

BCMC 2016
Opportunity Knox!
Knoxville, TN

The 35th annual Building Component Manufacturer's Conference (BCMC) tradeshow was hosted in Knoxville, Tennessee on October 19–21 and saw a record number of attendees and exhibitors. Company attendance was up 10% and individual attendance up 4% from the previous year. The 34,000 ft² showroom floor was filled with 234 companies, 706 individuals and 111 exhibitors, all of whom were excited to either view or showcase new, innovative contributions to the component industry.

Although in past years, many attendees arrived to the conference early to volunteer in a home build with Operation Finally Home, this year the build did not take place. However, it is expected to return in Omaha, the site of the 2017 BCMC, where a recipient has already been chosen. Many attendees still arrived early to enjoy all that Knoxville has to offer.

Navy Captain George Dom kicked off the conference on Wednesday. After his presentation, educational sessions began. A ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10:15 a.m. signaled the opening of the showroom floor and attendees could begin browsing the exhibits.

In the showroom, attendees flowed through the Simpson Strong-Tie[®] booth. We looped videos of our component manufacturing software, Truss Studio and Director, and provided an interactive touch screen where visitors could explore a 3D model designed in Simpson Strong-Tie's Component Solutions software. In addition, the participants were able to experience the capabilities of the software's interface. The Simpson Strong-Tie booth also featured a fastener demo area to showcase the benefits of using SDW and SDWC fasteners. The new booth layout generated interest and was such a success that all eight software demonstration booths were busy both days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with no down time between software demonstrations.

The show ended on Friday, with a well-attended SBCA Board Meeting in the Hilton Hotel. The board thanked current SBCA President Jess Lohse of Rocky Mountain Truss for his contributions and welcomed incoming president Jack Dermer of American Truss. The next OQM will be held in March 2017 in Las Vegas, NV and the next BCMC will be October 24–27, 2017 in Omaha Nebraska. We look forward to seeing you there!