



Book Review Editor: Theodore J. Weidner, Ph.D., P.E., AIA

The new year brings us an opportunity to start afresh and so I've found one book focused on "out with the old and in with the new". Then, because of the never ending need for safety, an esoteric book on hazmat transport. I hope these and other books presented in the coming year result in increased success for all.

Ted Weidner

REFABRICATING ARCHITECTURE; HOW MANUFACTURING METHODOLOGIES ARE POISED TO TRANSFORM BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

By Stephen Kieran and James Timberlake, McGraw-Hill, New York, 176 pages soft-cover, \$19.95

Decades ago I remember my father ordering a car with the options and

colors he wanted and waiting several months for it to be fabricated and delivered; a big improvement over Henry Ford's "any color as long as it's black" slogan. Now, we're able to get online and order a car or to custom-design a computer by selecting from a variety of options, colors, and accessories. Provide a credit card (or arrange for financing online) and delivery address and within a week the computer arrives at your doorstep or the car is available at a local dealer. Even children can get online and custom-design a Muppet toy.

There are numerous other consumer products where this can be done to the point where many people believe it should be the norm in the marketplace.

Campus architects face the question, why does it take so long to design a building when "I know what I want"? That's the question Kieran and Timber-

lake ask in *Refabricating Architecture*; why can't we bring numerous components— assemblies of many smaller components such as valves, lavatories, counters, waste lines, and traps — and install them whole into a building and shorten the design, manufacture, and assembly process. Airplane manufacturers, Airbus and Boeing have been doing this: wings made in one country, flight deck in another, seats in a third. They bring them together and produce the end product in a fraction the time, with significant cost savings.

Kieran and Timberlake claim to have done this themselves in a residential college renovation project for Yale. Checking with the campus architect for the project, Pam Delphenich (now at MIT) said while the suggested cost savings weren't realized, the improved construction schedule and sequencing was. She enjoyed working with their creative thinking about the construction process. Now, rather than getting that creative thinking only when a campus hires them, Kieran and Timberlake are pushing the design and construction industry to rethink and *refabricate* what design and construction mean.

Long on examples but clear and focused, *Refabricating Architecture* provides readers with the rationale and methods to think about building construction differently; to become more client and outcome focused, and to improve the way we deliver capital construction to campuses that long for new and better ways to get through the facility issues and to focus on the programs that the facilities serve. While not for everyone, this book suggests new ways of focusing on the our real goal of serving faculty and students better.



GUIDELINES FOR CHEMICAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY, SECURITY, AND RISK MANAGEMENT

By Center for Chemical Process Safety, Wiley, New York, 162 pages, hardcover, \$125

This book is written mostly for the company transporting hazardous materials

either from the process plant to end-user or waste hauler from end-user/generator to disposal facility; not many of us fall in that category. However, for those of us with large or distributed campuses and hazmat responsibilities, this book has relevance.

Chemical Transportation is all about process, risk assessment, and the development of scenario responses. Most scenarios deal with accidents and preventing an accidental release but since 9/11, transporters have to worry about deliberate releases of hazardous materials resulting from terrorist actions. Our heightened awareness of potential deliberate releases is greater when we look at disaster preparedness on campus; initially it is gunmen but next it could be a chemical release.

So while this book isn't for everyone and it doesn't look at campuses in particular, it provides the tools to analyze hazards and work through procedures and processes to create a safe way of moving hazardous materials from one point to another. It is evidence and support for those of us responsible for more and more of the uncontrollable parts of campus operations. ☪

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