



AIA & IDCEC Approved CEU Courses

All courses provide 1 CES HSW LU

Webinars and Lunch & Learns. On-Demand Courses are AIA-Approved Only
Continuing Education System Health, Safety, and Welfare Learning Unit credit

NEW! - Hit the Deck! The use of ceramic tile & natural stone on exterior decks has become increasingly popular for both residential and commercial projects. Despite the proliferation of waterproofing and tile installation products and systems, this type of installation is still subject to installation challenges which can result in failure and expensive remediation. This presentation examines legacy installation shortcomings, current industry best practices, and innovative product development which address some of the concerns that heretofore have contributed to exterior deck failures. At the end of the presentation, you will be armed with the knowledge needed to move forward and identify the means and methods needed to ensure your exterior deck project is successful.

Foam & Function: How Foam Has Changed Architecture

This course describes the uses of foam in the construction field. It examines product attributes that lead to successful installations and characteristics of foam density that can contribute to failure. This course also compares installation methods and ways to specify successful installations.

When the Walls Close In: The Fundamentals of Wet-Area Waterproofing

It is undeniable that the options for wet-area wall surfaces are growing... literally. Whether choosing large-unit porcelain tile, one-piece ceramic wall surfaces, or other solid surfaces in shower applications, the fact remains...the fundamentals of wet-area waterproofing must still be followed. Unfortunately, the increasing demand for these types of wall treatments is fueling the potential for increased exposure to costly and unhealthy microbial issues.

How to Use the Tools in Your Tool Box: Understanding the TCNA Handbook

This course is designed to help the Architect and Designer be comfortable in using the TCNA and ANSI Handbooks to their advantage. The attendees will understand key sections and details that the TCNA manual provides. This knowledge will assist in the specification and detailing of projects.

Sound Advice—The Role of Sound Isolation in Ceramic Tile and Natural Stone Installations

This presentation will provide the architect and specification writer with a thorough understanding and framework of knowledge with regard to “best practices,” industry standards, product performance variables, and the “do’s and don’ts” associated with successful sound isolation on ceramic tile and natural stone installations. The attendee will be armed with the information to identify the scenarios where sound isolation will be required as well as which products and installation methods will be most suited to the sound isolation demands unique to a particular project.

It’s All Downhill... The Evolution of Slope-to-Drain Shower Pans

Slope-to-drain waterproofing concepts are an essential part of ceramic tile and stone installations. Over time, a variety of installation methods and products have been employed to achieve the required slope to drain. Failure to follow industry best practices can result in costly failures in wet-area applications. We will examine some of the historic means, methods, best practices, and forensic examination of failures. In addition, we will focus on new technologies which offer the architect, distributor, and contractor more consistent, reliable, and durable slope to drain installations. At the conclusion of this presentation, the participant will be armed with the most current and relevant information regarding slope-to-drain installation details.

Up Against the Wall

This presentation will provide the architect and specification writer with a thorough understanding and framework of knowledge with regard to “best practices” when installing ceramic tile and natural stone over interior wall/vertical surfaces. A review of

substrate preparation and options, waterproofing, movement joints, and lighting considerations will be highlighted. In addition, relevant ANSI, TCNA, and ASTM standards will also be discussed.

Going Curbless

Curbless showers are in high demand, sometimes solely for their streamlined look, other times because of ADA compliance efforts or similar aging-in-place design measures. This course will provide a brief overview of the growing demand for curbless showers, the difference between curbless and barrier-free, the installation methods in the TCNA Handbook, and a host of design and installation considerations for a successful project. We will talk about what is required for a curbless shower to comply with ADA guidelines and how to be sure to meet applicable plumbing codes and wet-area coefficient of friction for flooring. We will briefly review the various kits and systems for constructing curbless showers with emphasis on their benefits, nuances, and important best practices to be aware of when designing and installing.

Do I Really Have to Do That? On My Tile and Stone Installations. A Collection of Tile Industry Myths, Urban Legends, Misconceptions, and Misunderstandings

This course includes a collection of tile industry myths, urban legends, misconceptions, and misunderstandings. We will review industry standards, products, installation methods, and practices used to ensure safe, durable installations. Despite best efforts to educate, problems still exist due to resistance to proper methods, product selection, and practices. This course will provide you with the standards, recommendations, and necessary practices to achieve problem-free, durable tile installations. We will review substrate preparation, performance testing, and more to help achieve successful systems.

Permeation & Crack Isolation... What Every Architect, Specifier, and Contractor Needs to Know

Is your approach to waterproofing up to date? With the advent of so many new and different products for waterproofing and crack isolation, you need to address permeation and isolation before making any final product decisions. This presentation reviews the evolution of waterproofing and crack isolation as well as current best practices. Permeation and crack isolation are two critical performance criteria that often escape scrutiny when evaluating best practices with regard to waterproofing and crack isolation. This presentation focuses on these key performance metrics. Attendees will leave armed with the know on how to objectively evaluate products and systems for future projects.

The 7 Deadly Sins of Waterproofing

This briskly-paced presentation will touch on some of the most common (and frequent) reasons why waterproofing for ceramic tile and stone can go wrong, as well as offering practical "real life" solutions to make sure you do not fall victim to one or more of the "7" deadly sins.

Going Linear

A step-by-step approach to the growing trend in design: Linear Drains! Technical advancements have allowed manufacturers to produce larger dimensional tiles for installation, but the use of those tiles with a typical drain requires relief cuts taking away from the design intent. There are many choices, but not all drains are created equal.

Why Did the Waterproofing Fail? And, How to Make Sure it Does Not Happen to You

Whether you are a tile contractor, remodeling a residential bathroom, or an architect specifying the waterproofing for a large commercial project, the failure of the waterproofing system in your project can lead to disaster. Unfortunately, in spite of everyone's best intentions, these failures still occur. In this presentation, we will explore the factors that contribute to waterproofing failures and identify the steps you can take to ensure your waterproofing installation succeeds.

It's Not All It's Cracked Up to Be

Style, trends, and textures of ceramic and stone tile come and go. This course describes materials and methods that help ensure beautiful installations remain safe, intact, and free of cracks and other failures.

What Lies Beneath...A Discussion of Underlayments

Over the years, the tile and stone industries have seen numerous new products and installation methods regarding underlayments. There has been some confusion as to what constitutes an underlayment, a substrate, or a system. This presentation provides some context and perspective on this topic. Whether you are an architect, specifier, contractor, or industry professional, this briskly-paced presentation will bring to the forefront current concepts and information on the topic of underlayments.

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