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Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute Launches Interactive Concrete Building System Selection and Optimization Tool

(Schaumburg, IL – January 7, 2011) -- The Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI) introduces *Reinforced Concrete Explorer* – a web-based centerpiece of a new conceptual-stage building system selection and optimization resource for development teams.

Debuting at the World of Concrete tradeshow in Las Vegas, this innovative building system evaluation guide is designed to help project teams maximize the ultimate value, efficiency and durability of a building. *Reinforced Concrete Explorer* presents many opportunities for exploiting the structural frame to reduce costs, increasing speed construction, improving sustainability and ensuring quality outcomes. Within *Reinforced Concrete Explorer's* quick step-by-step evaluation process users are prompted to answer project-specific questions and consider a wide range of approach options. Evaluation using this comprehensive tool will highlight opportunities in the pre-construction phase, during construction and throughout the entire life of the building.

Additionally, *Reinforced Concrete Explorer* will be instrumental in familiarizing architectural and structural engineering students with important non-technical concerns that, in practice, will influence the performance, sustainability and the overall value of a building.

Supporting the interactive web tool are companion print guidebooks and an introductory one-hour seminar suitable for university lectures, speaking engagements and in-house “lunch & learn” programs offered free-of-charge by CRSI’s national network of Regional Managers.

Beginning in February 2011, the web-based guide will be available at www.crsi.org . Seminars and print guidebooks are available by contacting any of the CRSI Regional Offices listed on the CRSI website.

About Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute

Founded in 1924, the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI) is a trade association that stands as the authoritative resource for information related to steel reinforced concrete construction. Serving the needs of architects, engineers and construction professionals, CRSI offers many technical publications, design aids, software programs, educational seminars, promotional activities, membership functions and design award programs. CRSI members are manufacturers, fabricators and placers of steel reinforcing bar and related products, and professionals who are involved in the research, design and construction of reinforced concrete. Serving the construction market in the United States, Canada and Mexico, CRSI is headquartered in Schaumburg, Illinois with regional offices located across the United States.

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