

**From:** Susan Scheurer <tmsmeetings@masonrysociety.org>  
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## The Masonry Society

### Sustainability E-News

February 28, 2013

Volume 5, Number 4

SPONSORED EDITION

#### From the Editor

Later this week the U.S. Green Building Council will open yet another public comment period on LEED v4. It is anticipated that the Materials and Resources credits will be the focus of this review. Don't miss this opportunity to submit your comments and concerns. As USGBC works to clarify and refine this next version of LEED, the Department of Defense has affirmed the use of LEED on DoD projects. Check out the links below for more information.

Christine "Tina" Subasic, PE, LEED AP  
[CSubasicPE@aol.com](mailto:CSubasicPE@aol.com)

*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

Readers of this newsletter are likely familiar with the benefits of thermal mass provided by masonry construction. A recent article in Modern Steel Construction explores these benefits when combined with structural steel framed buildings. ~Tina

#### **Benefits of Steel and Concrete Masonry Thermal Mass Walls Examined**

##### MODERN STEEL CONSTRUCTION

The February 2013 edition of Modern Steel Construction includes an article on the benefits of utilizing concrete masonry walls for their thermal mass benefits with steel-framed buildings. According to the article that begins on page 40 of the magazine, "Thermal mass elements, whether in exterior walls or as interior components, can have a significant impact on space conditioning use in buildings." Read the complete article by [clicking here](#).

#### **Concrete/Masonry Save Building from High Energy Bills**

##### INHABITAT

Concrete floors and block walls for the Ridge Road Residence in Melbourne, Australia, allow the sustainable building to save on air-conditioning and heating expenses as they create thermal mass, which helps flatten out daily temperature fluctuations,

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#### **Platinum Level**

cutting the need for heating and air conditioning. The structure's design stemmed from a desire to offer "a sense of sanctuary, enclosure and comfort," according to Studio Four, the project's developer, in [this article](#).

## Holistic Approach Could Produce More Sustainable Buildings

### GREEN BUILDING ELEMENTS

A holistic approach to building is needed, writes engineer Dino Green. Because buildings are a major energy hog, we need to build green, but at the same time provide structures that improve quality of life, he says. In [this piece](#), Green looks at some solutions such as the elimination of "energy waste" and adoption of a "greener lifestyle" that would integrate with energy-efficient structures.

## LEED NEWS

As you know, the work on LEED v4 has been filled with controversy, especially as related to the Materials and Resources credits. Look for another opportunity to comment on the credits beginning March 1. ~Tina

## USGBC Announces 6th Public Comment Period for LEED v4

### LEEDUSER.COM

USGBC has announced a 6th public comment period for LEED version 4, the newest version of the LEED rating systems, but says that there will be no delay in the member balloting and launch of the system, if approved by members. The new comment period will run from March 1–31, according to an [announcement on the USGBC website](#). The new Materials & Resources credits, which have been particularly contentious, will be part of the focus of this comment period. The member ballot remains scheduled for June 1-30, and a launch of LEED v4 is targeted for Greenbuild 2013. [Read more](#).

## Report Advocates DOD's Continued Use of LEED

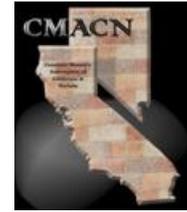
### ECOBUILDING PULSE

While the GSA continues to evaluate green-building rating systems, a report from the National Research Council says the Department of Defense should keep using LEED. [Read more](#).

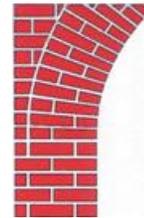
Meanwhile, the General Services Administration (GSA) released a [request for information](#) (RFI) that asserted the value of green building rating systems and asked for public comments to help inform their recommendation to the Secretary of Energy identifying which path is most likely to ensure a comprehensive and environmentally-sound approach to the certification of green Federal buildings. This comes after a thorough evaluation of the three major green building rating programs, LEED, Green Globes, and the Living Building Challenge. Stay tuned for further developments.

## PRODUCT NEWS

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. The link to the short



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



[Western States Clay Products Association](#)\*\*\*

Gold Level



[Masonry Institute of America](#)\*\*\*



Silver Level

video below demonstrates the superior performance of masonry permeable paving systems. ~Tina

### Permeable Pavers Demo

INTERLOCKING CONCRETE PAVEMENT INSTITUTE

It's a rainy day in Louisville, so the pavement surfaces are already saturated. This [video](#) shows interlocking concrete permeable pavement handles an additional 1,800 gallons with ease from Louisville Fire Truck.

### A Look into MIT's CSHub

NATURE

The Concrete Sustainability Hub, or CSHub, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Mass., is a large research project funded by concrete industry sponsors. Researchers at CSHub are at work on ways to make concrete more eco-friendly. In [this article](#), Ivan Amato explains the recipes the researchers are working on, and looks briefly at what Ceratech is doing.

### Burdened by LCA Primary Data Collection?

LINKCYCLE

This new method gets you primary data for all your products, saving 95% of your data collection time and reducing client fatigue. The Footprinter tool produces primary consumption data for all products at once, more accurately and preferred in ISO 14040 to mass/economic allocation. Check out this [news release](#) for more information.

## GREEN BUSINESS NEWS

### Eco-marketing Helps Green Firms Win B2B Clients

B2C MARKETING INSIDER

Going green is a great way to win business-to-business customers, but only if you find a way to incorporate CSR messaging into your marketing and outreach, writes Jakob Barry. "[T]ransforming a company into a full on green business needs to be balanced with a marketing campaign notifying the public of its efforts," he writes in [this article](#).

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### Masonry Symposium – Call for Paper Abstracts Due

ASTM INTERNATIONAL

Papers are invited for the Masonry 2014 Symposium to be held on Tuesday June 24, 2014 in Toronto, Canada. The Symposium is co-sponsored by ASTM Committees C01 on Cement, C07 on Lime, C12 on Mortars and Grouts for Unit Masonry, and C15 on Manufactured Masonry Units. To access the scope of the symposium, the publication requirements, and instructions to submit an abstract online, visit <http://www.astm.org/C07callforpapers>.

### Sustainability Seminar at Structures Congress

ASCE



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### Bronze Level



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The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has announced a Pre-Conference Seminar, "New Essentials for Your Sustainability Took Kit," to be held Wednesday, May 1st from 1:00pm -5:00pm in Pittsburgh, PA. Topics include life cycle assessment, disaster resilience, and thermal bridging. For more information about the Structures Congress and this pre-conference seminar visit the [Congress website](#).

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