

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

Energy efficiency is a key element of sustainable design, and increasing energy efficiency is part of the continual revision process for many codes and standards. This edition contains several links on new changes in the energy codes. An important part of meeting these new requirements is the move away from prescriptive ("cookbook") requirements to methods that evaluate predicted performance. This includes relying less on required R-values of insulation to looking at the U-factor of an assembly or using computer tools to evaluate the building as a whole.

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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.

CODES and RATING SYSTEMS NEWS

Our focus in this newsletter is often on buildings, but masonry products are used in a variety of sustainable strategies on the project site, whether that be a building site or civil works site. The green sites evaluation tool, SITES (we previously reported on their pilot program), has just released their first full public version. Read more in the link below. ~Tina

SITES v2 Launched

ECOBUILDING PULSE

The second version of the sustainable ratings system designed for landscapes is now available for widespread use. The launch of SITES v2 this week marks the end of seven years of development and a two-year pilot phase, during which more than 30 projects achieved pilot certification. While the 2009 version was only available for pilot projects, v2 is now open to the public. [Read more](#).

New Title 24 Standards Will Cut Residential Energy Use by 25 Percent or More

EDC MAGAZINE

Updated building standards, designed to get more energy savings from new and existing residential and nonresidential buildings, took effect July 1 in California. To learn more, [click here](#).

Sponsors of TMS's Sustainability E-Newsletter

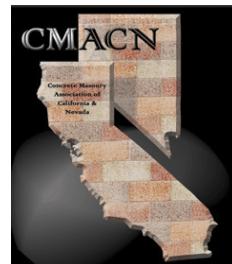
Click on the links below to find out more about each of these organizations who have graciously sponsored this E-Newsletter. Sponsors designated with an Asterisk(*) are also TMS Members at the following levels:

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

RESNET Collaborates with ICC to Help Home Builders Transition to the 2015 IECC

ICC

The Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) [announced its collaboration with the International Code Council](#) in an effort to help home builders transition to the new 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). In the upcoming version of the residential building code, RESNET's HERS Index will be an optional compliance path—some people are saying that this compliance path represents the most significant change coming to 2015 IECC.

LEED for HOMES Updates HERS Index to 70

ALLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The USGBC is updating the energy requirement within the LEED for Homes 2008 protocol to keep up with changing energy codes. The update will make the energy requirement roughly 15% more stringent than the current protocol and roughly 30% more stringent than the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The new LEED for Homes version has three compliance metrics to choose from: achieve a Home Energy Rating Service (HERS) Index of 70 or better, comply with ENERGY STAR v3, or beat the new LEED Energy Budget metric. Projects that register prior to the change will continue to use the HERS of 85 baseline. This update affects all single family homes, town homes and multifamily projects three-stories and under, registered (and paid) after October 1, 2014. Read more about LEED for Homes v4 [here](#).

PRODUCT NEWS

The first link below shares some welcome news related to harmonization of the myriad of building product transparency programs out there. While none of the programs are expected to be eliminated at least there is some discussion about standardizing the information requested from manufacturers. ~ Tina

Green Product Certifiers to Streamline Data Collection

EcoBuilding Pulse

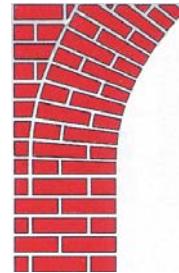
A task force comprising members from five certification groups will help standardize information collection and provide a single database of chemical hazards. The members include representatives from the Cradle to Cradle Certified Product Standard, GreenScreen for Safer Chemicals, Pharos Chemical and Material Library and Building Product Library, Health Product Declaration, and the Declare program. [Read more](#).

New Building Product (almost): High-Strength



National Concrete Masonry Association

FOUNDATION



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

Gold Level



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



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Silver Level

Concrete Smart Bricks

WIRED

Kite Bricks has created a prototype of its Smart Brick -- a high-strength concrete block that can interlock with other Smart Bricks, similar to how Legos work. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes, include voids for insulation, and can be strengthened with steel bars. The company is looking for funding to bring the product to market. Check out [this article](#).

GREEN BUSINESS NEWS

Below you will find some tips from companies, both large and small, on "greening" your business. ~Tina

Lessons from General Electric's CSR Successes

GreenBiz.com

General Electric has put sustainability at the center of its mission through its "ecomagination" and "healthymagination" programs, and is using the programs to fuel employee engagement and leadership development, [writes Susan Camberis](#). "In my experience as an HR professional, this connection is key and represents a significant opportunity for organizations," she adds.

Want to Go Green? Start Small, Says TerraCycle VP

PACKAGING DIGEST

Companies looking to go green should start by picking low-hanging fruit in their own workplace, says Albe Zakes, a vice president at TerraCycle. That can be as simple as encouraging recycling, or asking people to print on both sides of a sheet of paper. "Naming an 'eco-champion' for the office helps to provide a more defined sense of responsibility," Zakes says in [this article](#).

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Concrete Sustainability Forum

ACI.ORG

ACI's seventh annual [Concrete Sustainability Forum](#) will take place Wednesday, Oct. 29, and provide an update on the evolving landscape of concrete sustainability, structural resilience, and increased service life. In addition to learning about examples of sustainable concrete technologies and systems from across the globe, attendees to the Forum will be provided an update on code activities from the American Concrete Institute, Federation Internationale





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Bronze Level



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