



## 2010 IMI Chicagoland Masonry Expo

More than 400 Chicago designers and builders packed the District Council Training Center in late May, learning about masonry systems old and new, and being wowed by instructors' hands-on demonstrations. "It keeps everybody aware of the different applications that we do," said BAC Illinois District Council Director Jim Allen. "It's a fantastic venue to stay current," agrees John Halleran

from The Architects Partnership.

## IMI Delivers "best in house training program" to Walsh

In what has become an annual tradition, IMI this summer delivered a custom training program for Walsh Construction Co., one of the nation's top-ranked firms. Walsh superintendents, project managers and engineers came to the DCTC for the eighth year for a flashing seminar, hands-on practice and a close look at IMI training. Project architects from The Suites of Autumn Green, a challenging loadbearing masonry job under construction, were equally impressed. "It's our best in-house training program all year," says Walsh Director of Corporate Training Jeff Lemna.

## IMI Joins City of Chicago Building Code Initiative

IMI's unique combination of technical building expertise and skilled instructors has made it an important resource for the City of Chicago, which recently tapped it for its masonry code re-writing initiative. IMI is reviewing draft code improvements and suggesting best practices, which will result in a stricter masonry codes and higher workmanship standards, which bodes well for BAC contractors. City officials plan to use IMI for code review and training of plan reviewers and inspectors. Future plans include DCTC testing and adoption of IMI masonry details.

## Public Agency Outreach

Reaching out to city, state, and federal public agencies has been a big priority this year, with repeat visits to General Services Administration, City of Chicago Public Buildings Commission, Chicago Transit Authority, Illinois Capital Development Board, Springfield Public Schools, and the Chicago Housing Authority, among others. IMI shows them how BAC-installed masonry can help them deliver well-designed, good-performing, sustainable buildings. The response has been positive, with agency officials facilitating connections with architecture firms working on individual projects and prototypes.

## September 2010 Masonry Seminars

BAC representatives and contractors are welcome to attend IMI in-office continuing education seminars for architects. September sessions include September 7 - Matrix Engineering; September 8 - Chicago Transit Authority; September 15 - Legat Architects (Waukegan), September 22 - AIA Central Illinois (Morton). Contact [Tindelli@imiweb.org](mailto:Tindelli@imiweb.org) for details.

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