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August 2017

WSSCA Newsletter

The "news you can use" periodical for Wisconsin's school safety and security professionals



September 5th is right around the corner, and the whole reason for our enterprise – the kids of Wisconsin – will be gleefully and rambunctiously pouring onto our playgrounds and into our schools. I recall from my career in K-12 education that these first days were the most exciting, busiest, and demanding days of the school year. They were days of rapid action, high demands, little sleep, and lots of fulfillment as folks worked together to get the students and staff off to a great and promising start.

I wish all of you the very best in your start to the 2017-18 school year. Ed

Playground Safety

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Playgrounds and school campuses are the sites of hundreds of student injuries every year, from minor scrapes to serious, sometimes life-threatening accidents. In one recent ten-year period almost 150 children 14 years or younger lost their lives as a result of playground-related injuries.



While playground surfaces, equipment installation and maintenance, and basic design are considered and addressed as we explore this topic, nothing, in my opinion, has greater importance than adult supervision of playgrounds and campuses.



As the people in the district responsible for safety and security, it is incumbent on us to speak up about ensuring that our

playgrounds are effectively and efficiently supervised. Have we assigned an adequate number of adult staff to monitor the playground? Are the monitors performing the tasks with diligence and fidelity? Are we regularly conducting observations of our playgrounds and the staff who are charged with supervision?

Click [here](#) for some great information from the WSSCA Module resource on Playground Safety that our own Jodi Traas presents

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) for

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If you have completed Module 8 of the WSSCA Coordinator Certification Course, you are familiar with the concept of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. It is a simple concept to understand, but a complex one to implement as every school and campus has its unique characteristics that have to be considered and mitigated.

As we think about Back-To-School time and making sure that our



environments provide safety and security, it might be helpful to review the CPTED concepts and keep them in the front of our minds as we do our start of the year walk-throughs.

Core elements of CPTED include the following:

1. **Natural surveillance** -- Keeping an eye on the whole environment without taking extraordinary measures to do so.

Typical obstacles to natural surveillance include solid walls and lack of windows that provide visibility to areas of the school building that have experienced a high incidence of problem behaviors. Pruning shrubbery is one step that can be taken to improve natural surveillance of school grounds.

2. Natural access control -- Determining who can or cannot enter a facility. Obstacles to access control include unsupervised, unlocked entrances to the building. Converting several secondary doors into locked, alarmed, emergency exits is one way to improve access control.

3. Territoriality -- Establishing recognized authority and control over the environment, along with cultivating a sense of belonging. Poor border definition can impede territoriality. Jointly controlled park land adjacent to a school would be an example of poor border definition. School uniforms offer one approach to both establishing a sense of belonging and making it easy to distinguish between students and non-students.

Each school, district, and community should institute measures appropriate for their own circumstances. A design for an inner-city, high-crime neighborhood is often inappropriate for a rural, low-crime neighborhood. There is not a single solution that will fit all schools, but there are many good models that schools can draw on.

When schools fail to integrate CPTED concepts into expansion or reconstruction plans, an important opportunity is lost. Rectifying this oversight after the fact can be expensive and politically uncomfortable. Applying CPTED concepts from the beginning usually has minimal impact on costs, and the result is a safer school that can focus on its mission of teaching and learning.

Project Inspections

Are You Getting The Biggest Bang for Your Buck?

As summer projects wind down, we are looking at our punch lists and waiting for the inspectors to arrive to certify those projects that require it. This month I've had conversations with people in two different cities who have had difficult, and ultimately costly, experiences with inspections.

Projects were signed off on and approved and later were discovered to be in violation of code or were not completed to design specifications.

I'm reprinting a brief blog that I found worth a quick look. Yes, it's basic and should be followed as a matter of course, but a reminder may help avoid the kind of surprises that are giving some of our member Excederin Headache Number 10. (Old-timers will get that reference)



A Practical Guide to Effective Construction Quality Control Inspections

March 23, 2105 | By Ed Caldeira

You need your construction quality control inspections to be effective and thorough. If you make a plan, [set up your checklists](#) wisely, and make communication and feedback a priority, your inspections should go smoothly and you can keep your team—and your stakeholders—happy.

Make an inspection plan

First, you should decide what stages of construction you will inspect and put a sensible plan in place. This way, you can communicate exactly what you want inspected and then hold people accountable for meeting your expectations.

A fast and easy way to plan your inspections is to look at the project construction schedule. The schedule naturally breaks the project into stages. Pick the stages that are pay points for subcontractors, intermediate milestones, or are just parts of the project where you know you need to verify work vs. specifications. For example, if you are installing a pad for a new boiler, a sensible inspection plan could follow the schedule with inspections for forming and reinforcing pad, concrete pour, set boiler, etc.

Your completed inspection plan should not only list the quality control inspections you will perform, but should also list who should be doing the inspection. If it is repetitive, you should also list how often it should be carried out. For example, should a separate flooring inspection be carried out for every room, floor, or once for the entire building.

[Selecting a good checklist](#) and refining it to meet your unique needs is essential to ensuring the quality of your inspections. If you select a checklist based on your experience, keep check points to critical parts of your project, and modify them as issues come up, you will have a checklist that will make your inspections as effective as possible.

Make communication a no-brainer

You need to make sure construction inspections are performed and executed properly. A good quality management system or quality control software helps you keep track of what is being inspected and the outcome of the inspection. Ideally, the inspector can share inspection details with you in real-time from the field so you will never wonder what is going on with the project.

A good start is to set up communication guidelines. For example, let your inspector know that you want an email as soon as he finishes the inspection. Alternatively, you might want the quality management software automatically email you [inspection reports](#) at the end of the day. Either way, make sure your inspectors know what you want them to do. This way, you get a stream of information about what is happening in the field. You want to stay informed about who is inspecting what, and ensure your inspector records the data you want him or her to record, such as taking pictures or making note of measurements. You are in effect inspecting your inspection process to make sure it meets your expectations.

This level of communication not only results in field people executing their work properly, but the inspector can interpret the results accurately. You want to be on the same page with your inspector so he can evaluate the quality of the job the same way you would. For example, if you receive a picture of flashing on a building, you can see and give feedback on whether or not it

meets your standards. If the inspector's evaluation aligns with yours, they are inspecting properly. If not, you are using different standards of performance and you know you need to communicate your expectations more clearly.

Give consistent feedback

When you give consistent feedback on inspections, your inspectors know that what they are doing matters and that you are paying attention. If you do not give feedback until the project is done, things can be going wrong the entire time because you did not have the information to correct course during the project.

Good Construction Quality Management software gives you immediate information, so you can make sure what you expect out of your process is actually what you are getting from your inspectors. This level of feedback enables you to quality control your inspection process so you end up with the best possible results.

Conclusion

When you are done with a job, you should feel that there will be no surprises at the end because you have had control and insight into the job every step of the way. A solid inspection plan, clear communication, and consistent feedback will make your inspections as effective as possible.

Key Control

The Most Critical Element of Having Secured Facilities



Recently I received ASIS Board Certification as a Professional Safety Professional. The work leading to the exam was rigorous, and the exam itself was easily to one of the toughest ones I've ever taken. One of the major areas, not surprisingly, in the work of Professional Safety is that of locks and entryways. According to ASIS, the most critical element of ensuring effective access control is having and adhering to a solid key control protocol. We've shared the following article from WSSCA member Jack Wilfong previously, and it's a great one to review again at Back-to-School time. Ed

By Jack Wilfong,

TRU-LOCK & SECURITY, 2080 Truax Blvd., Eau Claire, WI 54703

The least expensive and a very productive action that you can take is to establish a comprehensive key control policy. This policy clearly specifies who receives keys, who authorizes keys, how keys are returned and clearly establishes the responsibilities of receiving keys. Master keys should be severely limited and issued only when absolutely required. We have written copies of key policies for institutions like yours.

When it is determined by you that your facility requires rekeying, we suggest a key that cannot be duplicated without your specific authorization. Unfortunately, if a key can be duplicated, it will be. This is especially true of master keys.

Be sure every key has a unique number so that found keys can be identified and returned to the owner. By the same token, be sure keys are not marked with a location that identifies what the key operates.

Never mark a master key with "Master Key or Master". Identification makes a lost key really vulnerable.

Most security professionals strongly suggest a computer program to control keys. This allows you to readily determine who has keys to what locks (doors,



cabinets and equipment). It also enables you to see how many keys are issued to each lock.

Early Registration is Now Open for Members!

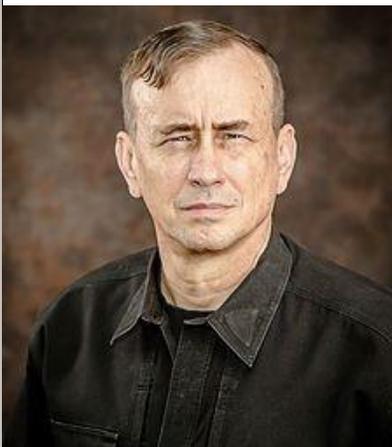
**WSSCA's 50th Anniversary
Conference and Expo**

February 26 - 27, 2018



Click to Register

We anticipate our 2018 conference to sell out! Make sure to reserve your seat.



Check out our keynote speaker!

Through the generosity of WSSCA Member and Friend, Dave Trudeau of TruArmor LLC, our keynote speaker will be Lt. Col. Dave Grossman. I know that Col. Grossman is well-known to many who are tasked with safety and security, and he is sure to be a big draw. I anticipate great interest in the 50th, and our Professional Development and Communication Committees will be working hard in planning for the 50th.

Click [here](#) to read more about Dave.

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and 6

October 25, 2017

Holiday Inn Madison at The American Center
Madison, WI 53718

Click to Register

If you are interested in learning more about our certification program
click [here](#).

Quotes of the Month

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.

Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.” -
Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Success is where preparation and opportunity meet.” - Bobby Unser

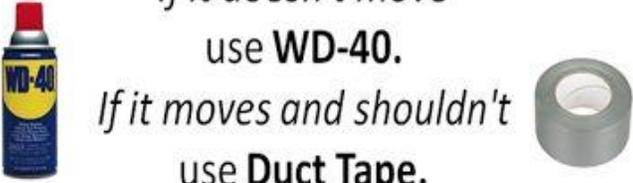
Borrowed Humor

Ed's maintenance guidelines:

YOU ONLY NEED 2 TOOLS
WD-40 and Duct Tape.

If it doesn't move
use **WD-40.**

If it moves and shouldn't
use **Duct Tape.**



School Safety Certification
2017 Course Schedule

Modules	Course Titles	Dates	Location

1&6	Health and Safety Compliance Part A General Aspects of Crisis Management	October 25, 2017	Madison, WI
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