

# CMCI Contact

News from the Construction Manager Certification Institute

## Application Webinars Scheduled

Following last month's Webinar on the CCM application process, Jan Paul Miller, VP, Certification has announced two more free Webinars to discuss the application and to answer questions from prospects. The Webinars are slated for July 10 at 12 pm, Pacific; and August 14, at 2 pm Pacific. The later start times are an attempt to meet the scheduling needs of people in the western time zones.



In all, 40 people attended the first Webinar. Feedback from this group was positive. The online discussion and Q&A time allowed people to generate their queries in real time and to receive an immediate answer. In instances where a situation demanded investigation or a lengthy response, an e-mail response addressed the issue.

Online registration will be available at the CMAA University Schedule at a glance: [http://cmaanet.org/pd\\_at\\_a\\_glance.php](http://cmaanet.org/pd_at_a_glance.php).

## CMCI's Surveillance Report Accepted

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accepted CMCI's annual report and forwarded it to the Personnel Certification Accreditation Committee for approval. The Assessors found no non-conformities and saw no need to suggest opportunities for improvement. The report to the Institute also noted two commendations. As part of the Institute's management procedures, an audit of its office operations is performed each year by the incoming Chair of the Board of Governors or a designee. Staff instituted an action plan based on the results of the audit and placed the procedure in the Institute's Policies and Procedures Manual.

The second commendation noted the procedures flow-chart. The reviewer concluded: "CMCI has codified the procedures for applicant review and its appeal process and made it clear, concise, and easily understandable. This is quite laudable." While all the information is available



ANSI Accredited Program  
PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION

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## Candidates Sought for Board of Governors

The Institute's Board of Governors is accepting nominations for three year terms that begin in October. Interested CCMs should send an e-mail expressing interest and the reasons for their desire to serve on the Board. A current resume should be attached.

In addition to setting policies and procedures for the Institute, the Governors evaluate applicants to determine which ones should move to candidacy. The Board meets twice a year in person – at the National Conference and Leadership Forum – and monthly by conference call.

Governors serve on the Board's committees. Most of the committee work is done via e-mail or by conference call. The Board is supported by three staff members who operate out of the CMAA office in McLean, Va.

Additionally, the development of test items is a priority for the Board. Governors chair the domains of knowledge committees comprised of subject matter experts who develop test items. After the items have been reviewed and vetted, they are evaluated for validity and reliability.

The deadline for submitting names and resumes is July 8. Names will then be sent to the Nominating Committee, which will submit its slate to the full Board of Governors for election. Finally, the Association's Board of Directors must approve the new members.

Questions about the process should be directed to Jan Paul Miller, Vice President, Certification @ [jpmiller@cmaanet.org](mailto:jpmiller@cmaanet.org).

# Culture of Certification

By Larry J. Smith, P.E., CCM

Chief of Construction, U.S. Army Engineer District, Sacramento



Construction Divisions within the U.S Army Corps of Engineers are creating a new culture of CM Certification for its professional construction managers.

In mid-year 2006 I began discussing benefits of Certified Construction Management with our USACE Headquarters. We quickly agreed the CMAA body of knowledge, standards of practice and core competencies would enhance our ability to deliver projects and programs to our military construction customers and civil construction partners.

Within the South Pacific Division, Construction Chiefs in Albuquerque, Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Francisco Districts teamed with the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) and the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) to pursue training and CM Certification.

In 2007 twenty six students completed the Chapter Review Course and in 2008 forty-one students completed the Standards of Practice Course. Both courses were hosted by the Corps of Engineers and jointly sponsored by SAME and CMAA.

Courses were open to both Corps of Engineers and Industry employees. The interaction between government and industry employees enhanced learning and fostered open discussions on standards of practice.

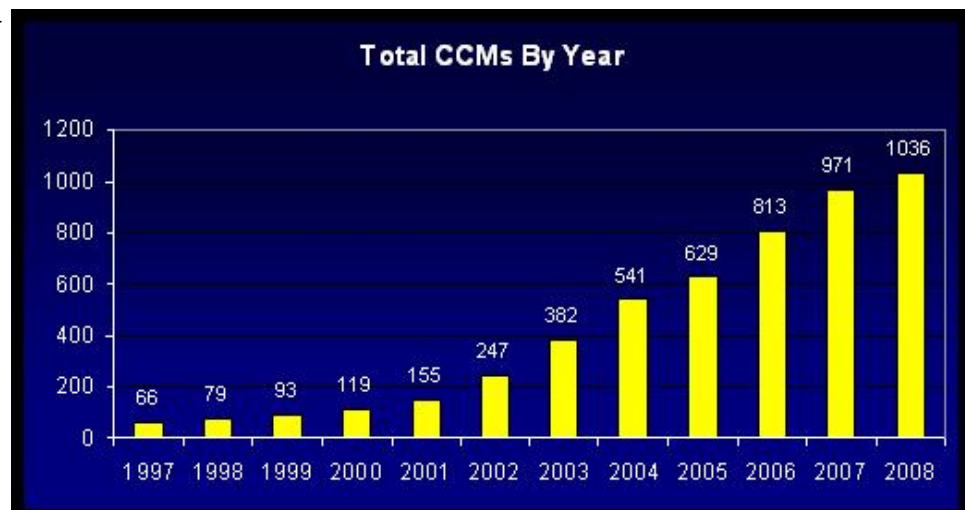
This teaming spirit now includes Baltimore, Kansas City and Rock Island Districts. The Corps of Engineers has numerous construction leaders who have obtained CM Certification. We are now serving as mentors to dozens of government construction managers, who have formed cohort groups in preparation for the certification exam in October, 2008.

We also are in contact with our colleagues in New Orleans. There, the Corps will host a Standards of Practice course for over 40 individuals next month. At least for the Corps, the pieces to

the CCM designation are coming together.

The CCM designation constitutes a solid knowledge base for enhancing the professionalism of our industry. The strategic alliance between SAME and CMAA and the Corps of Engineers is a foundation model for all agencies and firms looking to foster a culture of CCM certification. Construction professionals and leaders are encouraged to follow this model in their planning for tomorrow's workforce and workload.

*Editors note: This article is part of a series on "The Culture of Certification." If you are a CCM who would like to share your organization's story, please contact Jan paul Miller, VP certification, at [jpmiller@cmaanet.org](mailto:jpmiller@cmaanet.org).*



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able, it took considerable time and energy to bring it together in a format that was succinct but adequate for each component.

### Testing Data

As part of the ANSI process, testing data is collected, analyzed and reported. For the last surveillance year, 144 of 191 candidates passed the certification examination – a passing rate of 75 percent.

“I think this is a good indication that while our examination is rigorous based on the Association’s Standards of Practice and Body of Knowledge, three out of four examinees completed it successfully. I think that indicates that we are certifying the best of the best,” said Rick Rye, Chairman of the Board of Governors.

Rye continued: “I think it’s also a testament to the Governors of the Institute who are responsible for creating the first items, their validity and reliability and their currency in the profession.”

### Re-certification Audits

The Institute is also required to audit CCMs when they submit their paperwork for re-certification. Every 25th certificant is audited under the terms of ANSI’s accreditation.

“While I would easily understand our CCMs meeting the minimum requirements, we found in the cases we audited that they went over what was required,” Miller said.

“It’s a good indication that our CCMs take their professionalism seriously and are actively engaged in life-long learning that keeps them current in the industry in general and in construction management in particular,” Miller noted.



### Interest in CCM Continues to Grow

The Institute hosts information session at the National Conference and Leadership Forum. The recent meeting in Baltimore had 35 individuals attending a session on the CM credential. The panel consisted of Ed Bond, Jr., CCM, Linda Phillips, CCM, and Bill Ingles, PE, CCM. Each took turns reviewing the application process and answering questions.

Almost all of the attendees noted that they were working on their application.

“It shows continued and growing interest in the certification program,” noted Bill Ingles, CMCI Governor and Chair of the Examination Committee. “The more we explain the process, the easier it is for our applicants. Our goal – along with the CMCI staff – is make the process transparent. Our mission is certifying qualified candidates, and the more information we provide about the process, the easier it is for our applicants to become certified.”

### CMCI Outreach

CMCI staff are available to answer your questions in person, by phone, or via the web. If you, your firm, group, or chapter would like a presentation tailored to your needs, please contact the Institute office at your convenience.

Recently, Kate Brundage, Certification Associate, represented the Institute at the Society of Military Engineers convention in Minneapolis.

Certification Vice President Jan Paul Miller spoke to the Army Corps of Engineers North Atlantic District conference in Ocean City, MD, the URS team at Ft. Belvoir, VA; Heery International in Baltimore, MD; the Washington Metropolitan Airport Authority at Dulles Airport, Chantilly, VA; and the Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District.

### Governors Approve Monthly Testing

The Institute’s Board of Governors approved monthly testing beginning in July. Specific two day windows will be announced to help candidates decide when to test. “We want to help our candidates as much as possible,” said Carl Sciple, Vice Chair of the Governors. “The convenience of testing every month allows candidate more flexibility in their scheduling.”

The remaining 2008 testing

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dates are:

July 18/19  
 August 22/23  
 September 19/20  
 October 10-14  
 November 23/24  
 December 12/13

Testing will continue to be held at secure sites provided by the Institute's vendor, Kryterion. Please direct all exam scheduling questions to Kate Brundage, Certification Associate, at 703-677-3372.

## Number of CCMs Grows to 1036

Congratulations new CCMs!

Khidir Abdalla, CCM  
 Equinox Fitness Clubs  
 New York, NY

Jim Abernathy, CCM  
 Jim Abernathy Consulting  
 Palm Coast, FL

Del Bern, CCM  
 Simpson, Gumpertz, & Heger, Inc.  
 Los Angeles, CA

Jason Bollinger, CCM  
 PW Construction, Inc.  
 Glendora, CA

Stephen Eckersley, CCM  
 Freese and Nichols, Inc.  
 Fort Worth, Tx

Thomas Faulkner, CCM  
 Faulkner Consulting  
 Holly Spring, NC

Gwen Flora, CCM  
 Brown and Caldwell  
 Phoenix, AZ

Randall Huttenberger  
 Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.  
 Irvine, CA

Jerry Jarosik  
 Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.  
 Washington, DC

Kara Lentz, CCM  
 Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.  
 Washington, DC

Steve McGill, CCM  
 Volkert & Associates, Inc.  
 Mobile, AL

Gabriel Murillo, CCM  
 Summit Engineering  
 Los Angeles, CA

Bipinkumar Patel, CCM  
 MTA New York Transit Authority  
 New York, NY

David Potts, CCM  
 The Whiting Turner Contracting  
 Company  
 Baltimore, MD

Steven Rose, CCM  
 Jacobs  
 Arlington, VA

Gary Shuman, CCM  
 DMJM Management  
 Dallas, TX

Robert Speight, CCM  
 Heery International, Inc.  
 Cleveland, OH

Gary Vargas, CCM  
 Balfour Beatty Construction  
 Cape Coral, FL

## CMCI Contact

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For general inquiries about the certification program, requirements or other related issues, please contact Tabitha Costello, Certification Associate, at [tcostello@cmaanet.org](mailto:tcostello@cmaanet.org) or 703.677.3374.

For information about the status of an application or re-certification, please contact Kate Brundage, Certification Associate, at [kbrundage@cmaanet.org](mailto:kbrundage@cmaanet.org) or 703.677.3372.

For all other inquiries, please contact Jan paul Miller, Vice President, Certification, at [jpmiller@cmaanet.org](mailto:jpmiller@cmaanet.org) or 703.677.3364.

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