ALTA Survey Fast Fact:

ANNOUNCED: New 2016 ALTA/NSPS Minimum Standard Detail Requirements

On February 23, 2016, the ninth edition of the Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/NSPS Surveys will take effect. Some ask the significance of the February date as the last several versions of these requirements became effective on the same day. The fact is that the date coincides with the celebration of the Roman god Terminus, who per Roman history, protected boundary markers thus making February 23rd a fitting effective date for surveyors.

The new requirements were finalized by ALTA (The American Land Title Association) and NSPS (The National Society of Professional Surveyors) in October of this year. NSPS has merged with the former ACSM (The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping) thus replacing the former ALTA/ACSM acronym. Bock & Clark attended recent seminars on the revisions and has studied the new version thoroughly. Although there are no major changes, there are some modifications that will affect both the surveyor’s responsibilities and the user’s comprehension. These modifications occur not only in the Minimum Standards, but also in the Optional Table A items listing. Regarding Table A, some have moved to the Minimum Standards, some have been removed and some have been redefined. We have linked the new requirements and also a red-line version highlighting these changes to this newsletter. The red-line version has a significant amount of strike-through. Be advised that in many cases, it was easier to rewrite some sentences or paragraphs rather than striking out every other word. Often, the content remains the same.

We are preparing new hard copy materials, including a new Bock & Clark Handbook for ALTA Surveys, and will distribute them as soon as possible. We’ll also have further updates on our website at www.bockandclark.com. If you would like to learn more, we encourage you to either contact your sales
representative or contact Jim Brown, Director of Sales and Marketing at Bock and Clark at 800-787-8397, jbrown@bockandclark.com. We are currently scheduling 1-hour presentations on the topic of the new standards for 2016 which may qualify for CLE credit. Contact us for details.

Environmental Reports Fast Fact:


ASTM recently released a "Standard Guide for Readily Observable Moisture Affected Materials and Conditions Conducive to Elevated Moisture in Commercial Buildings: Visual Moisture Assessment Process" (ASTM E3026). The guide is intended for use on a voluntary basis to provide a practical standard for the visual identification of moisture affected materials and physical deficiencies conducive to elevated moisture as a result of water infiltration through the building envelope or substructure, or generated within the subject building as a result of processes or mechanical systems, excluding de minimis conditions. This guide allows the user to assess general moisture concerns as well as the potential need for further assessment or other actions that may be appropriate beyond the scope of the guide. The standard provides two questionnaires that assess elevated moisture and moisture-conducive conditions.

The new guide will assist professionals who conduct general facility assessments in areas such as architecture, engineering, industrial hygiene, and construction or maintenance-related practices. The standard also helps people involved in managing, selling, buying, or renting commercial property, including purchasers, owners, tenants, investors, lenders and property managers.

Bock & Clark News and Upcoming Events

- Congratulations to Betty Huber who retired in October. Thanks for 32 years of service!
- Tim Kidd, Director of Business Development – West, has been named Director of Communications for CREW-LA
- Laura Hengle, Director of Marketing, has been named a 2016 Champion Director for the national CREW Network Foundation.
- Holiday Closings: Bock & Clark will be closed on the following dates in observance of the holidays: Nov. 26th and 27th, Dec. 24th and 25th, Jan. 1st.
- Contact Bock & Clark to schedule a presentation on the new ALTA Survey standards in 2016.