

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

Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

Whenever I speak on sustainability and masonry, I always like to gauge the familiarity of my audience with LEED and green building generally. Most often, when speaking to architects and building product suppliers, the vast majority are quite familiar with LEED and many have been involved with a LEED-certified project. It's easy to think "everyone" knows about LEED. However, my most recent experience was a reminder that though green building is widely known, there are many who are unfamiliar with it. In this case it was an audience of civil and structural engineers at a recent continuing education event sponsored by my local American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) chapter. I had the opportunity to present a seminar on masonry and the International Green Construction Code (IGCC) and hopefully those in attendance are now more aware of at least the topics addressed by the IGCC, LEED and the many other green building programs out there.

Christine "Tina" Subasic, PE, LEED AP
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

Green building may seem to be everywhere, but as the links below attest, there's still a long way to go before sustainable building practices are the norm. ~Tina

N.C. Lawmakers Seek to Block State's Use of LEED

AMERICAN CITY BUSINESS JOURNALS/CHARLOTTE

The North Carolina House will consider legislation that would prevent the use of LEED certification for public projects. The legislation would bar the use of eco-rating systems that disadvantage North Carolina businesses, and it would require the use of two timber-certification standards that have been excluded from LEED. "It's not calling LEED by name. But it's anti-LEED," says Emily Scofield of the U.S. Green Building Council's North Carolina chapter, according to [this report](#).

Trends for 2013: More Eco-friendly Design and Construction
CONSTRUCTION DIGITAL

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. Sponsors designated with an Asterisk(*) are also TMS Members at the following levels:

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Platinum Level

[This article](#) looks at some of the more promising eco-friendly trends in the construction industry. It includes the use of biomimicry, modular design and prefabrication, green materials and sustainable design processes. "All these developments point to an increasing global awareness of the crucial role that construction plays in helping preserve the environment," writes Mikhail Tuknov. "[C]onstruction may well become a key player in the continuing quest toward an eco-friendly and sustainable industry."

LEED Has Burgeoned, but "A Long Way Yet To Go"

CBS NEWS

Although LEED has caught on big time -- with 49,000 commercial and residential projects certified, and about 131,000 buildings in the pipeline, more needs to be done, according to Jason McLennan, CEO of the International Living Future Institute. "It's an easy sell if the person who is going to do this work can present it in a logical way that the homeowner would be a fool not to do it," said Paul Fisette, a sustainable building expert at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst." Then, the homeowner might choose to go LEED rather than install a granite counter, according to [this report](#).

PRODUCT NEWS

This edition features a mix of recommendations on better ways to utilize familiar products and new twists on "old" materials. ~Tina

Four Architects Pick Their Favorite New-Old Products

ARCHITECT

Among the products chosen as a new-old product are Pozzotive concrete masonry units manufactured by Kingston Block & Masonry Supply. For the 2012 Hegeman supportive housing project in Brooklyn, N.Y., Cookfox Architects upped its practice of specifying concrete with high-recycled content by using Pozzotive, a concrete block manufactured with recycled glass. The glass, which is ground into a powder, comprises about 30 percent of the CMUs. The Hegeman residence uses Pozzotive in its structural system, courtyard, and green roof, and as a permeable paver—the first project to do so. [Read more](#).

Thin Brick Touted as Environmentally Friendly

GREEN BUILDING PRODUCT DEALER

The Spring Edition of Green Building Product Dealer features thin brick cladding that is touted as a product that gets green building credits while lowering costs. Though some of the claims in the article aren't quite accurate, it is still neat to see a piece on masonry featured on the [front page of a green building magazine](#)!

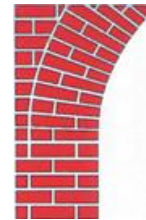
New Structural Design Solutions for Permeable Pavements

ICPI, Interlock Design Magazine

[This Paper](#) presented at 10th International Conference on Concrete Block Paving (ICCBP) in Shanghai provides new design guidance for Permeable Pavements. The guidance is based upon many inputs as this Paper explains including, most



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



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

Gold Level



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



Silver Level

importantly, the Authors' 10 years experience of the successful use of the previous design method upon which this new method is based. The Appendix contains the new design solutions in the form of a catalogue of designs.

Concrete Strengthened with Agriculture Waste Products

Design News/Engineering Materials

Kansas State University researchers have found a replacement for Portland cement, but they're using ash that results from the waste products of biofuels, in turn made from the waste products of agriculture -- in this case, corn stover, wheat straw, and rice straw. All of these are used as feedstocks for the class of biofuels known as cellulosic, meaning they are derived from feedstock based on inedible waste plant material, instead of feedstock derived from seeds or grains of plants grown as (usually non-food) crops. The researchers use the byproduct to replace 20% of the Portland cement by mass and in doing so make the cement 32% stronger. The researchers published an article in the Journal of Materials in Civil Engineering. Check out [this article](#) to learn more.

HISTORIC REUSE

Masonry buildings are excellent candidates for renovation and reuse. Check out the links below for a few examples of recent projects. ~Tina

Renovation of Historic Brick School Recognized

A new charter school in Lamar, Colorado, has the double distinction of being the first school in the state of Colorado to meet the Collaborative for High Performance Schools® (CHPS) green school rating program and the first school in the nation to attain CHPS Verified Leader™ status. This historic brick school is paired with tiltup concrete construction. Check out construction photos [here](#). To read more, visit: <http://www.chps.net/dev/Drupal/node/787>.

AIA Top Ten Green Project Features Brick

ECOBUILDING PULSE

A brick building was a part of AIA Committee on the Environment (COTE) Top Ten green projects: <http://www.aiatopten.org/node/216>. A mixed-use development designed by Milwaukee's Continuum Architects Planners turns a blighted block into a community showpiece. The Clock Shadow Building Milwaukee was selected partly because of all the recycled/salvaged materials they used. [Read more](#).

Historic Office Building Goes from Decrepit to Dynamic

ECO-STRUCTURE

Restoring and updating a 100-year-old Beaux Arts building in Cleveland required vision and creativity. [Read more](#).

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Sustainability Seminar at Structures Congress





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Bronze Level





For information on how you can become a sponsor, please contact the [TMS office](#).

ASCE

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](#).

Concrete Sustainability Conference**NRMCA**

The National Ready Mixed Concrete Association's 2013 Concrete Sustainability Conference will be held May 6-8, in San Francisco. The conference, which is co-sponsored by ASTM International, will provide the latest advances, technical knowledge, continuing research and solutions for sustainable concrete manufacturing and construction. Experts will present on the latest developments related to design, specifying, manufacturing, testing, construction, maintenance, and research of concrete as it relates to sustainable development. Visit the [conference website](#) for more information.

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