



# Alaska Designs

Volume 32, No. 4, April 2009

The Official Newsletter of the Alaska Professional Design Council

## SB167 Relates to Statewide Building Energy Codes and State Plumbing Code

SENATE BILL NO. 167, "An Act relating to statewide building energy codes and to the state's plumbing code; and providing for an effective date" was introduced March 25, 2009; full text follows. Status of the bill can be monitored online at [http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/btmf\\_login.asp?session=26](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/btmf_login.asp?session=26).

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

\* Section 1. AS 18.60.705 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(d) In addition to any energy requirements established by the plumbing code adopted under this section, work performed under the plumbing code adopted under this section must meet or exceed the energy requirements found in the most recently published edition, as adopted under AS 46.11.100, of the

(1) International Energy Conservation Code; or

(2) ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1, Energy Standard for Buildings Except for Low-Rise Residential Buildings, as published by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

\* Sec. 2. AS 46.11 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 46.11.100. Statewide building energy codes. (a) The state fire marshal shall adopt by regulation a statewide building energy code for residential buildings and a statewide building energy code for commercial

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## Annual Surveying & Mapping Awards

### Strother Joins ASMC Hall of Fame

George Strother, PE, PLS, was inducted into the Alaska Surveying & Mapping Hall of Fame and awards were presented in six categories for excellence in surveying and mapping at the awards banquet of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Alaska Surveying & Mapping Conference (ASMC) on Thursday, February 26, at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel.

The Hall of Fame Award honors exemplary and sustained contributions of surveying and mapping professionals and is awarded only in years when candidates are nominated and approved.

Strother has been contributing to Alaska land development projects and the advancement of his profession for more than 30 years. A graduate of East High in Anchorage, he attended the Colorado School of Mines and later got his Master's degree at UAF. He worked in private practice in the 1970s, and moved to Wasilla in 1980 to serve as Wasilla's first City Engineer. After a return to private practice, Strother took a position as Public Works Engineer with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and served 13 years through the 1990s.

Throughout the years he has been a mentor, and filled elected offices and volunteered tirelessly at the local, state and national levels including as Alaska Governor to the National Society of Professional Surveyors, on the board of the NSPS Foundation, and on the NSPS Trig-Star Committee.

The theme of the 2009 conference was "Common Ground," and the week featured short courses and technical presentations that

explored the common ground among all the disciplines that participate in geospatial practice. Work products entered in the plat/map competition were on display throughout the week of February 23-27. Entries in the plat/map competition are judged by a panel of peers and are available for inspection to provide an opportunity to exchange best practices and advance the profession. The conference also encourages student participation and mentoring for future surveying and mapping professionals.

Conference chairman Luke Boggess, GISP, and vice-chairman Jacques Cloutier welcomed guests and announced awards:

Project of the Year went to DNR/DGGS for A Guide to the Late Quaternary History of Northern and Western Kenai Peninsula, Alaska.

Technical Paper: First place went to Nuna Technologies for Erosion of the Barrow Environmental Observatory Coastline 2003-2007,

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# SB167: Statewide Building Energy, Plumbing Codes

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buildings.

(b) The residential energy code must meet or exceed the requirements of the most recently published version of the International Energy Conservation Code.

(c) The commercial energy code must meet or exceed the requirements of the most recently published version of the ANSI/ASHRAE/IES-NA Standard 90.1, Energy Standard for Buildings Except for Low-Rise Residential Buildings, as published by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

(d) Before a person builds a new building or renovates an existing building, a person identified under (g) of this section shall review the building plans to determine whether the plans comply with the energy code that applies to the building.

(e) During construction of a new or renovated residential building, the owner shall have the building inspected to determine whether the building complies with the residential energy code. A person identified under (g) of this section shall perform the inspection.

(f) The state fire marshal or a municipality that has adopted a building code under AS 18.60.735 may inspect a commercial building during construction to determine whether the building complies with the commercial energy code.

(g) The following persons may review building plans under (d) of this section, inspect buildings under (e) or (f) of this section, or do both:

(1) for commercial buildings, the state fire marshal;1

(2) for a residential or commercial building, a municipal building inspector, if the municipality has adopted a building code under AS 18.60.735; or

(3) for a residential building,

(A) an architect registered under AS 08.48;

(B) an engineer registered under AS 08.48;

(C) a person approved by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation to perform inspections under AS 18.56.300(b); or

(D) an individual who is registered under AS 08.18 to perform home inspections for new homes.

(h) The state fire marshal may charge a reasonable fee for a plan review under (d) of this section, an inspection under (e) or (f) of this section, or for both.

(i) This section does not apply to

(1) a residential building that is paid for with private money and that is located in

(A) a municipality that has a population of fewer than 2,500 persons, unless the municipality has a mechanism in place for inspecting residential buildings and reviewing residential building plans and adopts the residential energy code; or

(B) a community that is not a municipality and that has a population of fewer than 2,500 persons; or

(2) a structure that is paid for with private money unless the structure has indoor plumbing or a central heating system, or both.

(j) Not later than January 31 of each year, the state fire marshal shall provide a report to the legislature that indicates the rate of compliance for new and renovated buildings with the energy codes. At least 90 percent of new and renovated building space must comply with the energy codes within eight years after the effective date of this Act.

(k) In this section,

(1) "building" means a residential or commercial building;

(2) "commercial building" means a building that does not meet

the definition of "residential building" in this subsection;

(3) "commercial energy code" means the energy code for commercial buildings;

(4) "energy code" means a statewide building energy code adopted under (a) of this section;

(5) "renovate" means to change 50 percent or more of the building space;

(6) "residential building" means a building that is limited to one, two, or three dwelling units;

(7) "residential energy code" means the energy code for residential buildings.

\* **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

APPLICABILITY. AS

18.60.705(d), enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, and AS 46.11.100, enacted by sec. 2 of this Act apply to plans begun on or after the effective date of this Act to build or renovate a building. In this section, "building" and "renovate" have the meanings given in AS 46.11.100.

\* **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.

The revisor of statutes is requested to renumber AS 46.11.900 as AS 46.11.095 and, in that section, to substitute "AS 46.11.020 - 46.11.095" for "this chapter."

\* **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect 18 months after the day it becomes law. ❖

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### Newsletter Deadline

The 20<sup>th</sup> of each month is the deadline for articles and advertising for *Alaska Designs*. Member societies and Sustaining Members receive space preference, and Sustaining Members enjoy a 20% discount on ad space. Check [www.apdc-ak.org](http://www.apdc-ak.org) under Advertising Opportunities or contact the editor for information. ❖

Messages from Outgoing, Incoming Presidents

APDC Gavel Changes Hands

By Frank Rast, ACEC

The past year as APDC president has flown by quickly. It has been a pleasure to serve as President; a job made much easier by the support of the Board members. I would like to thank all of the people who have donated their time to APDC over the past year. I would also like to thank Ted Trueblood and URS/TNH for hosting APDC again this year. I look forward to supporting Marcie L. Moss Errico, AIA, as incoming President.



By Marcie Errico, AIA

When our Executive Director, Angie Monteleone, asked me last summer if I would be willing to take on an APDC board seat after my term as President was over for AIA Alaska, I probably agreed too quickly, thinking I would have copious found time with my other board duties lightened. Of course that's never the case, but I also believe it is time for the architectural community to get more involved in the common issues addressed by APDC, and so I willingly take up the mantle. For too long we have shrugged off this duty to our professional comrades while simultaneously wondering what we're getting for our yearly dues. The answer is always that you get out what you are willing to put in. Sometimes it is sufficient to offer financial support, but rarely do issues get addressed the way one really wants without certain sweat equity sacrifices. I thank the organization for electing me and I hope I can do justice to the torchbearer status of the board and I look forward to the lively activities of the Legislative Liaison Committee.

While I don't come onto the board with my own agenda, I do have great interest in several of the

issues currently targeted by APDC for legislation this year or next year. Once the legislature clears the budget hurdles before them, our highest priority is passage of an extension for the AELS Board (HB 85 & SB114), championed by LLC lobbyist, John Walsh. While APDC supports a full voting position for Landscape Architects on the AELS Board, at this time we are just seeking passage of an amendment that will reinstate the non-voting position to at least maintain the status quo. Without the amendment the seat will be eliminated at the impending sunset of the current legislation.

While no other legislation supported by APDC is on the table right now, white papers or briefing papers are being developed for three additional issues for possible legislation yet this year or to build support for legislation next year. The first is the clarification of the Specialty Contractor Exemption. Legislation that was intended to allow sub-contractors to develop shop drawings for projects has been used as a loophole for them to be allowed to design entire projects. This is a clear case of Health, Safety and Welfare endangerment that needs to be corrected. The board is hopeful that a briefing paper and wording for a bill will be developed in time to submit for legislation yet this year.

The second issue is one most professionals encounter at some point in responding to project RFPs. While some states are working to eliminate their Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) requirements, APDC is hoping to expand the requirements in Alaska. Within the past year several examples of RFPs from governmental entities have not been in line with the current state QBS requirements, and the types of proj-

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The monthly newsletter of the Alaska Professional Design Council does not necessarily express the opinions of the Council, the member societies, or their members.

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MOA Title 21 Rep.....276-5885
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Dale Nelson, ASCE, LLC Chair.....230-5416
David Moore, AIA, ASD CAC.....272-3567
Boyd Morgenthaler, ASPE, Client
Contract Task Force.....257-9100

Newsletter Editor

Vicky Sterling, 644-9940, sterlingtouch@gci.net

Executive Director

Angie Monteleone, 334-9620, apdc-ak@gci.net

Mail

Alaska Professional Design Council
PO Box 100515

Anchorage AK 99510-0515

http://www.apdc-ak.org

## NGS Releases New Data on Anchorage, Wasilla CBLs

By George Strother, PLS

The Anchorage and Wasilla Calibrated Base Lines (CBL) were remeasured by National Geodetic Survey last summer, and the final dimensions dated February 10, 2009 were sent out by email. NGS's web site has not yet been updated, and still shows the 2001 data. The new data has been emailed to the Anchorage and Valley ASPLS chapters. The Wasilla 2001 CBL was destroyed during the upgrade of the airport. New monuments on a new line were set in 2007 along the north taxi way with approval from the City of Wasilla. The other approved CBLs in Alaska, in Kenai, Fairbanks, and Juneau, were last remeasured in 2001.

Surveyors use their equipment to measure distances between the CBLs marks and compare their measurements to the published distances. The methods of establishing a CBL are directly traceable to the standard unit of length at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. On the NGS web site the publication "NOS NGS-10: Use of Calibration Base Lines" describes how to properly use CBLs. There are four monuments on each line, and for a complete instrument calibration the instruments is set up over each monument and measurements taken to each of the other monuments. Often this is repeated on a different day, or time of day, as an error check and for different atmospheric corrections. For each set of equipment and mirrors, the entire series of distances needs to be measured. Then the surveyor can use the NGS program [www.ngs.noaa.gov/PC\\_PROD/CALIBRAT/](http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/PC_PROD/CALIBRAT/) which will use a least squares calculation to provide a scale factor and constant correction for the EDM tested. The formulas used and in the NGS-10 manual.

Surveyors should regularly

check their equipment to verify that the constants that can be entered into each instrument are correct and have not been "adjusted" or mis-

programed by some operator, and to verify they are using the correct prism offset. When was your equipment last calibrated on a long line? ❖

## NSPS Begins Second Decade of Sponsorship of Boy Scouts of America Surveying Merit Badge

National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) Past President Tommy Brooks (Alabama) and current NSPS Area 4 Director Wayne Hebert (Louisiana) are in the process of putting together their team and strategy for the NSPS-sponsored Surveying Booth on the Merit Badge Midway during the 2010 Boy Scouts Jamboree to be held at Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia.

Typically held every four (4) years, the 2010 Jamboree will held a year later than normal so as to coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA).

Surveying was introduced in 1911, among the original 57 Boy Scouts Merit Badges, and remains one of only 11 of the original group to have been continually offered since then.

NSPS active involvement in the Surveying Merit Badge program came about somewhat inadvertently. In the summer of 1989, then-NSPS Governor Curt Sumner (VA) was recruited by then-NSPS Member Services Director Anne Glasgow to assist Army retiree Murray Manley of Fort Collins, Colorado, in transporting surveying equipment from Dulles Airport to Fort A. P. Hill to be used at the Surveying Merit Badge Booth during the Jamboree.

While being interviewed at the Jamboree, Manley's comment that surveying wasn't really being handled properly inspired Sumner to volunteer to lead an effort to revise the Surveying Merit Badge Handbook, and to make a commitment to encourage NSPS to take the lead for

participation at future Jamborees.

Along with Richard Alvarez (who provided much of the content) of Menlo Park, California, Sumner began the process of gaining approval for revisions to the Handbook that had last been amended in 1984. In 1992, the revised Handbook was published. It was dedicated to the memory of Manley, who had passed away before it was completed. ❖

## Changes Proposed to AELS Exam Requirements

The State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AELS Board) is accepting written comments until 4:30 pm April 20, 2009, on proposed changes to Chapter 36 Title 12 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with education and work experience requirements for eligibility to sit for the examinations required for architects, engineers and land surveyors. The proposed regulations changes are available at <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pub/AELS0309.pdf>.

The proposed changes alter the education and experience requirements in order to be eligible to sit for the architect registration examination; and alter the education and experience requirements and amend the education and work experience tables to be eligible to sit for the Fundamentals of Engineering, Professional Engineering, Fundamentals of Land Surveying, and Professional Land Surveyor examinations. ❖

## R&M Welcomes Engineers to Staff

R&M CONSULTANTS, INC. (R&M) has hired Luke Ayer, EIT, as a Staff Engineer in our Engineering Department, and Greg Shearer, EIT, as a Staff Engineer in our Construction Services Departments.

Mr. Ayer initially joined R&M as an intern during the summer of 2008. He was hired as a full-time Staff Engineer in R&M's Civil Engineering Department in February 2009, following his graduation from California Polytechnic State University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. Since joining R&M, he has been involved in several design projects, most notably Phase II of the Hiland Road Water Intertie for the Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility and the Kotzebue Roads and Shore Avenue project for the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Northern Region.

Mr. Shearer joined the R&M team as a Staff Engineer in our Construction Services Department. He previously worked for R&M in the summer of 2005, as a ticket taker and laboratory technician on a paving project. Greg graduated from the University of Nevada at Reno in May 2008, with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. Following graduation, he worked for local contractor as a project engineer. Since joining R&M, he has been assisting with pre-construction season preparation for the Unalaska Power Plant project and the Nunapitchuk Airport Improvements project.

Founded in Alaska in 1969, R&M offers engineering, surveying and mapping, earth sciences and construction services, which includes construction administration, materials testing and special inspection. R&M has offices in Anchorage and Fairbanks. ❖

*Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush.*

— Doug Larson



Luke Ayer



Greg Shearer

### Message from APDC President

## Gavel Changes Hands

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ects covered by the regulation needs to be clarified.

The third issue is a stone in the shoe of many professionals. Alteration of sealed drawings is unfortunately all too common an occurrence. The AELS board has addressed the problem on one level this year, but next year APDC hopes to resolve the regulatory vs. statutory nature of the issue.

I look forward to an active year and I challenge and encourage others who have to date stood on the sidelines to get involved—these are issues that affect us all. ❖

### Get Involved in APDC

Each Member Organization has two voting seats on the board, and meetings are open. Committees welcome all volunteers.

## Annual Alaska Surveying and Mapping Awards

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Northern Alaska; second to Altman Consulting and Technology, Inc., for A Proposed Alternative to Landform Topographic Structure Analysis.

Student Competition: Isaiah Ditmer, for AutoLISP KML Generator.

Digital Cartographic Product: Tanana Chiefs Conference for Minto Orthophoto Parcel Overlay.

Topographic Map: US Forest Service for Hawaii Experimental Tropical Forest: Laupahoehoe Unit Topographic Site Survey.

Plat: First place went to WHPacific for ASLS 2007-0003; second to Tanana Chiefs Conference for Minto Record of Survey.

ASMC co-hosts are the Alaska Region, American Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing (ASPRS); Alaska Section, American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM); Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS), and Alaska Chapter, Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), in association with the Alaska Arc Users Group (AAUG) and UAA Geomatics Student Association (GSA).

Next year's event also is the last week of February at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel. Information will be posted as it becomes available at [www.aksmc.org](http://www.aksmc.org). ❖

### APDC Member Societies

- Alaska Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE)
- Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS)
- American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, Alaska Section (ACSM)
- American Institute of Architects Alaska Chapter (AIA)
- American Society of Civil Engineers Alaska Section (ASCE)
- American Society of Landscape Architects Alaska Chapter (ASLA)
- American Council of Engineering Companies of Alaska (ACEC)
- Professional Engineers in Private Practice Alaska Chapter (PEPP)
- American Society of Interior Designers Alaska Chapter (ASID)
- Structural Engineers Association of Alaska (SEAAK)

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Sustaining Members help offset newsletter costs, and receive advertising discounts and other considerations for their support.

The annual cost for sustaining membership is based on your listing in the Sustaining Member Directory: \$100 for the first line, \$40 for each additional line, and \$100 to add a logo. The listing is also placed on [www.apdc-ak.org](http://www.apdc-ak.org) and logos include hyperlinks to your website.

Contact the editor to join: [sterlingtouch@gci.net](mailto:sterlingtouch@gci.net) or [info@apdc-ak.org](mailto:info@apdc-ak.org).



**Tuesday, April 7**

Links to APDC Sustaining Members' web sites are available in the on-line directory at <http://www.apdc-ak.org>.

## Alaska Professional Design Council Calendar

### Thursday, April 2, 2009

ASPE Anchorage Directors, 7 a.m.,  
McDonald's, 800 W Northern Lights Blvd.  
(1st Thurs).

APDC, Noon, URS Alaska, 911 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Suite 300, Anchorage (1st Thurs).

### Friday, April 3, 2009

PEPP, 11:45, BP Energy Center, Anchorage  
(1<sup>st</sup> Fri).

### Monday, April 6, 2009

ASPE Fairbanks, 12 Noon, WestMark Hotel  
(1st Mon).

### Wednesday, April 8, 2009

ASCE Juneau Branch and ASPE Juneau  
Chapter jointly hold membership meetings  
at Noon at the AEL&P 2nd Floor Conference  
Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed).

ASLA Alaska Board, 12:10 p.m. in the URS  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed).

### Thursday, April 9, 2009

ASPE Anchorage, Noon, BP Energy Center  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs).

### Tuesday, April 14, 2009

ACEC Board, 4:00 p.m., CH2M Hill, Anchor-  
age (2nd Tues).

AIA Northern, 12 Noon, Lunch venue varies.  
Please check the AIA Alaska website, [www.aiaalaska.com](http://www.aiaalaska.com), or contact Chris Lease at  
451-7736 (2nd Tues).

### Wednesday, April 15, 2009

ASCE Fairbanks, 12 Noon, WestMark (3rd  
Wed).

### Monday, April 20, 2009

Deadline for the May issue of *Alaska De-  
signs* (20<sup>th</sup> of each month, or Monday).

### Tuesday, April 21, 2009

ASCE Anchorage, Noon, Lone Star Steak-  
house, 4810 C St. (3rd Tues).

ASPLS Anchorage, Noon, Sourdough Min-  
ing Co., (3rd Tues).

### Tuesday, April 28, 2009

ASPLS Fairbanks, 12 Noon, WestMark  
Hotel (4th Tues).

### Wednesday, April 29, 2009

ASPLS Valley, 12 Noon, Windbreak, Wasilla  
(last Wed).



### Friday, May 1, 2009

PEPP, 11:45, BP Energy Center, Anchorage  
(1<sup>st</sup> Fri).

### Monday, May 4, 2009

ASPE Fairbanks, 12 Noon, WestMark Hotel  
(1st Mon).

### Thursday, May 7, 2009

ASPE Anchorage Directors, 7 a.m.,  
McDonald's, 800 W Northern Lights Blvd.  
(1st Thurs).

APDC, Noon, URS Alaska, 911 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Suite 300, Anchorage (1st Thurs).

### Tuesday, May 12, 2009

ACEC Board, 4:00 p.m., CH2M Hill, Anchor-  
age (2nd Tues).

AIA Northern, 12 Noon, Lunch venue varies.  
Please check the AIA Alaska website, [www.aiaalaska.com](http://www.aiaalaska.com), or contact Chris Lease at  
451-7736 (2nd Tues).

### Wednesday, May 13, 2009

ASCE Juneau Branch and ASPE Juneau  
Chapter jointly hold membership meetings  
at Noon at the AEL&P 2nd Floor Conference  
Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed).

ASLA Alaska Board, 12:10 p.m. in the URS  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed).

### Thursday, May 14, 2009

ASPE Anchorage, Noon, BP Energy Center  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs).

### Tuesday, May 19 2009

ASCE Anchorage, Noon, Lone Star Steak-  
house, 4810 C St. (3rd Tues).

ASPLS Anchorage, Noon, Sourdough Min-  
ing Co., (3rd Tues).

### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

ASCE Fairbanks, 12 Noon, WestMark (3rd  
Wed).

Deadline for the June issue of *Alaska De-  
signs* (20<sup>th</sup> of each month, or Monday).

### Tuesday, May 26 2009

ASPLS Fairbanks, 12 Noon, WestMark  
Hotel (4th Tues).

### Wednesday, May 27 2009

ASPLS Valley, 12 Noon, Windbreak, Wasilla  
(last Wed).

*Send calendar notices / updates by the  
20th of each month to Vicky Sterling, [sterling-  
touch@pci.net](mailto:sterling-touch@pci.net), fax 345-1028, or call 644-9940.*

### When and Where

Always check locally to confirm meeting  
times and locations. Some  
organizations suspend or  
reschedule meetings in sum-  
mer months. The newsletter  
publication calendar gener-  
ally does not allow time to  
include holiday and last-min-  
ute schedule changes.



## Alaska Designs Welcomes Articles

Alaska Designs welcomes articles  
and letters on subjects of interest to  
design professionals. The deadline is  
the 20th of each month for the fol-  
lowing month's issue. Items may be  
edited for length or content and will  
be published as space is available.

Submit items to the editor, Vicky  
Sterling, at Sterling Touch, 11921  
Nebesna Drive, Anchorage AK  
99507, Phone 644-9940, Fax 345-  
1028, or email [sterlingtouch@pci.net](mailto:sterlingtouch@pci.net).