



## TOP STORY

### 2015 I-Codes Cycle Heats Up

Codes and standards advocacy is a significant ongoing activity of the Steel Framing Alliance (SFA), and 2012 promises to be another busy year for promoting and protecting the interests of cold-formed steel (CFS) framing. [More](#)

## COLD-FORMED STEEL ENGINEERS INSTITUTE – NEWS AND UPDATES

### CFSEI Chairman's 2012 Outlook

I would like to briefly outline what plans CFSEI has for 2012. Our Technical Note library has always been the primary focus of our efforts. [More](#)

### CFSEI Technology Development Committee

The CFSEI Technology Development Committee (TDC) provides a forum for facilitating the identification and prioritization of needs, opportunities and projects for the cold-formed steel framing industry. [More](#)

### Sign Up! CFSEI Lateral Drift Design Webinar, Feb. 22, 2012

The Cold-Formed Steel Engineers Institute (CFSEI) is pleased to announce its first educational webinar of 2012. The webinar will be held on February 22, 2012, starting at 3:00 pm ET. [More](#)

### Announcing the 2012 CFSEI EXPO – May 21 – 22, 2012

The 2012 CFSEI Expo is a “must attend” event for all design professionals and companies in the cold-formed steel industry. [More](#)

## MARKETPLACE

### Nonresidential Construction Spending May Rise 2.1% In 2012

U.S. nonresidential construction spending is predicted to rise by 2.1 percent in 2012 and by 6.4 percent in 2013, according to the American Institute of Architects' semi-annual Consensus Construction Forecast, a survey of the nation's leading construction forecasters. [More](#)

### STR reports 38,409 new rooms opened in '11

HENDERSONVILLE, Tennessee—The U.S. hotel industry during 2011 opened 373 new properties with 38,409 rooms, which resulted in a 0.5-percent increase in existing room supply, according to data from STR/McGraw Hill Construction Dodge Pipeline Report. Among the Chain Scale segments, the Upper Midscale segment opened the most rooms in 2011 with 172 projects and 15,579 rooms. [More](#)

### Construction Spending Boosts Growth

Construction spending in the U.S. rose in November for a third time in four months, indicating the industry helped boost growth at the end of 2011. [More](#)

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Next Article](#) |



### MARKETPLACE

#### Construction Employment Increases By 17,000 In December As Industry's Unemployment Rate Hits 16 Percent

Nonresidential Construction Accounts for the Month's Job Gains As Warm December Weather Extended the Construction Season in Many Parts of the Country, Economist Notes. [More](#)

#### ICC-ES Moves to Reduce its Clients' "Time to Market"

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES), long the U.S. leader in evaluating building products for code compliance, has announced major initiatives aimed at improving the turnaround time for its product evaluations. [More](#)

#### Construction Materials Prices Dropped Again in December As Amount Of Contractors Charge Is Stagnant For The Month, Up Slightly For The Year

The amount contractors pay for a range of key construction materials edged down 0.2 percent in December but climbed 5.3 percent from a year earlier, according to an analysis of producer price index figures released today by the Associated General Contractors of America. [More](#)

#### First Guide to New Green Construction Code Provides Insight to Design, Construction, Inspection

The International Code Council and Delmar, part of Cengage Learning, have released the construction industry's first support publication referencing the 2012 *International Green Construction Code* (IgCC) to be released this spring. [More](#)

#### Analyzing Substitutes for 2x4 SP Nos. 2 & 3

A key question that has been raised several times is, "What are the substitutes for truss designs that have used the existing 2x4 SP No. 2, when the new design values go into effect on June 1, 2012?" [More](#)

### HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

### NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

#### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

#### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

#### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

#### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

| [Top Main](#) | [Next Article](#) |



### TOP STORY

## 2015 I-Codes Cycle Heats Up

Codes and standards advocacy is a significant ongoing activity of the Steel Framing Alliance (SFA), and 2012 promises to be another busy year for promoting and protecting the interests of cold-formed steel (CFS) framing. Nothing may have more influence on the industry than the code change cycle starting up this year that will produce the 2015 International Code Council's (ICC) series of model codes.

All four of the most important I-codes— the International Building Code (IBC), International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), the International Green Construction Code (IgCC), and the International Residential Code (IRC) —are either in the initial stages of the process or will be at the end of 2012.

SFA's most significant concern with the IBC is the inappropriate use of existing code language to justify the unproven use of combustible materials in buildings above four stories. SFA developed and submitted multiple proposals to clarify the proper use of combustible materials in the IBC sections addressing building heights and areas. Proposals for IBC code changes were due January 3, 2012.

SFA also submitted a proposal to add a definition of termite-resistant materials to the IBC that included cold-formed steel framing. The definition will highlight CFS as an alternative to treated wood or chemical soil treatments. The termite proposal and the building height proposals will be heard during the initial public hearings in Dallas, TX from April 29 to May 6, 2012. We encourage SFA members to attend these hearings and speak in favor of these proposals. Additional details are provided at the ICC website at [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org).

Later in the year, the code change cycle opens up for proposals to the IRC, IECC, and IGCC. Energy provisions will remain the priority issues for SFA, and during the last quarter of 2012, SFA will develop proposals to better position CFS framing in these codes. The recently completed thermal performance research supported by SFA, the Steel Stud Manufacturers Association (SSMA), and others will provide new energy code compliance solutions that will be proposed for adoption in the codes.

Although energy provisions are a priority, several other issues with the potential to impact the CFS industry are also on the table in the IgCC.

The landscape for green buildings will change in 2012 with the rollout of the first edition of the International Green Construction Code. Developed over two years, this new code allows for an optional compliance path using Standard for the Design of High-Performance Buildings (Standard 189.1) developed by ASHRAE, U.S. Green Building Council and Illuminating Engineering Society. Additionally, IgCC has provisions found in many of the current green building standards including National Green Building Standard (ICC-700) by National Association of Home Builders and ICC, and programs such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The materials section of the code contains several options for compliance, including the introduction of a recyclability provision tied to recycled content.

...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

### HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

### NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



Users may be able to opt out of the entire materials section by performing a whole building Life Cycle Analysis (LCA); however, provisions for life cycle assessment of product and assemblies were removed during the Final Action Hearings after strong objections from material and product manufacturer associations.

The I-codes are just one example of the codes and standards activities in which SFA participates on behalf of the steel industry. We also advocate for CFS at ASTM, ASHRAE, LEED and other green programs, and through various state code committees. Look for updates on these activities in future issues of *Framework Online*.

- Editor, *Framework Online*

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

[| Top Main](#) | [| Top Article](#) | [| Next Article](#) |



**CFSEI**  
COLD-FORMED STEEL  
ENGINEERS INSTITUTE

### NEWS AND UPDATES: CFSEI

This section of Framework Online highlights ongoing efforts by the Cold-Formed Steel Engineers Institute (CFSEI) as well pertinent background information about the many endeavors taken on by CFSEI. CFSEI will be featured on a regular basis in future editions of Framework Online.

### SPECIAL FEATURE: CFSEI

#### CFSEI Chairman's 2012 Outlook

CFSEI serves the design professional community by promoting the use of cold-formed steel (CFS) framing as well as educating these individuals on proper and efficient design techniques. Our mission is: "To enable and encourage the efficient design of safe and cost-effective cold-formed steel-framed structures." The vision of CFSEI is: "To be recognized as the preeminent worldwide technical resource for cold-formed steel framing design."

I would like to briefly outline what plans CFSEI has for 2012:

- Our Technical Note library has always been the primary focus of our efforts. CFSEI Technical Notes offer real-world solutions to current design/specification issues that are encountered every day. These design aids are written by design professionals for design professionals, and that is why they should be an essential part of your CFS library. All of our Technical Notes can be found on our website ([www.cfsei.org](http://www.cfsei.org)) in the "Members Only" section and are available as free downloads. In the coming months, we plan to roll out updates of several Technical Notes that deal with subjects such as Acoustic Insulation, Fire-Rate Assemblies, Curtain Wall Design, CFS Trusses, and Attachments of Steel-to-Wood and Wood-to-Steel.
- In 2010, CFSEI introduced a series of webinars to more effectively accomplish our mission. The webinar format has been well received by our membership, and we plan a robust schedule for 2012 with six webinars.

...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

### HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

### NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

#### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

#### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

#### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

#### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



Each webinar offers a real-time opportunity for learning from some of the best CFS professionals in the country on the issues of the day. Our next webinar is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 22, 2012** at 3:00 pm EST. Tom Castle, S.E., Principal of Ficcadenti, Waggoner, and Castle, will speak about Lateral Drift Design in CFS Walls. This webinar will address code requirements for drift in seismic zones and the various ways to accommodate large lateral drifts in exterior and interior CFS framing systems. You won't want to miss this one!

- CFSEI provides an excellent resource for networking and education at its annual meeting, the CFSEI Expo, which is held every spring. Our 2011 event, held in Annapolis, MD, was a resounding success and we are expecting the same for 2012. The CFSEI Expo will be held on **May 21-22, 2012** in Orlando, FL and will deliver more than 16 hours of educational programming for architects, building inspectors, contractors and engineers. There will also be an exposition featuring the latest tools and resources. Seasoned veterans in the industry, as well as those just beginning to explore the capabilities of CFS, will benefit from the event. The winners of the 2012 CFS Awards competition for Design Excellence, Construction Innovation, and Distinguished Service will be announced at the Expo. I hope to see all of you there!

**Get involved locally.** Members are encouraged to get involved in local issues through their CFSEI chapter or alliance, which are located throughout the country. We have a Florida Chapter, an Atlanta/Southeast Chapter, and a West Chapter. CFSEI has alliances with the Mid-Atlantic Steel Framing Alliance (MASFA) and the Hawaii Steel Framing Alliance. Plans are underway to establish a chapter in Ontario, Canada. The chapters give our members an opportunity to learn and network with local design professionals about the issues specific to their area. To learn more about these local chapters and their activities, please visit [www.cfsei.org](http://www.cfsei.org).

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to renew your CFSEI memberships for 2012 and to join one of our local chapters. This is easily accomplished by going to [www.cfsei.org](http://www.cfsei.org) or [www.steelframing.org](http://www.steelframing.org) and clicking on the "2012 Renew Online" link. If you have already renewed your membership for 2012, I want to thank you for your support and encourage you to become involved in one of our committees, which cover Technology (Tech Note) Development, Education, and Membership.

If you are not a member of CFSEI, I invite you to join us in our mission to advance the cold-formed steel framing market and ensure its competitiveness for years to come.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss how CFSEI can better serve our membership or for more information on the CFSEI committees. I can be reached at [edkile@structuneering.com](mailto:edkile@structuneering.com).

Thank you for your support of CFSEI!

Ed Kile, P.E., CFSEI Chairman

| [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



**CFSEI**  
COLD-FORMED STEEL  
ENGINEERS INSTITUTE

## CFSEI Technology Development Committee

The CFSEI Technology Development Committee (TDC) provides a forum for facilitating the identification and prioritization of needs, opportunities and projects for the cold-formed steel framing industry.

### TDC Membership Survey Results

The TDC completed its biannual Membership Survey in November 2011. Thirty members of CFSEI and SFA participated. Business categories of the participants included consulting structural engineers (11), engineers representing suppliers/manufacturers (9), builders/contractors (3), manufacturers (2), and other engineers, academia/researchers, institutes, architects/specification writers and code officials.

Of primary interest to the TDC were the 98 suggestions for engineering design resources, and expressions by nine of the respondents that they have expertise and potential interest in being an author or reviewer of a new engineering design resource to share with their colleagues. Of these suggestions, 36 will be considered by the TDC and seven will be referred to the AISI Subcommittee on Education. Fourteen of the suggestions were outside the immediate scope of the TDC and will be forwarded to industry partners.

Interestingly, 41 of the suggestions were for design resources that already exist or are in the process of being developed. CFSEI staff was quick to respond to these requests by sending the available resources or providing updates on the work in progress. There are a significant number of design resources available through the SFA ([www.steel framing.org](http://www.steel framing.org)) and CFSEI ([www.CFSEI.org](http://www.CFSEI.org)) websites. Industry professionals are encouraged to view these sites for more information.

The survey respondents also identified 59 continuing education needs, and eight of the respondents expressed that they have expertise and potential interest in presenting information to their colleagues. These items will be considered by the CFSEI Education Committee. In addition, the survey respondents identified 61 research needs, which will be considered by SFA and its industry partners for future business planning.

Overall, the survey confirmed that SFA and CFSEI are on the right track with their efforts. It also acknowledged that there are more opportunities ahead for both organizations.

...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



Readers are encouraged to continue identifying barriers to the use of cold-formed steel (CFS) framing in the marketplace by downloading and submitting the TDC Barrier Survey Form, which is available on the CFSEI website at [http://www.cfsei.org/PDF/20110809\\_CFSEI\\_TDC\\_Barrier\\_Survey\\_Form.doc](http://www.cfsei.org/PDF/20110809_CFSEI_TDC_Barrier_Survey_Form.doc). These forms are critical in determining the market impact and relevance to goals for potential projects.

### Progress on Technical Notes

Work continues on the development of many new design resources. Since the last issue of Framework Online, the following CFSEI Technical Notes have been published:

- F102-11, Screw Fastener Selection (revised and re-branded from LGSEA)
- F501-11, Cold-Formed Steel Truss to Bearing Connections (new)

### More Information

The TDC is always receptive to new suggestions for projects and welcomes those who want to “roll up their sleeves” and participate in the development of Technical Notes, technical publications, and tools for CFS design engineers. Membership in the TDC is open to all CFSEI members. For more information on the TDC, check out its page on the CFSEI website or contact the Chairman, Jay Larson ([jl Larson@steel.org](mailto:jl Larson@steel.org)), or Secretary, Don Allen ([dallen@cfsei.org](mailto:dallen@cfsei.org)).

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **February 2, 2012**

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

### **February 8-11, 2012**

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### **February 9, 2012**

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### **February 22, 2012**

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

### **March 29-31, 2012**

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

[| Top Main](#) | [| Top Article](#) | [| Next Article](#) |





**CFSEI**  
COLD-FORMED STEEL  
ENGINEERS INSTITUTE

### SPECIAL FEATURE: CFSEI

### Sign Up! CFSEI Lateral Drift Design Webinar, Feb. 22, 2012



The Cold-Formed Steel Engineers Institute (CFSEI) is pleased to announce its first educational webinar of 2012. The webinar will be held on February 22, 2012, starting at 3:00 pm ET. This educational event will focus on a very important design and detailing topic for CFS engineers related to exterior curtain walls and interior non-load bearing walls in seismic zones. The title of the webinar is "Lateral Drift Design in Cold-Formed Steel Walls."

Background: Current practices to accommodate the lateral drift of non-bearing cold-formed steel stud exterior systems cannot fully isolate the exterior walls to receive zero damage in a seismic event since drifts can exceed three inches per floor. In-plane lateral drift and out-of-plane lateral drift are accomplished in many different ways. With various types of joints, tracks, and slotted clips, both of these drifts can be achieved, but it can be difficult to accomplish both drifts effectively where walls intersect. Detailing must allow for inelastic building drifts without failure of the exterior system that would result in a falling hazard. This webinar will address code requirements for drift in seismic zones and the various ways to accommodate large lateral drifts in exterior and interior cold-formed steel framing systems.



The presenter is Thomas Castle, S.E. who is a principal at Ficcadenti Waggoner and Castle Structural Engineers in Walnut Creek, California (FWC). Mr. Castle brings with him more than 20 years of experience in structural engineering design. His areas of interest include seismic design and the design of nonstructural exterior and interior architectural systems. He is responsible for numerous building and component designs in both the residential and commercial fields. Mr. Castle attended California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo where he earned his Bachelors degree, and continued his education at the University of California at Berkeley, receiving his Masters degree.

To attend this webinar, please register at [www.cfsei.org](http://www.cfsei.org). Previous webinar topics from CFSEI include:

- Shear Wall Design Guide
- AISI Design Guide for the Direct Strength Method
- AISI Cold-Formed Steel Design Specification: 2007 Edition

### HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

### NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

- Cold-Formed Steel Connection Design using the 2007 AISI Specification & 2009 IBC
- Cold-Formed Steel Field Observation and Remediation
- Cold-Formed Steel Distortional Buckling
- Fire Resistive Noise Control Solutions for Cold-Formed Steel
- Cold-Formed Steel Submittals: Expectations and Performance of Structural and Specialty Engineers
- Mid-Rise Design with Cold-Formed Steel Framing
- Building Information Modeling (BIM) for the Cold-Formed Steel Industry.

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



**CFSEI**  
COLD-FORMED STEEL  
ENGINEERS INSTITUTE

| [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

### SPECIAL FEATURE: CFSEI

### Announcing the 2012 CFSEI EXPO – May 21 – 22, 2012

#### SAVE THE DATES!!!!

The 2012 CFSEI Expo is a “must attend” event for all design professionals and companies in the cold-formed steel industry. This year’s upcoming event will be generously hosted by our Florida Chapter and held in Orlando, Florida on May 21 and 22, 2012. It will showcase the latest and greatest ideas and technology in designing with cold-formed steel. This conference will be packed full with educational seminars and offer an abundance of networking opportunities. Save the dates now. Registration information will be available on CFSEI website ([www.cfsei.org](http://www.cfsei.org)) in the coming weeks.

### HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

### NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

#### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders’ Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

#### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

#### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

#### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

| [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |



## MARKETPLACE

### Nonresidential Construction Spending May Rise 2.1% In 2012

U.S. nonresidential construction spending is predicted to rise by 2.1 percent in 2012 and by 6.4 percent in 2013, according to the American Institute of Architects' semi-annual Consensus Construction Forecast, a survey of the nation's leading construction forecasters.

Spending on commercial or industrial buildings is expected to lead the way, with an increase this year of 5.6 percent and 11.4 percent in 2013, according to the survey. This year, spending on hotels is expected to rise 10.2 percent, industrial buildings by 6 percent, retail buildings by 5 percent and office buildings by 4.3 percent.

"Spending on hotels, industrial plants and commercial properties are going to set the pace for the construction industry over the next two years," the institute's chief architect, Kermit Baker, said in a news release.

"The institutional market won't experience the same growth, but health care facilities and places of worship are poised for a positive economic outlook in that sector."

Spending on institutional construction is expected to fall overall by 0.1 percent in 2012, but rise 3.6 percent in 2013. Construction spending on buildings for religious purposes is expected to rise 5.1 percent in 2012; spending on health care facilities, by 4.5 percent; and spending on amusement and recreation buildings, 0.2 percent.

But spending on educational institutions is expected to fall 1.7 percent this year, while spending on public safety may be off 3.8 percent.

"We are concerned that the unusually high energy costs, given the overall weakness in the economy, might trigger a jolt in inflation and hamstring economic recovery," Baker said in the news release. "The housing market also needs prices to stabilize and to resolve the high number of delinquencies and foreclosures before it can fully recover."

*Source: Business First, January 25, 2012*

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

| [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |



### MARKETPLACE

#### STR reports 38,409 new rooms opened in '11

HENDERSONVILLE, Tennessee—The U.S. hotel industry during 2011 opened 373 new properties with 38,409 rooms, which resulted in a 0.5-percent increase in existing room supply, according to data from STR/McGraw Hill Construction Dodge Pipeline Report. Among the Chain Scale segments, the Upper Midscale segment opened the most rooms in 2011 with 172 projects and 15,579 rooms.

“In December 2010 there were 75,747 rooms projected to open in the United States in 2011,” said Duane Vinson, VP, database content and integrity at STR. “At the conclusion of the year, 38,409 have opened, or 50.8 percent of those expected, which resulted in net supply increase of 0.5 percent.”

The segment reported a 36.6-percent decrease in the number of rooms that opened in 2011 compared to 2010. The Upper Midscale segment was followed by the Upscale segment, which opened 64 properties with 8,557 rooms in 2011, and the Midscale segment, which opened 45 properties with 4,051 rooms. The Luxury segment opened the smallest number of new rooms in 2011 (two properties with 1,261 rooms).

“As we bring an end to 2011, there are 70,291 rooms on schedule to open in 2012, of which 40,371 are currently under construction,” Vinson continued. “With a significant number of rooms in Final Planning (110,836) and a 7.9-percent increase in Pre Planning rooms from last month, we continue to closely monitor overall development for a pickup in supply in the next few years.”

In 2012, the U.S. hotel industry is expecting 649 properties to open with 70,291 rooms. Among the Chain Scale segments, the Upper Midscale segment is expected to open the largest number of rooms in 2012 with 249 properties and 24,269 rooms. The Midscale segment (169 properties with 13,179 rooms) and the Upscale segment (129 properties with 18,276 rooms) also are expected to open a significant number of new rooms in 2012.

Properties and Rooms opened in 2011 by Chain Scale segment		
Chain Scale Segment	Properties opened in 2011	Rooms opened in 2011
Luxury	2	1,261
Upper Upscale	12	3,738
Upscale	64	8,557
Upper Midscale	172	15,579
Midscale	45	4,051
Economy	29	1,691
Independent	49	3,532
<b>Total U.S.</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>38,409</b>

Source: STR

...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

### HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

### NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



The total active U.S. hotel development pipeline comprises 2,855 projects totaling 307,664 rooms, according to the December 2011 STR/McGraw Hill Construction Dodge Pipeline Report released this week. This represents a 3.1-percent decrease in the number of rooms in the total active pipeline compared to December 2010.

Source: *HotelNewsNow.com*, January 11, 2012

### HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

### NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

#### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

#### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

#### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

#### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

| [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |



## MARKETPLACE

### Construction Spending Boosts Growth

Construction spending in the U.S. rose in November for a third time in four months, indicating the industry helped boost growth at the end of 2011.

Building outlays increased (CNSTTMOM) 1.2 percent, exceeding the median estimate of 46 economists in a Bloomberg survey that called for a 0.5 percent gain, Commerce Department figures showed today in Washington. The October reading was revised down to show a 0.2 percent drop from a previously projected 0.8 percent increase, showing the initial data are susceptible to swings in direction.

Recent gains in the housing market, spurred in part by mortgage rates near record lows, are helping the construction industry recover from the 18-month recession that ended in June 2009. Public expenditures also climbed during the month, a sign that budget constraints may be easing.

“Residential construction and even business construction have been favorable,” Russell Price, a senior economist at Ameriprise Financial Inc. in Detroit, said before the report. “I expect that to continue.”

Estimates in the Bloomberg survey ranged from a drop of 0.6 percent to an increase of 1.4 percent.

Private construction spending climbed 1 percent in November from the prior month to \$522 billion, the highest level since December 2009. Homebuilding outlays increased 2 percent, including a 2.6 percent gain in home improvement. Expenditures on single-family and multifamily housing also improved.

### Public Building

Spending on public construction climbed 1.7 percent, today’s report said. Federal construction outlays increased 5.3 percent, the biggest gain since August, to \$27.6 billion. Outlays by state and local agencies rose to the highest level since January 2011.

In November, builders broke ground on more homes than at any time in the previous 19 months and construction permits climbed to a one-year high, suggesting housing may not be a drag on gross domestic product next year, data from the Commerce Department showed last month.

Housing starts were at a 685,000 annual rate that month, Commerce Department figures showed Dec. 20. Building permits, a proxy for future construction, increased 5.7 percent.

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA

[More](#)

### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders’ Show  
Orlando, FL

[More](#)

### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL

[More](#)

### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET

[More](#)

### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL

[More](#)

...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |



Homebuilder sentiment has improved as well. The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo sentiment index rose in December for a third consecutive month, to the highest level since May 2010. Readings less than 50 mean more respondents said conditions were poor.

Some companies say improvements are needed in commercial real estate.

“To get any better we need some help from commercial construction,” John Lundgren, chief executive officer at toolmaker Stanley Black & Decker Inc. (SWK), said on a Dec. 7 conference call with analysts. Overall, he said, “it’s not going to get any worse from a macro perspective.”

*Source: Bloomberg, January 03, 2012*

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

[| Top Main](#) | [| Top Article](#) | [| Next Article](#) |



**MARKETPLACE****Construction Employment Increases By 17,000 In December As Industry's Unemployment Rate Hits 16 Percent**

Nonresidential Construction Accounts for the Month's Job Gains As Warm December Weather Extended the Construction Season in Many Parts of the Country, Economist Notes.

Construction employment increased in December by 17,000 driven by gains in nonresidential construction employment, according to an analysis of new federal employment data released today by the Associated General Contractors of America. Association officials said that construction employment likely benefitted from unseasonably warm weather across much of the country that extended the construction season.

"Nonresidential construction is clearly driving last month's employment gains," said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist. "But it is too early to tell whether those gains came because the weather was good enough for crews to keep working well into December or because demand is truly rebounding."

Total construction employment now stands at 5,544,000 or 0.3 percent higher than a month earlier and 46,000 (0.8 percent) higher than in December 2010, the economist said. He added that the latest employment figures continue a months-long trend of slight gains followed by slight declines in construction employment and that overall construction employment is still far below its peak level of 7,726,000 in April 2006.

The nonresidential construction sector added 17,200 construction jobs in December, Simonson noted. He said nonresidential specialty trade contractors added 20,200 positions, while heavy and civil engineering construction firms – which perform the majority of publicly-funded construction work – shed 300 jobs. Nonresidential building contractors shed 2,700 jobs in December. Residential construction lost 400 total jobs, as the residential specialty trade contractors shed 2,900 jobs and residential builder added only 2,500 positions in December.

Association officials said the increase in construction jobs was welcome news, but said they were concerned that partisan fighting in Washington would undermine chances of enacting a number of long-overdue infrastructure investment programs and measures needed to boost the economy. Without those measures construction employment was likely to suffer.

"It is going to be hard to pass tax and investment measures to help boost private sector demand when congress and the president are at odds about everything from appointments to how to curb growing federal deficits," said Stephen E. Sandherr, the association's chief executive officer. "When elected officials are more interested in scoring political points than addressing our critical infrastructure needs, everybody else – including unemployed construction workers and the economy – suffers."

Source: *The Associated General Contractors of America, January 6, 2012*

[| Top Main](#) | [| Top Article](#) | [| Next Article](#) |

**HEADQUARTERS**

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

**NEW MEMBERS**

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



## MARKETPLACE

### ICC-ES Moves to Reduce its Clients' "Time to Market"

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES), long the U.S. leader in evaluating building products for code compliance, has announced major initiatives aimed at improving the turnaround time for its product evaluations. With these steps, ICC-ES hopes to further optimize its clients' "time to market" for product development launches.

The ICC-ES actions include improving its corporate information technology capabilities, so that evaluations go faster and more information is available online to both clients and the ICC-ES staff. ICC-ES is also streamlining the evaluation process and developing evaluation plans that will clarify the process for both clients and the ICC-ES technical staff.

"Feedback from our clients gives us the best ideas on what we need to do in order to provide better services," said Mark Johnson, President of ICC-ES. "Our clients want faster turnaround time for our high-quality reports, and we are here to deliver. The wide acceptance of our reports by code officials shows the trust we have built over more than 80 years. We treasure that trust, but we also know we need to work constantly to improve our service offerings."

#### About ICC-ES

A nonprofit, limited liability company, ICC-ES is the United States' leading evaluation service for innovative building materials, components and systems. ICC-ES [Evaluation Reports](#) (ESRs) and [PMG Listings](#) provide evidence that products and systems meet requirements of codes and technical standards. ICC-ES also issues environmental reports verifying that products meet specific sustainability targets defined by today's codes, standards, green rating systems and ICC-ES [environmental criteria](#). ICC-ES is a subsidiary of the [International Code Council](#)® (ICC®). For more information, please visit [www.icc-es.org](http://www.icc-es.org).

*Source: ICC Evaluation Services, January 13, 2012*

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

[| Top Main](#) | [| Top Article](#) | [| Next Article](#) |



## MARKETPLACE

### Construction Materials Prices Dropped Again in December As Amount Of Contractors Charge Is Stagnant For The Month, Up Slightly For The Year

*Construction Association Notes that Despite Recent Declines, Yearlong Trend of Rising Materials Prices and Flat Bid Levels is Cutting into Contractor Earnings, Adding to Industry Challenges*

The amount contractors pay for a range of key construction materials edged down 0.2 percent in December but climbed 5.3 percent from a year earlier, according to an analysis of producer price index figures released today by the Associated General Contractors of America. Meanwhile, the amount contractors charge to construct projects remained largely flat for the month and is up only between 3.3 and 4.7 percent for the year, cutting into contractor earnings and adding to the challenges the hard-hit industry is facing, association officials said.

"Any relief contractors might get from the recent declines in materials prices is being offset by their inability to increase prices for new construction projects," said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist. "With overall demand relatively weak and public sector investments in construction declining rapidly, construction remains a buyer's market."

Simonson noted that prices for many key construction materials declined between November and December. The price index for diesel fuel dropped 7.8 percent in November, yet remains up 20.2 percent compared to December 2010. The index for copper and brass mill shapes continue to decline from record high levels early this year, sinking 0.4 percent in December and down 9.3 percent for the year. Likewise, steel mill products dropped in price for the month, by 0.6 percent, but rose 11.3 percent from a year earlier. Meanwhile, the index for asphalt paving mixtures and blocks increased 0.4 percent in December and 8.4 percent for the year.

Despite inching up slightly in recent months, the price indexes for finished nonresidential buildings, which measure what contractors estimate they would charge to put up new structures, have lagged compared to the year-over-year increases in materials costs, Simonson observed. The index for new industrial buildings actually declined 0.1 percent in December and is up only 3.3 percent for the year. The index for new office construction inched up 0.2 percent for the month and 3.9 percent for the year. The price for new warehouse construction was unchanged in December and rose 3.8 percent compared to December 2010. And the price for new school construction was up 0.1 percent for the month and 4.7 percent for the year.

Association officials said the fact contractors continue to be squeezed between materials costs and what they can charge is making difficult market conditions worse. They said Congress and federal officials could provide needed help by enacting a series of measures to boost private sector demand and counter recent declines in public sector construction activity.

[...Continued next page](#) | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



"The fundamentals are the same for construction as for any other industry, uncertainty breeds caution and stifles demand," said Stephen E. Sandherr, the association's chief executive officer. "The best way to boost demand for construction is for Washington to set permanent tax rates and enact long-term infrastructure and investment measures, including for aging highway, transit, aviation and water systems."

View the latest [producer price index tables](#) for construction.

Source: *The Associated General Contractors of America, January 18, 2012*

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

| [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |



## MARKETPLACE

### First Guide to New Green Construction Code Provides Insight to Design, Construction, Inspection

The International Code Council and Delmar, part of Cengage Learning, have released the construction industry's first support publication referencing the 2012 *International Green Construction Code* (IgCC) to be released this spring. *Green Building: A Professional's Guide to Concepts, Codes and Innovation* is the latest joint effort developed by the two organizations that began co-publishing special projects in 2005.

"This is the first publication covering the provisions and concepts of the *International Green Construction Code*, and other green standards and rating systems, in a way that would support all construction professionals by laying the foundation for design, construction and inspection based on the 2012 IgCC and its referenced standards," said ICC Executive Director of Sustainability Dave Walls.

To order the guide, call 1-800-786-4452 or visit <http://www.iccsafe.org/greenguide>.

Readers of the guide will have a better understanding of where the building industry is headed and how to become compliant with green practices and regulations. The *Green Guide's* 10 chapters include straightforward explanations of how buildings and ecosystems can work together, as well as the sustainability concerns inspiring current regulations. Relevant codes and standards are discussed in-depth, with particular attention to the IgCC and ASHRAE Standard 189.1, as well as environmental concepts and historical precedents. The book contains color photos and illustrations showing real-world application of green construction concepts.

"The new, cutting-edge technologies for today's green building projects are rapidly becoming standard practice for tomorrow," said Delmar Vice President Greg Clayton. "In order for industry professionals to keep up with this trend, they'll need to have a solid grasp on green building and the technologies, market forces and governmental policies that drive it. Delmar and the Code Council understand the need for current, environmentally friendly green building information, and we are actively working together to produce more materials that support all aspects of this industry."

The *Green Guide* is coauthored by a duo of registered architects with strong experience in sustainability, design and code development. Anthony Floyd, AIA, LEED AP, serves as Senior Green Building Consultant for Scottsdale, Ariz., where he maintains the city's green building criteria and conducts public outreach. In 1995, he studied sustainability on a global level visiting four continents during a nine-month period. Allan Bilka, R.A., is Senior Staff Architect at the Code Council where he serves as Secretariat in the development of the IgCC. He is involved with the development of training and certification materials to support the new code and instructs seminars on sustainable topics. He has written numerous articles and white papers related to green and sustainable building.

...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) | [Next Article](#) |

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



The International Code Council is a member-focused association dedicated to helping the building safety community and construction industry provide safe and sustainable construction through the development of codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process. Most U.S. communities and many global markets choose the International Codes.

“This is the first publication covering the provisions and concepts of the *International Green Construction Code*, and other green standards and rating systems, in a way that would support all construction professionals by laying the foundation for design, construction and inspection based on the 2012 IgCC and its referenced standards,” said ICC Executive Director of Sustainability Dave Walls.

Cengage Learning is a leading provider of innovative teaching, learning and research solutions for the academic, professional and library markets worldwide. Delmar, part of Cengage Learning, is the leading provider of lifelong learning products and services for the health care, technology and trades, and career education markets. Delmar's market-leading imprints include Autodesk Press, Chilton, Milady, NetLearning and OnWord Press.

*Source: International Code Council, January 23, 2012*

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 2, 2012

CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

### February 8-11, 2012

2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 9, 2012

CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

### February 22, 2012

CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

### March 29-31, 2012

2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)

[| Top Main](#) | [| Top Article](#) | [| Next Article](#) |



## MARKETPLACE

### Analyzing Substitutes for 2x4 SP Nos. 2 & 3

A key question that has been raised several times is, "What are the substitutes for truss designs that have used the existing 2x4 SP No. 2, when the new design values go into effect on June 1, 2012?" One option is to specify a larger size and/or higher grade of visually graded SP lumber. Another option is to specify mechanically graded lumber which includes Machine Stress Rated (MSR) and Machine Evaluated Lumber (MEL):

1. 2x4 SP No. 2 can be replaced by:
  - a. 2x6 SP No. 2
  - b. 2x4 SP No. 1 Non-dense and better SP visual grades.
  - c. 2x4 MSR/MEL grades shown below:

Southern Pine MSR & MEL Reference Design Values						
Grade	Bending F <sub>b</sub>	Tension Parallel to Grain F <sub>t</sub>	Shear Parallel to Grain F <sub>v</sub>	Compression Perpendicular to Grain F <sub>c</sub> ⊥	Compression Parallel to Grain F <sub>c</sub>	Modulus of Elasticity E
Machine Stress Rated (MSR)						
1450f – 1.3E	1450	825	175	565	1600	1,300,000
1450f – 1.5E	1450	825	175	565	1600	1,500,000
1500f – 1.5E	1500	900	175	565	1650	1,500,000
1500f – 1.6E	1500	900	175	565	1650	1,600,000
1500f – 1.7E	1500	900	175	565	1650	1,700,000
1650f – 1.5E	1650	1020	175	565	1700	1,500,000
1650f – 1.7E	1650	1020	175	565	1750	1,700,000
Machine Evaluated Lumber (MEL)						
M - 38	1500	900	175	565	1650	1,600,000
M - 11	1550	850	175	565	1675	1,500,000
M - 12	1600	850	175	565	1675	1,600,000
M - 13	1600	950	175	565	1675	1,400,000
M - 39	1650	1020	175	565	1750	1,700,000

- d. These are direct substitutes for 2x4 SP No. 2, but not all of the possible MSR/MEL grades will be produced. The marketplace will eventually determine the most common grades.
  - e. 1500f-1.6ER MSR and M-38 MEL are the closest direct substitutes for the current design values associated with SP No. 2 2x4s.
2. 2x4 SP No. 3 and Stud grades can be replaced by:
    - a. 2x6 SP No. 3
    - b. 2x4 SP No. 2 Non-Dense and better SP visual grades
    - c. 2x4 SP MSR/MEL grades shown below:

...Continued next page | [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) |

## HEADQUARTERS

Steel Framing Alliance  
1140 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 705  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.785.2022  
Fax: 202-785-3856

## NEW MEMBERS

- Crockett Engineering
- Integrity Engineering
- Spencer Engineering, Inc.
- Tucson Electric Power

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 2012**  
CFSEI Atlanta/Southeast Chapter  
Roof Challenges with Cold-Formed  
Atlanta, GA  
[More](#)

**February 8-11, 2012**  
2012 NAHB International  
Builders' Show  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 9, 2012**  
CFSEI Florida Chapter  
Blast and Progressive Collapse  
Design of CFS Presentation  
Orlando, FL  
[More](#)

**February 22, 2012**  
CFSEI Lateral Drift Design  
Webinar  
3:00 p.m. ET  
[More](#)

**March 29-31, 2012**  
2012 Structures Congress  
Chicago, IL  
[More](#)



## Southern Pine MSR & MEL Reference Design Values

Grade	Bending F <sub>b</sub>	Tension Parallel to Grain F <sub>t</sub>	Shear Parallel to Grain F <sub>v</sub>	Compression Perpendicular to Grain F <sub>c ⊥</sub>	Compression Parallel to Grain F <sub>c</sub>	Modulus of Elasticity E
<b>Machine Stress Rated (MSR)</b>						
750f – 1.4E	750	425	175	565	925	1,400,000
850f – 1.4E	850	475	175	565	975	1,400,000
975f – 1.6E	975	550	175	565	1450	1,600,000
<b>Machine Evaluated Lumber (MEL)</b>						
M - 32	750	425	175	565	925	1,400,000
M - 33	850	475	175	565	975	1,400,000
M - 5	900	500	175	565	1050	1,100,000
M - 34	975	550	175	565	1450	1,600,000

- d. These are direct substitutes for 2x4 SP No. 3, but not all of the possible MSR/MEL grades will be produced. The marketplace will eventually determine the most common grades.
- e. 850f-1.4ER MSR and M-33 MEL are the closest direct substitutes for the current design values associated with 2x4 SP No. 3 and Stud 2x4s.

Source: *Structural Building Components Magazine*, January 30, 2012

| [Top Main](#) | [Top Article](#) |