

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

The early registration deadline for the upcoming TMS Annual Meeting is rapidly approaching. If you've never attended a meeting of The Masonry Society (TMS) I'd encourage to you to join us! TMS is responsible for many of the standards we take for granted in the masonry industry, not least of which is the *Building Code Requirements for Masonry Structures*, or the MSJC Code as it is sometimes known. At the Annual Meeting you will have the opportunity to be involved in the work of committees ranging from the MSJC to Existing Masonry to the Sustainability Committee. In addition, the Annual Meeting presents an opportunity for **continuing education** (needed for licensure by many engineers and architects) in the form of a full day session on a variety of masonry topics as well as seminars the day prior to the meetings (including one on Sustainable Design and Masonry). Check out the links under **EDUCATION**, and come show your support. If you are part of the masonry industry, you need to [be a part of TMS!](#)

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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.

LEED

I realized from several questions I've received that the change to the Materials and Resources credit 5 on how to calculate regional materials is causing some confusion. I've included a link below to the Brick Industry Association's e-newsletter that includes a good explanation along with an example calculation. ~Tina

LEED Regional Materials Global Alternative Compliance Path Explained

BIA Brick News Online

The July 2012 Addenda announced that certain 2009 LEED credits can be met in accordance with the provisions in the USGBC Global Alternative Compliance Path. One such credit is the LEED Material Resource Credit 5: Regional Materials in LEED NC (New Construction), LEED CS (Core & Shell), and LEED Schools. This is commonly referred to as the 500 mile radius rule and known as MRc5. This credit now includes a second Option that accounts for actual travel distance by rail, water, and truck. This [link](#) includes a complete discussion and example calculation.

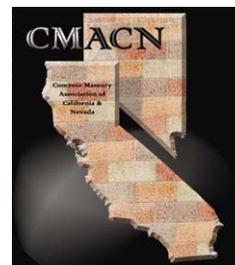
Drawing LEED 500-mile Radius Made Easy

This [link](#) makes drawing the LEED 500 mile radius quick and easy. Note that it won't work for the new

Sponsors of TMS's Sustainability E-Newsletter

Click on the links below to find out more about each of these organizations who have graciously sponsored this E-Newsletter

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[Concrete Masonry Association of
California and Nevada](#)



Option 2 calculation method given in the July 2012 LEED Addenda.

LEED Passes Milestone / LEED-Certified Building Stock Swells to Two Billion Square Feet Worldwide

USGBC

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) today announced that the total footprint of commercial projects certified under its LEED green building program surpassed two billion square feet. [Read more.](#)

New York Passes Property Tax Exemption Legislation for LEED Certified Projects

Eco-Structure.com

Under the new law, New York municipalities may pass legislation authorizing property-tax exemptions for green buildings, renovations, improvements, and other projects, starting in 2013. The bill offers up to 10 years of property-tax exemptions for construction and improvements within any municipality that enacts legislation mirroring the bill. The level of exemption corresponds to the level of LEED certification or other similar green certification achieved for each project. [Read more.](#)

Tools Help Streamline, Expedite LEED Certification Process

Constructech

New software and technology are helping construction companies streamline and expedite how projects can be LEED-certified, according to [this article](#). For instance, the U.S. Green Building Council launched the LEED Automation program in 2010 to fast-track the certification process by synchronizing LEED Online with third-party systems. Now, the New Building Institute launches the COMNET Energy Modeling portal that gathers energy modeling data from a number of software packages, conducts quality assurance checks, and sends the information to LEED Online "for the energy and atmosphere prerequisite and the energy and atmosphere credit."

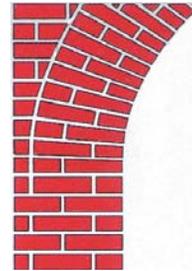
GREEN BUILDING NEWS

Like many of you, I've spent many hours over the last couple of weeks mesmerized by the events of the Olympics. As a result, I couldn't resist including the article below discussing the construction process. ~Tina

London 2012 Olympics: A Story of Sustainable Architecture

Architecture Dispatch

National Concrete Masonry Association
FOUNDATION



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of America](#)



Silver Level
\$250 to \$499



Despite a recent barrage of negative headlines over the weather and security, the actual construction has been something of a success story, especially for sustainable architecture according to [this article](#).

Green Buildings Save Kansas Town \$200K a Year

Greentech Media

The town of Greensburg, Kan., virtually destroyed by a tornado in 2007, decided to go green when it rebuilt 13 public buildings. The designs focused on achieving energy efficiency and included the use of ground-source heat pumps, daylighting and high-performance windows. That has resulted in savings worth \$200,000 each year according to a [DOE report](#). "Greensburg is now providing measured building performance that proves the benefits of sustainable design," says Shanti Pless, senior research engineer at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO in [this article](#).

Energy Retrofits Surpass New Green Buildings in Benefits

National Real Estate Investor

Existing buildings that have had energy upgrades carry more green benefits than new green buildings, according to [a report](#) commissioned by the Preservation Green Lab, a project of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Retrofitted buildings have less effect than new construction on the environment and human health. However, not all existing structures are suitable for reuse, says Elizabeth Heider, chairwoman of the board of directors at the U.S. Green Building Council and senior vice president of green markets for Skanska Group.

Design Guides Strive to Help Cut Building Energy Use

NCMA, ASHRAE

The U.S. Department of Energy's Commercial Buildings Program and DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory are working with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers and the buildings industry to promote building energy efficiency. The Advanced Energy Design Guidelines series is a new group of free publications that offer designers and contractors the tools needed for achieving a 30 or 50 percent energy savings compared to buildings that meet the minimum requirements of Standard 90.1-2004. [Learn more](#).



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ODDS and ENDS

The links below cover a variety of topics related to sustainable design and masonry. I hope you enjoy them. ~Tina

LCA – A Toolkit Approach to Sustainability

Dovetail Partners

This [article](#) by Wayne Trusty provides a good overview on life cycle assessment (LCA) – what it is, and what it is not.

ASCE Committee to Set Permeable Pavement Standards

Masonry Construction Online

According to [this article](#), ASCE is working on a guideline to address the use of permeable interlocking concrete pavers in road applications with loading conditions not to exceed 80,000 pounds.

Analyzing Moisture in Brick Masonry Walls

Steven Winter Associates

Insulating existing brick masonry walls can be a challenge. Moisture accumulation can be a persistent problem. To evaluate the varying risk factors associated with these types of walls, SWA teamed with the [U.S. Department of Energy's Building America](#) program to conduct extensive modeling and field monitoring. Read the [full report](#).

EDUCATION

The TMS Annual Meeting is rapidly approaching. Just us in Greenville, SC for numerous educational opportunities. ~Tina

TMS Seminar on The Role of Masonry in Sustainable Design and LEED

The Masonry Society will present its popular seminar on masonry and sustainable design immediately prior to the TMS Annual Meeting. The seminar will be held on September 13 from 1:30 – 4:30pm. Certificates of attendance will be provided. Visit the TMS website for [more information](#) or to [register](#).

TMS Annual Meeting Provides Educational Opportunities

Mark your calendar for [TMS's 2012 Annual Meeting](#), which will be held on September 13-18 in Greenville, SC. A full slate of presentations and activities is planned. We hope you'll be able to join us as we celebrate TMS's 35th "birthday" as a professional society.

Resilient Buildings Workshop: Integrating Materials, Systems, Resilience and Sustainability

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate and the Concrete Joint Sustainability Initiative invite you to attend the Resilient Buildings Workshop: Integrating Materials, Systems, Resilience and Sustainability. The workshop is free of charge and will take place at the National Building Museum on Oct. 18. The Resilient Buildings Workshop is a collaborative effort between federal government and private sector. To learn more, [click here](#).

Greenbuild 2012 Registration

Registration is open for the [Greenbuild International Conference and Expo](#) — the world's largest conference and expo dedicated to green building, to be held November 14-16, 2012 in San Francisco, California. Learn about what education will be available at Greenbuild 2012 and [access the education program »](#)

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