

The Connector

Connecting Lightning Protection Professionals with Allied Industries & Innovators

Spring 2027 Issue	Risk Assessment: The First Step Toward Resiliency	Release: Spring 2027 (tentative March–April)
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Why The Connector exists

Lightning protection doesn't happen in a vacuum. Every certified contractor, engineer, architect, roofing professional, facility manager, insurer, and material supplier shares a stake in how a building performs — and how well it's protected. When these industries don't understand each other's work, systems are missed, projects are delayed, and buildings are left vulnerable.

The Connector is a cross-industry publication that bridges that gap. It is sponsored by the Lightning Protection Institute (LPI) and published by Lightning Protection University (LPU). Each issue brings together the voices, research, and real-world experience of professionals across every discipline that touches a structure. The result is a resource that no single industry could produce alone — and one that every industry benefits from reading.

What The Connector is designed to accomplish

- **Close knowledge gaps.** Help each industry understand what others do — and why it matters to them.
- **Advance collaboration.** Show, through real examples, what successful cross-industry coordination looks like and what it produces.
- **Share innovation.** Surface new products, approaches, and research that one industry is using that others should know about.
- **Elevate the industry.** Position lightning protection and its partner industries as an interconnected field — one where shared knowledge, aligned standards, and clear communication lead to better specifications, stronger installations, and safer buildings.
- **Build lasting relationships.** Create a regular touchpoint where industries meet, learn, and find reasons to work together.

Spring 2027 issue theme: Risk Assessment — The First Step Toward Resiliency

Every resilient building starts with a question: **what's at risk?** Before a system is designed, specified, installed, or insured, someone has to evaluate the exposure — the structure, its occupants, its contents, and the services it keeps running. Our inaugural issue showed that collaboration works. This issue looks at where that collaboration could begin.

When an engineer runs a standards-based lightning risk assessment and shares the results with the owner. When an underwriter understands how a facility's exposure was evaluated — and what was done about it. When a facility manager uses an assessment to prioritize protection across a portfolio. When roofing and building enclosure professionals factor protection into the plan before the first drawing is final. These are the stories this issue invites contributors to share: how assessing risk early leads to better decisions, fewer surprises, and buildings that recover faster when the unexpected happens.

We also welcome the other side of the story: projects where a thorough risk assessment **was not** done. What was missed, what was the impact, and what lessons did the team take forward? Candid case studies and perspectives on these experiences are often the most valuable reading for every industry.

Types of content we are looking for

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH
Article / Case Study	A real-world example of how risk assessment — or the lack of one — shaped a project outcome, including lessons learned when a thorough assessment was not done. Could be a facility where an assessment changed the design, an insurance or loss experience that revealed a gap, or a project where multiple trades used shared risk information to align. Grounded in specifics: the exposure, how it was evaluated (or wasn't), who was involved, and the result.	800–1,200 words
Op-Ed / Perspective	A professional point of view on how your field evaluates risk, where industries need to understand each other's approach better, lessons learned when risk was overlooked, or an innovation in assessment tools, data, or practice that deserves wider attention. Informed opinion backed by experience.	400–600 words

Who we are inviting to contribute

- Lightning protection professionals: contractors, designers, master installers
- Structural and electrical engineers
- Architects and design professionals
- Roofing contractors and single-ply specialists
- Building enclosure consultants
- Facility managers and building owners
- Risk managers and loss control specialists
- Insurance professionals and underwriters
- Weather data and atmospheric science experts
- Material manufacturers and suppliers (copper, aluminum, steel, components)

Key dates

SUBMISSION DEADLINE	ACCEPTANCE CONFIRMED	FINAL DRAFTS DUE	RELEASE
January 21, 2027	February 4, 2027	February 25, 2027	Spring 2027 (tentative March–April)

“When we understand each other’s work, we communicate better, collaborate more effectively, and create stronger outcomes together. That’s the purpose of The Connector — bringing industries together to share knowledge, strengthen partnerships, and move best practices forward.”

— Kelley Collins | Editor-in-Chief, The Connector

For full editorial guidelines and advertising opportunities, see the accompanying Editorial & Advertising Guide. Questions? Contact Kelley Collins at editor@theconnectormagazine.com