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The Masonry Society
Sustainability E-News
Masonry Resources

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From The Editor

The mission of The Masonry Society (TMS) is to advance masonry knowledge, development, and application. As part of that mission, TMS recently added two valuable resources to their website. [This searchable database](#) of over 1,600 TMS Journals and Proceedings of the North American Masonry Conferences (NAMC), includes papers on sustainability, innovative masonry products and research, as well as topics outside of sustainability. The database can be viewed by anyone, and papers can be downloaded for a small fee (for non-members) or for free by TMS Members! The other resource is a series of [recordings on historical masonry](#) assessment and repairs. Read more about both in the articles under [EDUCATIONAL NEWS](#) at the end of this newsletter.

One of the other ways TMS lives out its mission is through this newsletter. We hope that you find it educational and a valuable resource. As we reflect on Thanksgiving, **we are ever grateful for the support of our Sponsors!** I urge you to do your part to keep us publishing and [consider being a 2020 Sponsor](#). [Contact TMS](#) for more information.

With thanks,

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NOTE: Inclusion in this newsletter is not an endorsement of the products and materials featured, nor have these products been evaluated by TMS or the editor. Furthermore, the views expressed in the articles featured are those of the article authors.

GREEN BUILDING NEWS

The first article below touches on one of common misconceptions in building design - that more insulation makes a better building. For many reasons, that is not always the case, and as the article below notes, one reason may be the increased carbon footprint of many common insulation products. ~Tina

Choosing insulation for carbon value – Why more is not always better: Part 1

STEVEN WINTER ASSOCIATES

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Platinum Level

Many in the building industry believe that when combined with a good continuous air seal, the highest insulation value makes for the greenest enclosure; ultimately helping to reduce a structure's carbon footprint and combat climate change. It may come as a surprise that some of the most commonly used insulation materials are so carbon-intensive to manufacture and/or install, that for many decades they negate the carbon-energy savings they are purportedly providing. [Read more.](#)

Study: The main drivers of embodied carbon reduction in structures

CONCRETE PRODUCTS

A market-driven trend toward the increased use of supplementary cementitious materials is one of the biggest drivers of embodied carbon reduction in structures in the last seven years, according to a Thornton Tomasetti survey and [this article](#). The study also found lower embodied carbon levels in concrete structures than in steel buildings.

How masonry fulfilled the green wishes of the Choctaw

NCMA.ORG

If anyone in the South knows about the sanctity of its land, it's the Choctaw. Of the 40 million acres that make up Mississippi, they once had dominion over 11 million of them. So when it came time for a major addition to one of the community's elementary schools, sustainability was a must. And they achieved those goals using concrete masonry. [Read more.](#)

CODES and STANDARDS NEWS

Each year at GreenBuild the USGBC rolls out new programs, and this year is no different as the article below notes. ~Tina

USGBC introduces LEED Positive rating for environmental restoration

ROOFING CONTRACTOR

The US Green Building Council has announced a new certification, LEED Positive, for buildings that are designed to help repair the environment by reducing carbon emissions and energy use. The standard is available for new and existing buildings. [Read more.](#)

GREEN PRODUCT NEWS

Improvements in cement and concrete can lead to improved masonry products as well. The articles below highlight some recent developments from outside the U.S. ~Tina

Australian researchers develop green cement

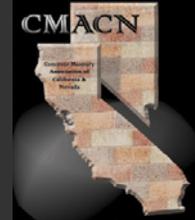
THE CONVERSATION

Australian researchers say they have developed a water-resistant magnesium oxychloride cement that can absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The researchers used fly ash and silica fume to improve the cement's water resistance. [Read more.](#)

Engineers use waste materials to make strong concrete

EUREKALERT.ORG

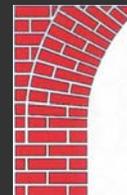
Engineers in Russia have developed a crack-resistant concrete that includes a waste mixture of rice husk cinder, crushed limestone and siliceous sand. Engineers say the concrete, which gains endurance



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Products
Association

Gold Level



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of
America



Portland
Cement Association **

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Southeast Concrete Masonry
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when it absorbs impact, is suitable for military structures, load-bearing structures for nuclear power plants or Arctic buildings. [Read more.](#)

EDUCATIONAL NEWS

The mission of The Masonry Society (TMS) is to advance the knowledge of masonry. The articles below showcase some of the recently added resources on the TMS website. ~Tina

Historical Masonry Workshop Recordings **THE MASONRY SOCIETY**

Recordings of a workshop on Historical Masonry are now available on the [TMS website](#). This program is intended for those assessing, purchasing, stabilizing, or renovating existing buildings (especially historic buildings) with masonry walls such as brick, stone, or concrete masonry units. Topics include building code evaluation of existing buildings, moisture and energy performance, masonry crack repair, strengthening masonry, and more. The 6 hour program is split into 14 parts, which can be purchased individually or together at a 25% discount. TMS Members also receive an additional 25% discount. The workshop was presented April 2013 at the University of Texas - Brownsville Campus. Speakers include Alan Pettingale, Andreas Stavridis, Benchmark Harris, Michael Schuller, and Gordon Shepperd.

Database of TMS Journal & NAMC Papers **THE MASONRY SOCIETY**

The Masonry Society (TMS) is pleased to announce that all past peer-reviewed papers appearing in TMS Journal and the proceedings of the North American Masonry Conference (NAMC) can be [searched here](#), and TMS Members have complimentary access to the more than 1600 titles in the database. The database can be searched by keywords or authors. Papers are available for purchase by Nonmembers.

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