

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

November 15, 2013

Volume 5, Number 21

SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

With Thanksgiving less than two weeks away, reflecting on the many things we have to give thanks for is a natural thing to do. Among the many things we at The Masonry Society are thankful for is YOU! We appreciate all those that contributed to the Flood Relief Fund to repair the TMS offices. Repairs and renovations are now complete. You can check out photos of the "new" office [here](#). We also appreciate your input into this newsletter and for those of you that financially support Sustainability E-News, we are especially grateful! Please consider being a sponsor for the 2014 Sustainability E-News. For more information, please [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.

GREEN BUILDING NEWS

Building Information Modeling, or BIM, has the potential to revolutionize the building design and construction process. One yet largely untapped area is that of sustainability. Now a new tool (Tally) is exploring integration of environmental impacts into BIM. As the masonry industry develops BIM for masonry, this is another area to consider. ~Tina

BIM Among Tools to Help Assess Life Cycle of Building Projects

TRIPLE PUNDIT

The use of integrated building information modeling could help North American architecture, engineering and construction firms conduct "whole building life cycle assessment," writes Jonathan Rowe, program manager in the sustainability solutions unit at Autodesk. This looks at the use of BIM as an LCA tool and how technology such as "Tally" can help the industry "move towards a future state where rules-of-thumb are wholly substituted with data-driven analysis," Rowe explains in [this article](#).

Building Information Modeling for Masonry Launches Website

MASON CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

The masonry industries of the United States and Canada have announced the launch of a new website www.BIMforMasonry.org. The primary function of the web site is to transfer information on the initiative to any of the site visitors. The initiative is a collaboration with support from The Masonry Society and others in the masonry industry to support the development of Building Information Modeling for Masonry (BIM-M). To learn more: [Click here](#).

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
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Sustainable Concrete Products for Structures and Hardscapes ***

Study Shows Effect of U.S. Energy-Efficiency Boom

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

Energy efficiency has done more than coal, oil or nuclear power to help the U.S. meet its energy needs since 1973, according to a Natural Resources Defense Council study. "The next big opportunity for energy efficiency is our homes and buildings, which are responsible for about one-third of U.S. global warming emissions," writes Peter Lehner in [this blog](#).

U.S. Carbon Emissions Continue to Decline

USA TODAY

America's carbon emissions have fallen to the lowest levels since 1994, thanks to a combination of efficiency gains, unseasonably warm weather and the country's ongoing switch to natural gas rather than coal-fired power plants. Emissions fell by 3.8% in 2012 according to [this article](#).

GSA to Study Energy-Efficient Technologies on its Buildings

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER

The General Services Administration plans to study technologies promoting building energy-efficiency on its existing facilities under the Green Proving Ground's 2014 program. The federal agency is asking those in industry, academia and nonprofits for information on green building technologies. [Read more](#).

Architects are Tracking Carbon, But Not at Scale

ECOBUILDING PULSE

The AIA's third-annual progress report on the organization's 2030 Commitment shows improvement, but also a lot of work that still needs to be done. Report also includes the number of projects using energy modeling has remained constant at 57-58 percent. Yet the report data shows a 20 percent increase in energy-use reduction for those projects that use energy models according to [this article](#).

CODES, STANDARDS and MORE

Included this time is an interesting presentation (video) on the direction of green building codes. Though focused on the residential market, much of it is also applicable to the commercial side. Also after a lengthy review, GSA has determined that both LEED and Green Globes are appropriate for use for federal projects. Check out the links below. ~Tina

ASHRAE/IES Publishes 2013 Energy Standard

EDC MAGAZINE

ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013, Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings, incorporates 110 addenda, reflecting changes made through the public review process. "While many things have changed since the first version of Standard 90 was published in 1975, the need to reduce building energy use and cost has not," said Steve Skalko, chair of the committee that wrote the 2013 standard. "This standard represents many advances over the 2010 standard, as we worked toward our goal of making the standard 40 to 50 percent more stringent than the 2004 standard." Major changes include revisions to requirements regarding building envelope, lighting, mechanical and the energy cost budget. [Read more](#).



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

Gold Level



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



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Silver Level





Where are Green Building Codes Going?

VISION 2020

We must start addressing operational performance to meet sustainability goals on a large scale, says Mark Frankel of the New Buildings Institute. [Check out](#) his presentation for ECOHOME's Vision 2020 Sustainability Summit in Washington, D.C.

GSA Recommends Green Globes, LEED Standards for Federal Projects

FEDERAL TIMES / ECO BUILDING PULSE

The General Services Administration is urging U.S. government agencies to use either the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design or the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes standards in future construction projects. Federal agencies should adhere to their standard of choice and work out a review process to assess future certification standards, said GSA Administrator Dan Tangherlini in a letter to the Department of Energy. To learn more, read the [Federal Times article](#) or [EcoBuilding Pulse](#).

Dallas Adopts New Green Building Regulations

CleanTechnica

Water preservation is a key factor behind Dallas' implementation of a five-year Dallas Green Building Construction Ordinance. The regulations require all new projects to adhere to the minimum certification requirements the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program, the International Green Construction Code or Green Built Texas. The ordinance also specifies that 50% of waste material from construction projects be diverted from landfills, and 45% of the building components must be "recycled, recyclable, bio-based, or local materials." [Read more](#).

USGBC California Chapter Seeks to Improve Indoor Conditions in Green Buildings

GREEN BIZ

The Northern California branch of the U.S. Green Building Council is leading the "Building Health Initiative" campaign that seeks to improve the indoor environment of green buildings. "By helping to elevate and expand the conversation around health impacts of the built environment, this Initiative is an important step in spurring real industry change and momentum for greater materials transparency and education," said Anthony Ravitz of Google. The campaign also seeks to encourage the use of less toxic building materials, according to [this blog](#).

Four Ways LEED v4 Will Change Business

GREEN BIZ

Dramatic changes to the way products are assessed in LEED v4 will reverberate beyond the building products industry. [Read this GreenBiz blog](#).

PRODUCT TRANSPARENCY

More on product transparency in this issue. The first paragraph includes a link to copies of some of the letters architectural firms are



Bronze Level



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using to request product information from manufacturers. The second article is similar to one featured last month on an alternative product declaration being promoted by the flooring industry. ~Tina

Material Transparency

ECOBUILDING PULSE

Product disclosures are gaining traction among high-profile design firms—particularly those that can afford to be a little choosier in the projects they take on—and high-profile clients. Architecture firms such as Perkins+Will, SmithGroup, and Cannon Design also are pushing for increased building-product transparency by taking a harder line on submittals and decision-making related to sustainable materials according to [this article](#). [Click here](#) to read letters from architecture firms requesting this information.

Vinyl Group Launches Reporting Label for Toxic Chemicals

BUILDING GREEN

Flooring manufacturers and their Product Transparency Declaration (PTD) will compete with the Health Product Declaration (HPD) format for industry acceptance. With demand growing for product ingredient reporting through the Health Product Declaration (HPD), the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) has introduced a competing format it claims will be easier for manufacturers to navigate and for architects and specifiers to understand. [Read more](#).

VIDEO: Transparency is Just the Beginning of a Sea Change

VISION 2020

Tom Lent, policy director for the Healthy Building Network, explores how the growing push for transparency will change our entire way of building homes. [Watch this video](#).

EDUCATION / EVENTS

The following link is provided for your information. Note that webinars and their content have not been evaluated by TMS or myself. ~Tina

IECC Energy Review and Masonry Compliance Options

Changes in the Model Energy Codes, notably the 2012 IECC (International Energy Conservation Code) are creating challenges to masonry wall systems. This free webinar, by Trenwyth, reviews exterior envelope R-Value requirements and masonry wall compliance options. To register for the Dec. 5th, 12 - 1 p.m. ET webinar, [click here](#).

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