempering Association
 GA Gypsum Association
 HUD United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
 HPMMA Hardwood Plywood Manufacturers Association
 IES Illuminating Engineering Society
 ILIA Indiana Limestone Institute Of American, Inc.
 IS Installation Specialist (Magazine)
 IMI International Masonry Institute
 JM Johns-Manville
 JCBC Jute Carpet Backing Council
 LPI Lighting Protection Institute
 MSSVFI Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry
 MIA Marble Institute of America
 MHI Material Handling Institute
 MBMA Metal Building Manufacturers Association
 MFC-HL Modern Floor Covering Magazine compiled by Herbert Ludwig (Mag.)
 MSI Mo-Sai Institute
 NCGC N.C. Granite Corporation
 NAPA National Asphalt Pavement Association
 NAAMN National Association of Architectural Metal Manufacturers
 NAGDM National Association of Garage Door Manufacturers
 NSPC National Association of Plumbing - Heating - Cooling Contractors and American Society of Plumbing Engineers
 NBGQA National Building Granite Quarries Association
 NCMA National Concrete Masonry Association

NEI	National Elevator Industry, Inc.
NKCA	National Kitchen Cabinet Association
NMWIA	National Mineral Wool Insulation Association
NPCA	National Paint and Coatings Association
NPA	National Particleboard Association
NRMCA	National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
NRCA	National Roofing Contractors Association
NSWNA	National Soil Waste Management Association
NSPI	National Swimming Pool Institute
NTMA	National Terrazzo and Mosaic Association
NWMA	National Woodwork Manufacturers Association
NAVFAC	Naval Facilities Engineering Command
PDCA	Painting and Decorating Contractors of America
PI	Perlite Institute, Inc.
PPI	Plastic Pipe Institute
PCI	Prestressed Concrete Institute
RCS & HSB	Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau
RFCI	Resilient Floor Covering Institute
SAMA	Scientific Apparatus Makers Association
SDI	Steel Door Institute
SWI	Steel Window Institute
SEL & PB	Southeast Lathing & Plastering Bureau, Inc.
TCA	Tile Council of America
TCC	Thiolol Chemical Corporation
WIC	Woodwork Institute of California
WRI	Wire Reinforcement Institute

A WORD ON THE LAW

The performance and interpretation of construction contracts is, ultimately, only a matter of words. The difference between a clear, tightly drawn specification and one which is ambiguous and subject to a number of meanings is only in the words used and their meaning. Many defective specification disputes revolve around the interpretation of a single word within the context of the contract as a whole.

In a recent case before the Army Corps of Engineers Board of Contract Appeals, the government and the contractor became embroiled in a conflict worth over \$20,000.00 concerning the definition of the word "rock". In that case, the contract specification defined "rock" as "conglomerate deposits so firmly cemented as to possess the characteristics of solid rock that cannot be removed without systematic drilling and blasting". The Board allowed the contractor to recover based upon the scheduled unit price for rock, rather than the unclassified material unit price as urged by the government. In that case, the use of a definition within the specification was the key to resolving the dispute over the meaning of a single word.

In a second case, the use of imprecise language cost the government additional funds on a construction contract. The contract in question contained a "clearing and grubbing" specification which required the contractor to remove from the construction site all interfering vegetation and debris. A second specification in the contract required the government to remove an existing building "to grade". The government had removed the existing building prior to the submission of bids, but had left the foundation, slab and steps. The contractor claimed entitlement to an equitable adjustment to cover the cost of removing the foundation slab and steps, asserting that it was the government's duty to remove the building down to ground level. The Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals ruled that the term "grade" meant "ground level" and, therefore, found the contractor's interpretation reasonable and the contractor entitled to an equitable adjustment.

In both of these cases, there were substantial financial consequences because of the imprecise meaning of words contained in specifications. The specifier must at all times be aware of the potential for dispute over the definition of terms.

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