

# Why Gold Seal?

By Robyn Quinn, VICA Manager  
Education and Communications

Often referred to as the *MBA for construction*, the Gold Seal Certification Program continues to attract our best and brightest. The promotional tagline says it all, **Setting the Gold Standard in the Management of Construction.**

Here on Vancouver Island more and more industry professionals are signing up to pursue this unique credential. At a recent Gold Seal orientation event held at the VICA Training Centre in Victoria, candidates asked about the process but also about the value of the designation for their organization and for their personal career aspirations.

John Scheeren, Farmer Group of Companies, received his Gold Seal Superintendent in September 2013. With over 30 years in the industry, John was keen to have his knowledge and experience recognized.

John is an enthusiastic champion of the Gold Seal. "When I received my certificate last fall, I was extremely proud. The Gold Seal designation sends a powerful message to our colleagues and clients about our commitment to our fields, but for me, having peers celebrate and recognize my achievement was very special." VICA invites all Gold Seal interns and recipients to a members event so that we can present their certificates in a setting that celebrates their career accomplishment and their contribution to the industry.

Recent applicants can look forward to an expanded education program to provide them with relevant training that provides Gold Seal credits. Many of the courses are also delivered online which is handy for anyone working at remote sites but there is value in attending a workshop too, as a VICA Gold Seal intern explained, "Being in a room with people who share your goals, meeting people who are going after the same dream, it really helps keep you on track."



Gold Seal recipient John Sheeren (centre), Farmer Group of Companies.

## What Employers are Saying about Gold Seal

"Kinetic encourages our employees to pursue their GSC designation because it is a national standard that demonstrates experience, knowledge and understanding of our industry."  
~ Bill Gyles, President, Kinetic Construction Ltd.

"We as a company value the Gold Seal program because it gives our clients the confidence that they are dealing with experienced and educated Project Managers and Superintendents. We have found the education associated with the program has provided invaluable tools to our accredited staff. We are also recognizing a trend as more municipalities are requiring their contractors Superintendents and Project Managers to be Gold Seal certified in order to work on their projects."

~ Cor Buys GSC., Owner/Project Manager Knappett Industries (2006) Ltd.

## GOLD SEAL IMPROVEMENTS

'My Gold Seal,' on the Canadian Construction Association website, provides accessibility to those looking to learn more and apply for Gold Seal Certification, ultimately creating a more intuitive process for users. There is an online exam review and practice system, where Gold Seal applicants can review and practice with Gold Seal exam materials, check their application status, and update their personal information.

This one-stop shop for Gold Seal Certification has created a more efficient process for applicants, administrators, and eliminates the amount of printing required by Gold Seal Certification applicants.

Moving from paper-based to online has not only saved hundreds of trees – the process has evolved into one that is more efficient, more accountable and more traceable. According to Stephanie Wallace, Manager, Gold Seal Program,

“We have simplified the process for Gold Seal candidates. They now receive email notifications to confirm the progress of their application. An online system also improves our communications with everyone involved from the regional associations to our own volunteer review committee.”

Other changes to the program made recently include launching a French portal, phasing out the Senior Practitioner category and changing the Owner’s Project Manager designation to Owner’s Construction Manager as of this year. Another development is the introduction of a Gold Seal maintenance program – designed to help those who already have a Gold Seal to stay current and keep their industry designation up to date.

**NEW COMMUNICATIONS MATERIALS**

The Gold Seal Certification program continues to provide improved communications materials and you will see Gold Seal brochures and displays at every VICA member meeting and special events.

**GROWING GOLD SEAL**

Gold Seal Certification is the gold standard of excellence in the management of construction. Our role at VICA is to ensure our members and participants have a fulfilling experience and that we find an opportunity to recognize and celebrate their achievement.

Make an informed decision to invest in yourself and your business. Visit [www.goldsealcertification.com](http://www.goldsealcertification.com) to read more about on-going national Gold Seal Certification activities. Check in with VICA education to attend a Gold Seal Orientation soon. ♦

**GOLD SEAL 2013 RECIPIENTS**

Name	Date Registered as Intern
<b>INTERNS</b>	
Trevor Coyle	10/01/2013
Tulio Lopez Duran	10/01/2013
Anthony Richard Gabel	05/01/2013
Karl Goodwin	10/01/2013
Denis Hamel	05/01/2013
Dale Michael Lizotte	05/01/2013
Jon Ormrod	13/09/2013
Douglas Paterson	13/09/2013
Jason Slater	13/09/2013
Josh Vandekerhove	05/01/2013
Scott Douglas Wing	05/01/2013
Shawn Delaney	05/01/2014
Trevor Doyle	05/01/2014
<b>CERTIFIED</b>	
Name	Date Certified
Cameron Barnes	18/10/2013
Michael Brown	18/01/2013
Douglas Carr	18/10/2013
Casjen Cramer	18/10/2013
Scott Krompocker	18/10/2013
John Scheeren	29/04/2013
Jeremiah Tringham	18/01/2013
Matthew Ward	12/04/2013

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