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## The Masonry Society

### *Sustainability E-News*

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SPONSORED EDITION

#### From the Editor

As you are aware, Colorado suffered much damage as a result of the floods earlier this month. What you may or may not know is that The Masonry Society office, located in Longmont, CO, was also damaged. Nearly a foot of water in the office left behind a muddy mess. You can see photos [here](#). Thanks to TMS staff, our last edition of *Sustainability E-News* was only marginally late in getting to you. And staff has done an amazing job, with assistance from many hands, in cleaning up the office and continuing to get work done despite the conditions. But the damage is significant, [estimated at a loss of \\$20,000](#). If you would like to join others that have made a tax-deductible contribution to TMS for flood recovery, please [contact the TMS office](#) (note also that TMS's office will be completely closed with no phone or internet service from October 10 - 31 so that walls can be removed, the office washed, and new walls and flooring installed). Your support is greatly appreciated.

On a positive note, Phil and Susan and their families are safe and their homes were not affected by the floods. They appreciate all the calls and notes of concern they have received.

And TMS staff has their hands full as the TMS Annual Meeting is quickly approaching. The meeting, to be held in Herndon, VA, just outside our nation's capital, will feature committee meetings as well as a full day of technical presentations. Seminars on Special Masonry Inspection and Masonry Testing are also planned. I hope you can join us! For more information, visit the [TMS website](#) or contact the [TMS office](#).

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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.*

## PRODUCT NEWS

The consulting firm PE International has written an excellent white paper summarizing the changes building product manufacturers need to be aware of in LEED v4. The white paper focuses on the transparency credits and potential next steps for manufacturers. And in other news, ASTM has established a subcommittee on Alternative Masonry Materials. Check out the links below. ~Tina

### LEED v4, Manufacturers, Transparency and Disclosure

PE International's white paper, "LEED® v4 Ushering in the Era of Transparency and Disclosure," warns manufacturers that previously relied on recycled content and regional material credits to fulfill design team's desires to take heed. LEED v4 is set to completely transform the way materials are manufactured, chosen, and specified. Transparency and disclosure are topics that are not merely a fleeting trend. All major green building rating systems have incorporated some form of life cycle based product disclosure into their material selection requirements. And, outside of the green building industry, giants like Walmart are starting to request disclosure of ingredients for products sold on Walmart and Sam's Club shelves. [Read the article and download the free white paper.](#)

### New ASTM Subcommittee on Alternative Masonry Materials Formed

ASTM

ASTM Committee C15 announces a new subcommittee, C15.12 on Alternative Masonry Materials and Related Units. This subcommittee has started to develop a new standard, a draft Guide for Developing Specifications for Masonry Units. The standard is under the work item [WK43364](#).

### Research Paper: Reflective and Permeable Pavements

IOP Science

The preliminary research results indicate the technical feasibility of combined reflective and permeable pavements for addressing the built environment issues related to both heat island mitigation and stormwater runoff management. This study shows that interlocking concrete pavers had the highest permeability and good albedo characteristics as compared with other permeable paving systems. [Read the article.](#)

### Green Builders Warm to Roman Empire Technology

BBC

Lime mortar, a technology developed by the Romans, could find a new lease on life in the green-building industry. While cement mortar is stronger, lime mortar has a key advantage: It absorbs atmospheric carbon dioxide as it dries, potentially reducing building projects' environmental footprint. [Learn more.](#)

### What's Next in Green Building?

The 10 finalists in this year's Cradle to Cradle Product Innovation Challenge employ bio-based and recycled materials in sustainable building materials. bioBricks is among those chosen as finalists. Check out the articles in [edc magazine](#) and

## 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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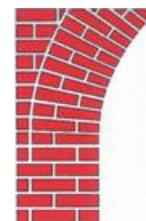
### Platinum Level



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



National Concrete Masonry Association  
**FOUNDATION**



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

### Gold Level



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

[Ecobuildingpulse.com](http://Ecobuildingpulse.com).

## Do You Know What's Really In Your Products?

VISION 2020

In choosing a material, you need to address not just its content, but also its embodied energy, say Allison Ewing, Vision 2020 co-chair for Building Design + Performance. [This article](#) features a "materials mapping strategy" focused on bio-based materials.

## GREEN BUILDING NEWS

An interesting blog on the energy performance of the Bank of America Tower points out how important occupant energy use is. ~Tina

## Integrating Key Strategies Could Lower Costs for Green Building

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER

Green building need not be expensive if "cost strategies, program management and environmental strategies" are integrated into the project plan from the beginning, according to the report titled Creating a Better World, The Case For Green Buildings. [Read the article](#).

## The Bank of America Tower: What Is and What Could Have Been

ROCKY MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

An evaluation of the Bank of America Tower's energy use and green building certification is a bit more complicated than the one-dimensional headlines may suggest, according to [this blog](#).

## Ten Misconceptions About the Passive House Standard

GREEN BUILDING ADVISOR

Are arguments against the Passive House standard based on misunderstandings? [Read more](#).

## Energy Efficiency Legislation Delayed Indefinitely

USGBC

While the energy efficiency bill, sponsored by Sens. Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.) and Rob Portman (R-Ohio), enjoyed strong bipartisan support, Senate leaders were also unable to find a way to handle proposed controversial amendments. [Read more](#).

## THE OTHER SIDE

Sustainability isn't a black and white issue. The links below present the other side of "green". Even though they don't deal with masonry directly, I think they serve as good reminders to avoid looking at things with "LEED blinders" on. ~Tina

## Sprawl Is Still Sprawl, Even If It's "Green"

THE ATLANTIC CITIES

The most sustainable development in the wrong location will create more environmental problems than it will solve. Read the [article](#).

## Losing Their Health and Homes to Spray Polyurethane Foam

TREEHUGGER



Silver Level



Bronze Level



A growing number of people are suffering from asthma and chemical sensitization due to spray foam insulation. [Read more.](#)

### **LCA Critique**

#### **LINKEDIN**

Interesting dialogue on LinkedIn regarding life cycle assessment: "Last week the paper "Calculating sustainability in supply chain capitalism" was published in the Economy and Society journal. It launched a severe critique on LCA...any opinions?" [Read the ensuing discussion](#) for yourself.

## **EDUCATION / EVENTS**

### **It's Not to Late to Register for the TMS Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting and Business Meetings of The Masonry Society will be held near Washington, DC in Herndon, Virginia at the Hyatt Dulles Hotel on October 11-15, 2013. An exciting and educational program has been planned for your enjoyment and professional development. Plan to attend the meetings today! For more information, including session topics and registration, visit the [TMS website](#).

### **Free Webinar from ASTM**

ASTM International is offering a free webinar: Introduction to Green Building Systems, Codes and Standards. Tuesday October 1, 2013, 1:00 PM ET - 2:00 PM ET. [Register here.](#)

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