



Berkley
Design Professional
| a Berkley Company
Better By Design®

Risk Management Education Catalog

September 2026



RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Berkley DP's comprehensive risk management program focuses on fundamental areas that impact professional liability, project delivery, and practice management with materials developed by leading architectural and engineering practitioners, insurance specialists, and legal professionals.

Through our library of materials on BDP Risk®, live webinars, and on-demand learning courses, we address risk management essentials such as scope, client/project selection, contracts, and legal issues, as well as key practice topics including leadership, ownership transition, and firm valuation. We also provide tools and guidelines to help our insureds avoid professional liability claims, improve management practices, enhance business performance, and qualify for a 15% risk management education rating credit*.

Information: Practical information in your hands—whenever you need it.

- Available on a Mobile App
- Comprehensive risk and practice management library with insights on today's key challenges
- Guidelines, tools, templates, and checklists to use in your everyday project delivery and management

Education & Tracking: Courses that can help you develop your team members and qualify for a risk management education rating credit.

- On-demand webinars and nano eLearning courses
- AIA Learning Units / Professional Development Hours (some HSW qualified)
- Downloadable certificates of completion on demand
- Participation tracking and reports

Expertise: Developed by leading subject matter experts.

- Risk and practice management from the practitioner's perspective
- Harmony™, your AI-powered Virtual Risk Manager, delivers answers based on BDP Risk® content, along with tailored guidance and links to relevant resources

Workshop Selection And Delivery

Berkley DP takes a consultative approach to workshop selection in partnership with your specialist professional liability insurance broker. While this catalog highlights our current educational offerings, workshop recommendations are tailored to your firm's experience, prior participation, educational objectives, and risk management priorities.

Because our programs are developed and delivered by a variety of subject matter experts, including risk management professionals, claims specialists, and legal professionals, workshop offerings may vary based on program status and presenter availability.

[VIEW WORKSHOPS >>](#)

[VIEW NANO eLEARNING COURSES >>](#)

[VIEW ON-DEMAND WEBINARS >>](#)

AIA
Continuing
Education
Provider

Berkley Design Professional is a registered provider with the AIA Continuing Education System (CES). Our on-demand programs qualify for AIA CES Learning Units (LUs) and Professional Development Hours (PDHs).

Please note Berkley DP does not register programs with individual state licensing boards. It is the responsibility of each design professional to determine whether a given activity meets the continuing education requirements of a specific state.

PROGRAM LEADERS

Diane P. Mika

SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer
831.293.6243

dmika@berkleydp.com

Diane brings 30 years of experience in professional liability insurance, specializing in risk management for the design industry. She led the development of the award-winning BDP Risk® Learning Management System and oversees a portfolio of resources, courses, and workshops for architects and engineers. Drawing on decades of claim analysis, Diane identifies business practice breakdowns that contribute to professional liability exposure and translates those insights into practical training that helps design professionals strengthen business practices and manage risk.

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA

Executive Vice President
312.340.3475

amendelson@berkleydp.com

Andy is a unique resource for Berkley DP and our policyholders because of his 36+ years as a licensed architect, working as a designer, project manager, market leader, contracting officer, CFO, and Director of Practice Management for a large, national multi-disciplinary design firm. Andy served on the AIA Documents Committee for 15 years and is an industry leader in contracting and risk management.

Workshop offerings may vary based on registration status and presenter availability.

WORKSHOPS

Contracts:

Understanding Your Contract	5
Reviewing Contracts for Professional Liability Coverage and Risk	4
Managing Risk through Effective Contracts	4

Risk Management and Claims:

A Compendium of Claim Tales and Lessons Learned	3
A Compendium of Claim Tales and Lessons Learned: Season 2	3
Risk Management Plan	3
Risk Management Essentials of the New Normal	5
Go/No Go Risk Analysis	5
Case Study: Doc Outside the Box	2
Case Study: Subterranean Substitution Blues	3

Project Delivery and Management:

Alternative Forms of Project Delivery	2
Legal and Practice Issues of BIM	4
From Scope Creep to Profitability	3
Proactive Construction Administration	4

Business Practices and Current Issues:

Communication and Documentation	3
Professional Communication in the Digital Workspace	4
Design Firm Growth and Expansion	4

RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM WORKSHOPS

Alternative Forms of Project Delivery

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



The purpose of this program is to compare and contrast construction delivery methods and implications for the design professional with insights from the owner's perspective. It includes a thorough review of Design-Bid-Build, Construction Manager as Adviser (CMa), Construction Manager as Constructor (CMc, CMAR, CMGC), and Design-Build. For each of these delivery methods, the program will explore: the relationships of the parties and the contract structures; key features of the delivery method; practice and legal risk considerations for the design professional and owner; and wraps up with the benefits and concerns of the delivery method.

Claim Case Study Workshop: Doc Outside the Box

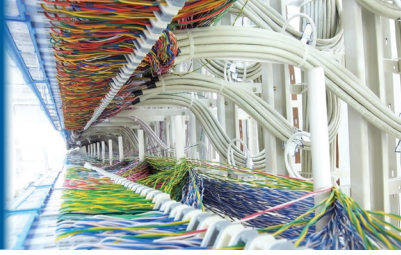
Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



This case study workshop centers on a hospital project for the design and construction of a new patient tower, renovation of the emergency room, kitchen, and dining area, and seismic upgrades. Through a detailed project scenario, participants will identify key missteps, analyze contributing factors, and collaborate on strategies that could have reduced professional liability, addressed code compliance, and better aligned with client expectations.

Claim Case Study Workshop: Subterranean Substitution Blues

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



This case study follows the design and construction of a massive data center for a global financial firm. With heat control critical, the owner cut costs by limiting construction observation. A subcontractor then made an unauthorized material substitution, risking system failure. When discovered, the owner filed claims against the design team and contractors. Participants will engage in a collaborative review of the scenario, uncovering project breakdowns and identifying actions that could have led to a different outcome.

Could This Happen to You? A Compendium of Claim Tales and Lessons Learned

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE QUALIFIED



This program tells the tale of four claims. For each claim, the workshop leader will set the stage by describing the project type, delivery method, and parties involved, followed by the problems that arose and technical factors that led to the claim. The resolution and lessons learned of each case will be revealed, including the impact of the design professionals' errors and omissions on the project and its owners/users. These valuable insights will help participants examine and improve their business practices and project controls to avoid similar situations.

Could This Happen to You? A Compendium of Claim Tales and Lessons Learned: Season 2

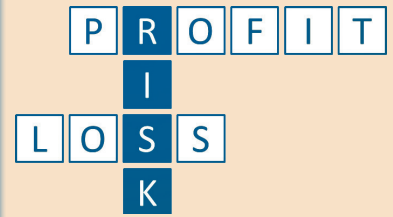
Learning Units:
1.25 AIA CES LUs / 1.25 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE QUALIFIED



This program presents four more claim scenarios. The speakers will set the stage by describing the project type, delivery method, and parties involved, followed by the problems that arose and led to the claim. The final resolution, lessons learned, and health-safety-welfare takeaways of each case will also be revealed. Highlights of the claims include poor business practices, building code noncompliance, lack of communication and documentation, and QA/QC issues. Participants will learn how to avoid or mitigate similar situations.

Developing a Risk Management Plan for Your Firm

Learning Units:
1.0-1.5 AIA CES LUs /
1.0-1.5 PDHs



Design firms face risk at every stage of a project. This workshop will equip you with strategies and tools to develop a proactive Risk Management Plan that supports business performance and long-term success. When embedded into firm culture and championed by leadership, a strong plan can help avoid costly missteps. Participants will explore the full project cycle—from client selection through project close-out—and learn how to address strategic planning, contract review, communication, QA/QC, and staff development to reduce liability and improve outcomes.

From Scope Creep to Profitability

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



Change is inevitable, but scope creep doesn't have to be. This workshop helps participants recognize the early signs of scope creep and manage change effectively to protect client relationships and firm profitability. Attendees will explore common triggers, learn how to set clear expectations, and develop strategies to control change through proactive communication, consistent documentation, and a well-defined change management policy. By the end of this session, participants will be better equipped to navigate evolving project demands while keeping their scope and bottom line on track.

Managing Risk through Effective Communication and Documentation

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



Clear communication and consistent documentation are essential to successful project delivery—and critical tools for managing risk. This workshop draws on practical project examples to illustrate both pitfalls and best practices throughout the project lifecycle, from contract formation to post-construction. Participants will learn how proactive communication and structured documentation can prevent disputes, support change management, and strengthen project outcomes.

Managing Risk through Effective Contracts

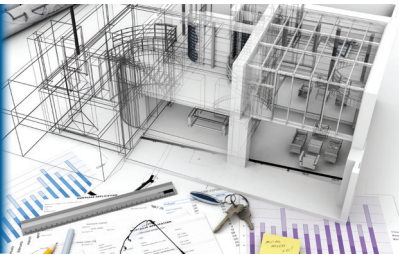
Learning Units:
1.0 AIA CES LUs / 1.0 PDHs



A professional services agreement is an essential tool to help architects and engineers manage exposure to risk. An equitable contract fairly apportions risk, while an onerous contract can shift inordinate—and sometimes uninsurable—liability to design professionals. The terms and conditions of the agreement establish the roles and responsibilities of the parties, and the negotiation process provides an opportunity to set reasonable expectations with clients. This workshop reviews the risk management fundamentals that underlie the development of effective contracts, the contract review process, and key clauses that impact risk exposure.

Managing the Legal and Practice Issues of BIM

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



When used effectively, BIM boosts productivity, quality, and collaboration. Combined with Integrated Project Delivery, it adds value through cost modeling, virtual coordination, and digital documentation. This workshop covers required investments in technology, training, and quality standards, plus legal issues like Standard of Care, IP protection, contract tools, and liability risk.

Navigating Challenges to Design Firm Growth and Expansion

Learning Units:
1.0 AIA CES LUs / 1.0 PDHs



A/E/C firms face multiple exposures to risk and growth by acquisition and their ability to manage multiple offices, coordinate a distributed workforce, streamline documentation, train new staff, and implement proper project delivery methods.

Proactive Construction Administration: Strategies, Solutions, and Success

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



Construction Contract Administration (CCA) is critical to project success. Simply put: the purpose of CCA is to determine, in general, whether the project is being built in conformance with the design intent. Using A201™-2017 as a guide, this workshop examines the roles of all parties and provides strategies to foster collaboration, spot issues early, reduce risks, and deliver projects effectively.

Professional Communication in the Digital Workspace

Learning Units:
1.0 AIA CES LUs / 1.0 PDHs



In today's digital-first workplace, design professionals routinely generate and share vast amounts of electronically stored information (ESI)—from emails and texts to drawings, reports, and project records. This practical, scenario-based workshop equips design professionals with the knowledge and tools to manage ESI responsibly and reduce risk exposure. Through real-world examples and actionable strategies, attendees will gain insight into smarter email habits, documentation practices, and project record management.

Reviewing Contracts for Professional Liability Coverage and Risk

Learning Units:
1.25 AIA CES LUs / 1.25 PDHs



Before signing on the dotted line, architects and engineers should carefully review contracts to ensure alignment with project-specific requirements, firm standards, and professional liability insurance (PLI) coverage. This workshop illustrates the contract lifecycle, provides a comprehensive step-by-step review process, and presents real-world examples of client-drafted agreement language. Participants will learn how to identify and amend contract language to enhance insurability.

Risk Management Essentials of the New Normal

Learning Units:
1.0 AIA CES LUs / 1.0 PDHs



In today's rapidly evolving AEC landscape, risk management fundamentals are more critical than ever. This course explores how post-pandemic shifts, emerging technologies, and changing client expectations are reshaping professional liability exposure for architects and engineers. Participants will gain actionable insights and tools to protect your firm and enhance risk resilience in the "new normal."

The Go/No-Go Process: Risk Analysis of Client, Project, and Team

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



The Go/No-Go process is key to risk management, helping evaluate client, project, and team capabilities for informed decisions. A structured approach improves objectivity and controls marketing costs. This workshop explores critical factors in making Go/No-Go decisions through a flexible, strategic framework that promotes active discussion.

Understanding Your Contract: The Foundation for Successful Projects

Learning Units:
1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs



Understanding the purpose and content of a professional services agreement is an essential skill in project management. A fair and balanced agreement sets the stage for a productive relationship between you and your client and fosters a positive experience throughout the project. This workshop provides an overview of risk management fundamentals, the contract review process, and the typical organization of the owner-design professional agreement.

"I understand how difficult it is to produce a well-presented topic in a specific amount of time. These [courses] are very well done and there are great takeaways."

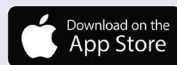
Berkley DP policyholders can view and complete courses on BDP Risk®. For more information, refer to the catalog Bentries, which include program descriptions, learning units, and the industry experts we have collaborated with to bring you programs that are **Better By Design®**.



On-Demand Webinars: We develop on-demand webinars on current and emerging issues—and we do so in partnership with subject matter experts around the country.



Nano eLearning Courses: We know how busy you are. So we have developed short eLearning courses, focused on a single topic. These bite-sized courses run 15–30 minutes in length, great for accessing on our Go.Learn app.



BDP Risk® offers an award-winning experience in a mobile app. You can search the LMS for content, read articles, enroll in courses, and download.

Getting Started:

1. Download the Go.Learn App
2. Enter the platform URL: <https://bdprisk.docebosaas.com>
3. Enter your normal Username and Password

Detailed **Mobile App Instructions**

Login to **BDPRISK.com** for the most up-to-date course list.

NANO eLEARNING COURSES



Making a Go/No-Go Decision on a Project Takeover

Learning Units: 0.5 AIA CES LUs / 0.5 PDHs

Taking over a project started by another design professional is a risky proposition. In addition to concerns for liability, copyright, and professional responsibility, the Go/No-Go decision will likely be influenced by the identity of the client or the project, by the state of the economy and your business, and by your appetite for risk. This course will help you understand the risks, make a reasoned decision, and be able to protect yourself in contract.



Branching Out: Addressing the Risks and Rewards of Opening a Branch Office

Learning Units: 0.5 AIA CES LUs / 0.5 PDHs

There are very few company events that generate as much excitement as opening a new branch office. As an implementation of your firm's growth and expansion strategy, a new branch can expand your firm's reach, signal healthier revenues, and offer positive opportunities for the firm and key personnel. However, turning a new branch office into a long-term successful venture is not always easy. Opening an office in a new territory has many potential pitfalls, whether you are acquiring an existing firm or starting from scratch. This course looks at the risks and potential obstacles to opening and running a branch office and gives you five key strategies for success.

ON-DEMAND WEBINARS

Contracts:[Understanding Your Contract](#) 12[Reviewing Contracts for Professional Liability Coverage & Risk](#) 11[Managing Risk through Effective Contracts](#) 10[Contractual Deal Killers](#) 7**Risk Management and Claims:**[Developing a Risk Management Plan](#) 9[Guide to Dispute Resolution](#) 7[A Compendium of Claim Tales and Lessons Learned](#) 8[A Compendium of Claim Tales and Lessons Learned: Season 2](#) 8[Claim Catastrophes](#) 8[Ethical Challenges & Enigmas](#) 9[Ethics for Engineers, Architects & Other Design Professionals](#) 10[Cyber Liability](#) 8[Trends in Geotechnical Claims](#) 11[Accessibility Issues in Design and Construction](#) 7**Project Delivery:**[Why Project Delivery Method Matters](#) 12[Design-Build: Boom or Bust?](#) 9[Design-Build Public Infrastructure](#) 9[P3: Myths and Realities](#) 11[Legal and Practice Issues of BIM](#) 10**Project Management:**[From Scope Creep to Profitability](#) 10[Dangerous Liaisons: Managing Potential Risks in the Construction Contract Administration Phase](#) 8[The Prime/Subconsultant Team](#) 11[AIA A201™: General Conditions](#) 12**Leadership and Practice Management:**[Communication and Documentation](#) 10[Professional Communication in the Digital Workspace](#) 11[Navigating Challenges to Design Firm Growth and Expansion](#) 10[Enhancing Design Firm Value](#) 9**Current Issues:**[Risk Management Essentials of the New Normal](#) 11[Designing for Uncertainty](#) 9[Trends in Outsourcing to A/Es](#) 12[Connectable: Strengthen Team Connection in the New Era of Work](#) 8**Accessibility Issues in Design and Construction**

Learning Units: 1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs

Design professionals must navigate complex accessibility laws and regulations. This webinar reviews key legal frameworks and real-world cases affecting architects and engineers. You will learn actionable steps that design professionals can take to minimize exposure to such issues in the first place.

SPEAKERS**Michael J. Cremonese, Esq.**, Member, Burke Cromer Cremones**Scott R. Samolovitch, Esq.**, Associate, Burke Cromer Cremonese**Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA**, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP**A/E Contractual Deal Killers**

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs/2.0 PDHs

This webinar offers valuable insights into navigating contractual agreements for architects and engineers. You will explore top strategies when addressing the most common Deal-Breaker issues; the importance of both preferred indemnity language and anti-indemnification statutes along with civil codes; and a broad spectrum of critical contracting issues typically arising on projects from the earliest stages of pre-bid negotiation through the post-construction phase.

SPEAKERS**Dion N. Cominos, Esq.**, Firmwide Managing Partner, Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani**Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA**, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP**A Design Professional's Guide to Dispute Resolution**

Learning Units: 2.25 AIA CES LUs / 2.25 PDHs

Disputes in design and construction are inevitable—planning ahead is key. This webinar covers common causes of disputes and how to prevent them through clear contract language and defined resolution processes. Learn the pros and cons of negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and litigation, plus how to spot early warning signs and respond effectively.

SPEAKERS**Ted D. Levin, Esq.**, Member, Clark Hill**Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA**, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Claim Catastrophes and Lessons Learned

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

Whether or not you have been involved in litigation, this webinar will be an eye-opener as to how things can go wrong in a design and construction project. The lessons from real claims catastrophes presented by an experienced trial attorney and a licensed architect will show how devastating failures lead to claims. Through the examination of a number of actual claim cases, you will learn from others' mistakes.

SPEAKERS

Brian K. Stewart, Esq., Hon. AIA Attorney at Law, Collins Collins Muir + Stewart, LLP

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Connectable: Strengthen Team Connection in the New Era of Work

Learning Units: 1.25 AIA CES LUs/1.25 PDHs

A colossal 72% of global workers feel isolated at least monthly; with 55% saying at least weekly. Remote work, advancing technology, and an always-on work culture are fracturing our relationships resulting in deep disconnection. Ryan Jenkins distills everything you need to know about what's causing today's workforce disconnection and how you can increase connection to boost belonging, engagement, retention, and performance with employees at every level.

SPEAKERS

Ryan Jenkins, CSP, WSJ Bestselling Author & Speaker

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP



Could This Happen to You? A Compendium of Claim Tales and Lessons Learned

Learning Units: 1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE QUALIFIED

This webinar tells the tale of four claims. Our claim examiners describe the project type, delivery method, and parties involved, followed by the problems that arose and technical factors that led to the claim. The resolution and lessons learned of each case will be revealed, including the impact of the design professionals' errors and omissions on the project and its owners/users. These valuable insights will help you examine and improve your business practices and project controls to avoid similar situations.

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP

Cindy Russell, AVP, Sr. Claims Examiner, Berkley Alliance Managers

Michael Cecere, AVP, Sr. Claims Examiner II, Berkley Alliance Managers

Liz Molina, AVP, Sr. Claims Examiner, Berkley Alliance Managers

Derek E. Steffen, AVP, Sr. Claims Examiner, Berkley Alliance Managers



Could This Happen to You? A Compendium of Claim Tales & Lessons Learned: Season 2

Learning Units: 1.75 AIA CES LUs / 1.75 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE QUALIFIED

This webinar presents four more claim scenarios. Our claim examiners will set the stage with an outline of the project type, delivery method, and parties involved, followed by the problems that arose and led to the claim. The final resolution, lessons learned, and health-safety-welfare takeaways of each case will also be revealed. Highlights of the claims include poor business practices, building code noncompliance, lack of communication and documentation, and QA/QC issues. You'll gain insights to help strengthen project oversight, improve documentation, and reduce professional liability exposure.

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP

Anthony Andersen, SVP, PL Claims Manager, Berkley Alliance Managers

Lisa McKay, AVP, Sr. Claims Examiner, Berkley Alliance Managers

Liz Molina, AVP, Sr. Claims Examiner, Berkley Alliance Managers

Mark A. Froehlich, Esq., AVP, Sr. Claims Examiner, Berkley Alliance Managers



Cyber Liability: Data Security for Design Professionals

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

Project data held by design professionals is valuable—and vulnerable. This webinar outlines cyber risks specific to architects and engineers. Learn strategies for securing networks, devices, and accounts, and risk mitigation best practices.

SPEAKERS

Jonathan Fairtlough, Managing Director, Kroll

Alan Brill, Senior Managing Director, Kroll

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Dangerous Liaisons: Managing Potential Risks in the Construction Contract Administration Phase

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

Since most professional liability claims occur during the construction phase. Architects and engineers can strengthen their risk posture by recognizing potential hazards and managing services effectively throughout construction contract administration. This webinar examines common risks that arise during this critical phase and offers practical strategies—drawn from real project experience—to help avoid costly pitfalls. Each topic is illustrated with a case study to provide actionable insights.

SPEAKERS

James B. Atkins, FAIA, Atkins Consulting Solutions

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Design-Build: Boom or Bust? Managing the Risks

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

In this on-demand webinar, experts in design, law, and business structuring explore the risks and rewards of Design-Build. The program exposes the critical differences between traditional delivery and Design-Build, equipping you with insights to navigate contractual, operational, and risk considerations effectively.

SPEAKERS

Mark C. Friedlander, Partner at Schiff Hardin, LLP

Michael C. Bomba, Director, General Counsel on the AIA Documents Team

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Design-Build Public Infrastructure Projects: Risks and Challenges

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

Design-Build (DB) is increasingly popular as the delivery method of choice for many governmental entities for public infrastructure projects. Owners are attracted not only to the ability to contract on a fixed-price basis but also the opportunity to transfer substantial risk—which would traditionally be retained by the owner—to the design-builder. This webinar explores how DB procurement impacts professional risk and offers strategies for managing it.

SPEAKERS

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP

David J. Hatem, PC, Partner, Chair, Professional Practices Group



Designing for Uncertainty: Resiliency, Climate Change, and Other 21st Century Perils

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE QUALIFIED

Design professionals face growing challenges—from climate change to aging infrastructure. This webinar explores resilient design strategies for buildings, infrastructure, and communities, using real-world case studies. Topics include extreme weather adaptation, post-COVID facility planning, HVAC, and best practices for inspections and structural assessments and best practices for performing adjacent structure-design, structural condition assessments, and other inspections.

SPEAKERS

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP

Dion N. Cominos, Esq., Firmwide Managing Partner,

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani



Developing a Risk Management Plan

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

Design firms face risk at every stage of a project. This webinar will equip you with strategies and tools to develop a proactive Risk Management Plan that supports business performance and long-term success. When embedded into firm culture and championed by leadership, a strong plan can help avoid costly missteps. You'll explore the full project cycle—from client selection through project close-out—and learn how to address strategic planning, contract review, communication, QA/QC, and staff development to reduce liability and improve outcomes.

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Enhancing Design Firm Value through Profitability and Effective Business Management

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

Profitability at the project level is necessary for the overall financial success of the A/E firm. This webinar explores how strategic planning, financial management, and a performance-focused culture drive firm value. You will learn to use key financial metrics—both historical and predictive—to support profitable growth and informed decision-making.

SPEAKERS

Ian C. Rusk, ASA, CM&AA, Managing Principal, ROG+Partners, LLC

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Ethical Challenges & Enigmas for the A/E World

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE QUALIFIED

On paper, professional ethics seem simple—just do the right thing. But in the real world ethics can become very complicated for design and construction professionals competing for business and serving competing clients. Frequently, the “conscience clauses” of many new contracts only compound the challenges. This program draws on real life ethical cases from design professionals to illustrate the challenges and corresponding dilemmas. Based on those real world experiences, the program will chart a path to manage those challenges and clear the way for professional success, business stability, and expansion.

SPEAKERS

David A. Ericksen, Esq., Executive Committee, Construction Practice Leader

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Ethics for Engineers, Architects, and Other Design Professionals

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE QUALIFIED

Ethical behavior is integral to the practice of architecture and engineering, necessitated by the professional's duty to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Making decisions and taking action can be complicated by ethical obligations imposed by multiple bodies: professional association codes of conduct, state practice acts, and licensing board requirements. Using professional association codes of conduct as a framework, this webinar offers a four-step process to make sound ethical decisions and explores real-life ethical cases to illustrate the challenges, dilemmas, and consequences of unethical behavior. In addition, you will take away six key strategies to avoid ethical problems.

SPEAKERS

Brian Sutter, Esq., Managing Partner, Sugarman Law Firm
Stephen Davoli, Esq., Partner, Sugarman Law Firm
Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



From Scope Creep to Profitability

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

Change is inevitable, but scope creep doesn't have to be. This webinar helps you recognize the early signs of scope creep and manage change effectively to protect client relationships and firm profitability. You'll explore common triggers, learn how to set clear expectations, and develop strategies to control change through proactive communication, consistent documentation, and a well-defined change management policy. By the end of this session, you'll be better equipped to navigate evolving project demands while keeping your scope and your bottom line on track.

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP
Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Managing Risk through Effective Communication and Documentation

Learning Units: 1.75 AIA CES LUs / 1.75 PDHs

Clear communication and consistent documentation are essential to successful project delivery—and critical tools for managing risk. This webinar draws on practical project examples to illustrate both pitfalls and best practices throughout the project lifecycle, from contract formation to post-construction. You'll learn how proactive communication and structured documentation can prevent disputes, support change management, and strengthen project outcomes.

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP
Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Managing Risk through Effective Contracts

Learning Units: 1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs

Your professional services agreement is an essential tool in managing your exposure to risk. An equitable contract fairly apportions risk, while an onerous contract can shift inordinate—and sometimes uninsurable—liability to you. The terms and conditions of the agreement establish the roles and responsibilities of the parties, and the negotiation process provides an opportunity to set reasonable expectations with your client. This on-demand course reviews the risk management fundamentals that underlie the development of effective contracts, the contract review process, and key clauses that impact your risk exposure.

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP
Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Managing the Legal and Practice Issues of BIM

Learning Units: 1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs

Used properly, BIM can improve a design firm's productivity, quality, and project team relationships. Combined with Integrated Project Delivery, it can add value to the design and construction process through cost modeling and analysis, virtual building coordination, logistics and continuity, digital record documentation, and operations and maintenance. This course explores the benefits and practice considerations of implementing BIM, as well as the legal implications, including BIM's impact on the Standard of Care, controlling the use of your intellectual property, professional association tools and contract forms, and protecting your firm from professional liability risk.

SPEAKER

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Navigating Challenges to Design Firm Growth and Expansion

Learning Units: 1.25 AIA CES LUs / 1.25 PDHs

A/E/C firms face multiple exposures to risk and growth by and their ability to manage multiple offices, coordinate a distributed workforce, streamline documentation, train new staff, and implement proper project delivery methods.

SPEAKER

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



P3: Myths and Realities for Design Professionals

Learning Units: 1.75 AIA CES LUs / 1.75 PDHs

Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) are expanding beyond roads and bridges to a wide range of public projects. P3 exists when a public entity retains a private entity to finance, design, and build a project that will deliver a benefit to the public. This course explains the legal and financial risks and rewards of P3 delivery, helping participants make informed decisions when pursuing or managing these complex opportunities.

SPEAKERS

Suzanne H. Harness, Esq., AIA, Harness Law, PLLC

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Professional Communication in the Digital Workspace

Learning Units: 1.0 AIA CES LUs / 1.0 PDHs

NEW

In today's digital-first workplace, design professionals routinely generate and share vast amounts of electronically stored information (ESI)—from emails and texts to drawings, reports, and project records. This program equips design professionals with the knowledge and tools to manage ESI responsibly and reduce risk exposure. Through real-world examples and actionable strategies, participants will gain insight into smarter email habits, documentation practices, and project record management.

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP

Joseph Shields, P.E., Assistant Vice President, Director of Construction Professional Risk Management, Berkley CP



Reviewing Contracts for Professional Liability Coverage and Risk

Learning Units: 1.75 AIA CES LUs/1.75 PDHs

Before signing on the dotted line, architects and engineers should carefully review contracts to ensure alignment with project-specific requirements, firm standards, and professional liability insurance (PLI) coverage. This webinar will illustrate the contract lifecycle, provide a comprehensive step-by-step review process, and present real-world examples of client-drafted agreement language. You will learn how to identify and amend contract language to enhance insurability.

SPEAKER

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP



Risk Management Essentials of the New Normal

Learning Units: 1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs

In today's rapidly evolving AEC landscape, risk management fundamentals are more critical than ever. This course explores how post-pandemic shifts, emerging technologies, and changing client expectations are reshaping professional liability exposure for architects and engineers. Gain actionable insights and tools to protect your firm and enhance risk resilience in the "new normal."

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



The Prime/Subconsultant Team: Strategies for Coordinated Success

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

At the heart of almost every successful construction project is a well-structured and coordinated design team. By contrast, poor coordination leads to failure. This webinar presents an eight-step model for building effective teams, covering early subconsultant involvement, contracts, insurance, planning, communication, risk signs, and post-project reviews, with real-world examples of what works—and what doesn't.

SPEAKERS

David A. Ericksen, Esq., Attorney at Law

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Trends in Geotechnical and Engineering Claims

Learning Units: 2.25 AIA CES LUs / 2.25 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE QUALIFIED

Geotechnical engineering services are foundational to many design and construction projects. Architects and other engineering disciplines frequently rely on geotechnical reports in the performance of their services. This program gives insight to current trends in geotechnical engineering, related design and construction issues, and claims. Through real-life case examples involving serious failures and safety issues, you will learn how geotechnical reports and recommendations impact the integrity of the design and construction of a project.

SPEAKERS

M. Brandon Waddell, Shareholder, Vincent Lopez Serafino Jenevein, PC

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Trends in Outsourcing Responsibilities to Architects & Engineers: Maximizing Opportunities and Minimizing Risk of Self-Certifications & Special Inspections

Learning Units: 1.75 AIA CES LUs / 1.75 PDHs
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE QUALIFIED

Faced with rising construction demands, many cities are outsourcing traditional government functions to design professionals. Architects and engineers are increasingly responsible for certifying plans, conducting special and façade inspections, and even verifying fire alarm corrections. While this outsourcing trend presents opportunities for new services and revenue streams for design professionals, the duty of care to protect the health, safety, and welfare through these services cannot be overlooked. The program covers three key areas: fire alarm certification, façade safety inspections, and special inspections.

SPEAKERS

Thomas M. Fleming II, Esq., Partner, Milber Makris Plousadis & Seiden, LLP
Patrick F. Palladino, Esq., Partner, Milber Makris Plousadis & Seiden, LLP
Jennifer M. Netska, Esq., Associate, Milber Makris Plousadis & Seiden, LLP



Understanding AIA Document A201™ -2017 General Conditions of Construction Contract

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

This course offers a focused review of AIA Document A201-2017, highlighting key provisions design professionals need to know for effective construction contract administration. A201-2017 serves as a foundational document linking the owner's separate agreements with the architect and contractor. Understanding it can promote successful project outcomes, including satisfied owner expectations and minimized disputes.

SPEAKERS

Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP
Jeremy S. Baker, Partner, Construction Law Group, Schiff Hardin LLP



Understanding Your Contract: The Foundation for Successful Projects

Learning Units: 2.0 AIA CES LUs / 2.0 PDHs

Understanding the purpose and content of a professional services agreement is an essential skill in project management. A fair and balanced agreement sets the stage for a productive relationship between you and your client and fosters a positive experience throughout the project. This webinar provides an overview of risk management fundamentals, the contract review process, and the typical organization of the owner-design professional agreement.

SPEAKERS

Diane P. Mika, SVP, Chief Risk Management Officer, Berkley DP
Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP



Why Project Delivery Method Matters

Learning Units: 1.5 AIA CES LUs / 1.5 PDHs

NEW

This program compares construction delivery methods from the perspectives of the A/E, contractor, and owner. Participants will examine traditional design-bid-build, construction manager as constructor (CMc), construction manager as advisor (CMa), design-build, and progressive design-build, with emphasis on the key features, tradeoffs, and contractual risk allocation of each. Participants will also gain practical insights to help align delivery method selection with owner priorities, including collaboration, schedule, pricing, design control, flexibility, and risk.

SPEAKERS

Jeremy S. Baker, Founding Attorney, Baker Law Group LLC
Andrew D. Mendelson, FAIA, Executive Vice President, Berkley DP

“
*Great presentations!
I thoroughly enjoyed
the content and definitely
learned something new.*
Thanks!
”

BDP Risk® Learning Management System

BDP Risk® provides online access to practical, relevant, and concise content from selected subject matter experts, designed to help you avoid professional liability claims, improve management practices, enhance business performance, and earn risk management education credit.* bdprisk.com

HELP & SUPPORT

CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION

ON-DEMAND LEARNING

MOBILE APP

CONTRACT REVIEW RESOURCES

BDP Risk Search or ask a question

My BDP Risk Learning Dashboard

Welcome to BDP Risk

Berkley Design Professional
a Berkley Company
Better By Design®

An award winning platform with practical tools, courses, and resources to help you reduce risk and improve business performance.

Events
Join our complimentary webinar, **Building Resilience Together: Climate, Uncertainty, and the Future of the Built World** on September 9, 2026 focused on practical risk management insights for design professionals. [Register here](#)

Help & Support
Telephone: 831.293.6254 | Email: risk-support@berkeleydp.com

Registered Education Provider
AIA Continuing Education Provider

Latest Additions

LATEST ADDITIONS

[Data Center Projects: Key Risk Considerations...](#) **NEW!**
[Workforce Management in a Hybrid World...](#)
[Claims Benchmark Data](#)
[Resilient Design In 2025: A Smarter Standard in...](#)
[Contract Advice for Design-Build Projects](#)
[Assessing the Risks of Project Management...](#)

Education

COURSES & LEARNING PLANS

Don't know where to start? Click the Course Catalog link below to view our On-Demand Courses
[Learning Plans and On-Demand Course Catalog](#)

Already involved (subscribed/in progress) with a course?
[My Courses and Learning Plans](#)

Certificates of Completion

MY CERTIFICATES

Looking for your Certificate of Completion? Click the link below to view your Transcript page, then click the certificate icon to download your certificate.
[Transcript and Certificates of Completion](#)

Knowledge Library

KNOWLEDGE LIBRARY

Click the link below to browse through a listing of our Risk Management Essentials and Practice Management Topics
[Browse through all Channels](#)
[Browse by Subject/Topic](#)

Contract Review Resources

CONTRACT REVIEW RESOURCES

[Contract Review Guide - 13th Edition](#)
[Contract Review Checklist - Top 10](#)
[Purchase Orders as Contracts](#)
[Short Form Agreement](#)
[Design Professional-Subconsultant Short Form Agreement](#)

Mobile App

MOBILE APP

Read this document before downloading the app:
[Instructions for Accessing BDP Risk via Mobile Device](#)

GET IT ON Google play | Download on the App Store

Quick Access

QUICK ACCESS TOOLS

[Risk Management Plan channel](#)
A Risk Management Plan is essential to loss prevention and financial success.

[Project Delivery Process: 50 Key Activities](#) for a "traditional" D-B-B project, including links to tools, templates and resources.

[Quick Access Tools](#)
Tools and Templates to help your Professional Practice.

[Industry Resources](#)
Links to industry resources.

HARMONY™ VIRTUAL RISK MANAGER

BACK TO TOP



Berkley
Design Professional
| a Berkley Company



About Berkley Design Professional

Berkley Design Professional is a trusted provider of professional liability insurance for architects and engineers. Our experienced underwriters draw on their deep industry expertise and underwriting authority to respond quickly to opportunities, deliver comprehensive coverage, and help brokers and policyholders navigate complex risks with confidence.

Brokers value our collaborative approach, specialized knowledge, and exceptional service. Policyholders benefit from our award-winning risk management resources, dedicated in-house claims professionals who advocate on their behalf, and the peace of mind that comes from working with a financially sound insurance provider committed to protecting their reputation, projects, and long-term success.

Berkley Design Professional, a division of Berkley Alliance Managers, is a member of W. R. Berkley Corporation, a Fortune 500 company that is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and is part of the S&P 500. W. R. Berkley Corporation's insurance company subsidiaries are rated A+ (Superior) by AM Best. Learn more at berkleydp.com.



BDP Risk® Learning Management System

BDP Risk® has won several coveted Brandon Hall Group Excellence Awards. These include learning and development awards for “Best Advance in Custom Content,” “Best Advance in Creating an Extended Enterprise Learning Program,” and “Best Customer Training Program,” all of which recognize Berkley DP's significant efforts and successes in developing resources to help our clients enhance business performance and mitigate risk.

The information and recommendations provided by Berkley Design Professional are for general informational and risk management purposes only and do not constitute legal, technical, design, engineering, or professional advice, nor does it confirm insurance coverage. Because laws, regulations, and professional standards vary by jurisdiction and project, architects, engineers, and other design professionals should consult qualified legal counsel and other appropriate advisors regarding their specific circumstances. Any practice management recommendations should be independently evaluated and adapted to applicable project requirements, contractual obligations, professional standards, and the firm's established policies, procedures, and protocols. Nothing herein guarantees legal compliance, risk mitigation, insurance coverage, or the prevention of claims, losses, liabilities, or disputes.

Products and services are provided by one or more insurance company subsidiaries of W. R. Berkley Corporation. Not all products and services are available in every jurisdiction, and the coverage afforded by any insurer is subject to the actual terms and conditions of the policies as issued. Some products may be provided through surplus lines insurers and placed through licensed surplus lines producers. Surplus lines insurers do not generally participate in state guaranty funds and insureds are therefore not protected by such funds. Berkley Design Professional transacts surplus lines insurance in California through Berkley Managers Insurance Services, LLC, a licensed surplus lines broker, CA Lic. No. 0H05115.

** Each policy year, firms that participate in one or more Berkley DP education programs qualify for a single 15% risk management education credit that will be included in rating and reflected in the firm's next policy quotation. Please note that the education credit opportunity applies only to primary policies; excess policies are not eligible.*