

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

It's unusual for an edition of *Sustainability E-News* to be dominated by one particular subject, but this edition is full of product news. The Natural Stone Council has been working for several years to develop and document sustainable practices and now has a certification program that you can read about below. In addition, this edition features several articles on alternative material products. One challenge with new materials is that they are often untested and unproven. It is encouraging to see the new specification developed by ASTM on fly ash brick. Testing and research are essential when dealing with new materials and products to ensure the performance is as expected. As a reminder, those products included in the links below have not been evaluated in any way by TMS or myself. Check out the links below to learn more.

Environmental product declarations (EPD) also continue to be in the news. To learn more about EPDs you can check out the article below, or even better, plan on attending the upcoming TMS Annual Meeting in October in Scottsdale, AZ. The General Session features a session on how to create EPDs and HPDs for masonry, and on Monday, October 13, TMS in conjunction with the Arizona Masonry Guild is offering two seminars on EPDs, LEED and more for product manufacturers - from plant managers to sales staff to company executives, there is information for everyone. For more information check out the [TMS website](#) or [contact TMS](#).

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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.

USGBC/LEED NEWS

USGBC announced another agreement, this time with an unlikely partner - the American Chemistry Council - the group that has been fighting LEED v4 changes. ~Tina

Chemical Industry, USGBC Announce Ceasefire

BUILDING GREEN

After years of anti-LEED lobbying, the American Chemistry Council says it wants to work to make LEED better. Citing the mutual goal of maximizing energy efficiency, Anne Kolton, ACC's vice president of communications, says ACC would like to see risk assessment—the method used by policymakers and others to determine how dangerous a hazard is when assuming a certain level of exposure—receive “greater consideration throughout USGBC's process”. At the heart of the new peace is a “supply-

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

chain optimization working group” that will include representatives from ACC and USGBC looking at MR cr4. [Read more.](#)

PRODUCT NEWS

The last link featured below is a report from the wood industry on LEED v4. I included it because it offers another perspective on the new LEED credits and also includes a review of LEED Multifamily, which is a bit different from the other LEED rating systems and is something you don't see very often. ~Tina

Understanding Environmental Product Declarations

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

As the desire for environmental transparency grows, contractors must focus on the significant opportunities EPDs present. Read [the article](#).

Sustainable Building Products & Materials

EDGE ENVIRONMENT

The growing number of ‘green’ building products and materials and the numerous methods of rating environmental performance has caused confusion for specifiers and purchasers. It can be difficult to thoroughly assess the sustainability credentials of products and materials, and to understand the meaning and appropriate use of different environmental claims. Edge Environment's information paper on [Sustainable Building Products & Materials](#) helps you separate the eco-labels from the EPDs.

New Sustainability Standards Announced for Natural Stone

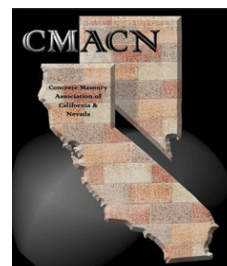
EDC MAGAZINE

Tough new sustainability standards for natural stone were recently announced by the Natural Stone Council (NSC), which said they would level the playing field between man's oldest building material and other building components. [Learn more.](#)

ASTM Issues New Standard for Fly Ash Brick

LINKEDIN

ASTM International has published ASTM C1790-14, Standard Specification for Fly Ash Facing Brick. ASTM standards are a crucial tool for architects, engineers, specifiers, installers, and project owners, providing assurance that products meet established, consensus-based criteria for performance and quality. [Read more.](#)



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

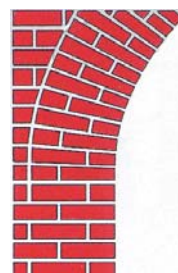


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Rammed Earth Blocks Use Less Energy, Withstand Earthquakes

ARCHITIZER.COM

Watershed Blocks by Watershed Materials are made of rammed earth, and appear strong enough to withstand earthquake forces. They're created using a hydraulic press system that uses 65% less energy than when creating traditional concrete blocks. A house in Northern California was built using these blocks, and when an earthquake struck it remained intact. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Permeable Clay Segmental Paving

LAND AND WATER

Modern Clay Pavers like the ones installed in New Albany are green in several ways. They are made out of clay and water, two of the most abundant building materials on the planet. According to [this article](#), they cost less to manufacture than many other building materials and have countless recycling options.

LEED v4: Understanding the Changes and Implications for Use of Wood as a Building Material

DOVETAIL INC.

[This report](#) examines three standards within LEED v4: 1) Building Design and Construction: New Construction and Major Renovation, 2) Interior Design and Construction: Commercial Interiors, and 3) Building Design and Construction: Multifamily Midrise. For all of these standards, changes to the Materials and Resources and Indoor Environmental categories are identified, and ways in which changes may impact the use of wood in building construction are discussed.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

TMS Annual Meeting

The Masonry Society's Annual Meeting will be held in Scottsdale, AZ from October 10 - 14. In addition to committee meetings, General Education Sessions will be held on Saturday, October 11. Topics include EPDs, seismic design, Direct Design, storm shelters, and more. [Register for the meeting](#). Other educational opportunities include [Masonry Testing](#) training and certification programs, and LEED v4 for Manufacturers. To learn more, visit the [TMS website](#).



**

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