



THE UPDATE

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The goal of our monthly update is to provide information on timely matters that may impact your practice and professional interests. **HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND SEASONS GREETINGS**

A BIOMEDICAL BREAKTHROUGH FOR LOST LIMB INJURY




Newly devised optical methods reported recently by Vanderbilt University biomedical engineers and physicians suggest that artificial limbs may be controlled directly from a patient's brain using laser light, rather than electricity, to stimulate and control nerve cells. They discovered that low intensity infrared laser light can spark specific nerve cells to life, exciting a leg or even individual toes without actually touching the nerve cells.

ERRORS AND DELAYS BAR CONTRACTOR CLAIM




Due to a contractor's failure to timely submit its claim and comply with statutory requirements, an appellate court recently ruled that the contractor's claim was barred

ENFORCEMENT LAXITY LEADS TO NEW REGULATION



The California Integrated Waste Management Act provides for the protection of public health and safety and the environment through waste prevention, waste diversion and solid waste processing and disposal. The State Auditor's Report found that the enforcing agency's practice of concurring with permit revisions for landfills that have long-term violations of state minimum standards was "inconsistent with state law and does not yield results that are in the state's best interest because it allows long-term violations that effect the environment or public health to go on uncorrected for extended periods". Accordingly, that agency's staff was directed to prepare a new subsection that codifies the existing long-term gas violation practice including additional supporting guidance criteria.

CURTAINS FOR CONCRETE ?



Composite materials are becoming the material of choice over concrete in a growing number civil engineering construction projects. In addition to their low weight, composites don't corrode. Revamping old

bridges, for example, has become one of the most crucial applications for composites. Although the conventional way to fix weak or damaged bridges has been to utilize the same material e.g. steel or concrete for re-enforcement, composites are now being employed to do the job. Composite panels are now also increasingly being employed to blast-proof buildings thought to be vulnerable to terrorist attacks.

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