

# Meeting Report



Construction Industry  
Round Table

2007 Fall Conference

## Celebrating 20 Years



The 20th Anniversary Conference of the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT) was designed to be more than just a celebration of the past achievements of the Round Table. Its goal was to be a thought-provoking, high energy exchange of ideas among the members to identify the challenges and opportunities to the industry as it moves towards the year 2020. It was all that and so much more!

Opening the conference, members heard the vision of economist Jeremy Rifkin, who sees the construction industry as an active participant in creating the "third industrial revolution."

Rifkin is president of the Foundation on Economic Trends and the author of 17 books on the impact of scientific and technological changes on the economy, workforce, society and the environment. He told the industry leaders' group, which drew 65 of its 95 member CEOs and presidents to Grand Cayman on Oct. 28-30, that the pivotal economic changes in world history have come when new energy regimes converge with new communications regimes.

"Written communication and stored energy in the form of surplus grain ushered in the agricultural revolution. The coming together of coal-powered steam technology and the printing press gave birth to the first industrial revolution. And the first electrical forms of communication the telegraph, telephone, radio, television and calculators converged with oil and the internal combustion engine to produce the second industrial revolution," Rifkin said.

Now we are on "the cusp of the third industrial revolution," he added. The communications revolution is already here with

"PCs, the Internet and wireless technologies connecting the central nervous systems of more than a billion people on Earth at the speed of light." Rifkin believes the same principles can be used to reconfigure the world's power grids so that people can produce renewable energy and share it just like they now produce and share information.

"Creation of a renewable energy regime, partially stored in the form of hydrogen and distributed via smart intergrids, opens the door to the Third Industrial revolution,"

he said. "If not you, who will build this?" Rifkin asked the group.

If you would like to receive a copy of Jeremy's remarks, please contact Jane at [jane@cirt.org](mailto:jane@cirt.org).



Rifkin envisions renewable energy future distributed via smart intergrids.



Howard Mager takes the group down memory lane.

## At first it was CIPF and then there was CIRT

Howard Mager, who was involved in the formation of CIRT's predecessor group, the Construction Industry Presidents Forum, provided attendees with a look back to the roots of CIRT and told how in 1987 the concept was validated: that leaders of the design and construction industry would get together 2-3 times a year in non-competitive environment to work together to answer key questions and tackle key industry issues. As the saying goes ...the rest is history.

Howard also took the opportunity to join others in recognizing and thanking Art Fox, as one of the founding fathers of CIRT.

If you would like to receive a copy of Howard's remarks, please contact Jane.



David Watts, Art Fox, Ken Stinson & Howard Mager



Ron Magnus (FMI Corp.) introduces VISION 2020 and sets the stage for the group discussions.



Harvey Bernstein (McGraw Hill) leads a group discussion on the Technological Environment.



Matt Walsh checks his selections.

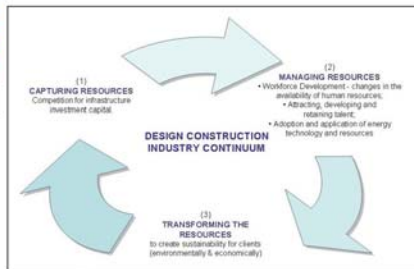
## Vision 2020: A Look at the Future of the Design and Construction Community

Fast forward to the year 2020, where the construction business is a \$5 trillion industry. There are no designers or general contractors — as we know them today — however buildings are still being designed and constructed. How does this happen? What has been impacted and what has influenced change across the industry?

With these ideas as a backdrop, members continued their work on Vision 2020, an industry futures study developed collaboratively by CIRT and FMI Corp. After small group discussions and much debate, members selected four factors as most influential: 1) competition for infrastructure investment capital; 2) workforce development; 3) adoption and application of technology; and 4) sustainability. In the workforce category, the group included changes in the availability of human resources and attracting, developing and retaining talent. Under sustainability, they included the adoption and application of energy technology, changes in the cost and availability of energy resources and depletion of both, and water and energy resources.

CIRT's President, Mark Casso, sees the changes as a continuum beginning with capturing resources for infrastructure investment, managing resources for workforce and technology, and transforming resources to create sustainable projects—both environmentally and economically—for clients, which will lead to capturing more resources.

For a copy of the slides showing the Factor Selection Process, please email Jane.



### Construction Industry Round Table

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## Photo Highlights

From the Opening Reception at the Ritz-Carlton to the Dinner at Pappalogo's, the time that members and guests had to reconnect with friends, to build new relationships, and to laugh with abandon at the hilarious comedy of Mr. DoubleTalk made for a very memorable and special time.



Natalie & Scott Lynn (Atkinson), Peter & Joann Beaupre (PCL) & Hal Yeh (Ray & Zimmerman)



Rich Holter



Marcie Evans & Kathryn Bentley



Mr. DoubleTalk



Nancy & Bill Yates (W.G. Yates & Sons)



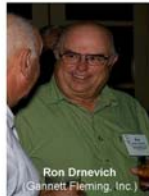
Ross Myers (American Infrastructure)



Rich & Candace Weeks (Weeks Marine, Inc.)



David Evans (David Evans and Associates)



Ron Drnevich (Gannett Fleming, Inc.)



David Watts (Granite Construction), Ken Stinson (Peter Kiewit Sons), Scott Lynn (Atkinson Construction), Peter Vigue (Clanbro Corp.) & Ron Drnevich



Murray Savage (RS&K) & Kathryn Bentley, Barbara & Ray Holdsworth (AECOM Technology)



Ron & Cheryl McKenzie (TIC Holdings, Ltd.)



Joe Adams & Pat Habel (MWH construction)

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2008 Conference Dates

April 21–23, 2008

The Fairmont Hotel—Washington, DC

November 10–12, 2008

The Four Seasons Billmore—Santa Barbara, CA



### More Photo Highlights



Monica & Gilberto Neves (Odebrecht); and Jack & Janie Scott (Parsons Corp.)



Beth & Ross Myers



Sonya & Doug Woods (DPR Construction)



Brenda & Chuck Greco (Linbeck)



Joan & Bob Alger (Lane Construction)



Mark & Julie Casso (CRT)



Ginger & J. Suarez (CSA Group)



Durwood Fincher



Patricia & Dominic Servedio (STV Group)



Nick Casso & Chris Bonvillain



Mary Gilbane, Matt Walsh (The Walsh Group), and Tom Gilbane (Gilbane Building)



Karen & Harv Bernstein (McGraw Hill)



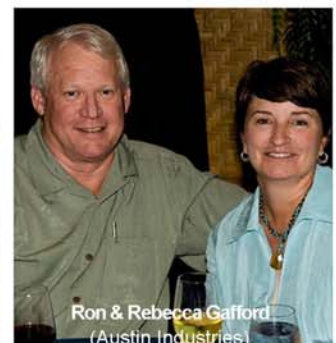
Jeanette & Bill Fraser (Carlson Group)



Deborah & Bob Luffy (American Bridge)



Dick & Patricia Fox (CDM)



Ron & Rebecca Gafford (Austin Industries)