

# The Masonry Society

## Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

### From the Editor

Happy New Year! Thank you to those that have chosen to support this newsletter by becoming a 2015 Sponsor! Your support is vital. We are only 50% funded at this time, so please consider your support. [Contact the TMS office](#) for more information.

January is often a time of reflection. What were your successes in 2014? What didn't go as planned? Do you have any lessons learned regarding green building that you'd like to share? If so, send me an email or link. Several of our stories in this edition were links shared by *Sustainability E-News* readers. Your feedback and suggestions are appreciated!

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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**

As green building becomes more mainstream, those pushing the envelope find that net-zero energy buildings can be a reality. Check out the article on the Living Building Challenge below. ~Tina

### **Pennsylvania First State to Offer Passive House Tax Credit**

#### GREEN BUILDING LAW UPDATE

Pennsylvania is the first state to offer tax credits for low income Passive House building. In doing so, the State of Pennsylvania may have singlehandedly moved Passive House from the radical fringe to mainstream green building. [Read more.](#)

### **7 Sustainable Design Trends From The Living Building Challenge**

#### ECOBUILDING PULSE

Seven performance categories of the Living Building Challenge have made their mark in green building and set future trends for bringing net-zero building to the next level. Read the article [here](#).

### **CODES and STANDARDS NEWS**

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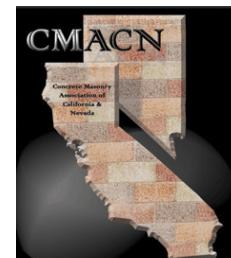
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[Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada\\*\\*\\*](#)

## LEEDv4 January 2015 Addenda

USGBC

The recent January 2015 Addenda for LEEDv4 included a change in the referenced standard in the Materials and Resources Credit, Building Life-Cycle Impact Reduction. The addendum changes the reference from ISO 21930 to a slightly newer standard, EN 15804-2013, both of which cover environmental product declarations (EPD). Read more about this and other changes by clicking [here](#).

## Under Construction - The 2015 IGCC

AAMANET.ORG

This [article](#) reviews many of the changes found in the 2015 International Green Construction Code (IGCC).

## PRODUCT NEWS

One of the challenges with any new product development is determining long term performance. It's a frequent issue in the area of green building products, where new products, materials and processes are constantly being introduced in the name of benefits to the environment. But products need to last to be truly sustainable. Check out the story below about problems with one "green" product used in the Make It Right homes in New Orleans. ~Tina

### When Good Intentions Go Bad

ECOBUILDING PULSE

Wood chosen for its environmentally preferable properties is rotting in Make It Right homes in New Orleans, sparking debate about the use of new-and green-building materials. [Read More](#).

### EPA Finds Coal Fly Ash Safe in Concrete and Gypsum Wallboard

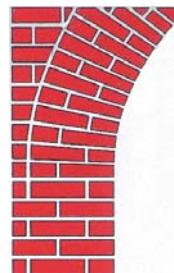
BUILDINGGREEN.COM

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently finalized regulations for fly ash—a byproduct of burning coal—releasing a study offering evidence that the material is safe for use in concrete and gypsum wallboard. [Read more](#).

### Peterson Air Force Base Paves the Way

EROSIONCONTROL.COM

In keeping with the law, Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado needed to make sure no stormwater runoff problems were created as a result of construction. After extensive review, it was determined that the best option for detention, flow control, and project cost was the use of permeable interlocking concrete pavers with an aggregate base storage layer. [Read more](#) about the project.



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## GREEN BUSINESS NEWS

### **What Does Green Really Mean?**

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Words such as "green," "clean" and "renewable" don't have fixed, commonly accepted meanings, and that can make developing and marketing sustainable strategies tricky, executives say. "It's not so much that these words are misused, it's that they mean different things to different people. And that can certainly lead to misunderstandings," warns Robert Rapier, chief technology officer and executive vice president at Merica International in this [article](#).

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