

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

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From the Editor

A question that I've been asked several times of late is whether sustainable design is "declining" or "going away". It's a good question to ponder. Personally I don't see any evidence of a decline in green building construction or in sustainable codes and standards development. However, what I do see is a "cooling off" of the topic. As sustainable design and construction becomes more common, there is less news - less buzz - in many ways. The excitement and interest we saw when green building and LEED were less common has mellowed. For many firms, sustainable design and "greener" products have become business as usual.

That's not to say that there aren't new developments to report or continued evolution. A hallmark of most green building requirements is that the bar keeps getting higher, not unlike model energy code development. In addition, hot topics tend to evolve as well. We saw with the introduction of LEED v4, product transparency is an area of growth and completely new ground for some firms. As environmental product declarations (EPD) and other transparency reports become more widespread, the life cycle assessments (LCA) that underpin them are coming under closer scrutiny.

So whether it's resiliency, the latest buzzword, or more demanding energy codes, *Sustainability E-News* aims to keep you informed of the topics most important to the masonry industry. This means you might see some evolution in the articles included here. Our goal is to remain a relevant resource for *you*. Let us know what you care about, what you want to read, by contacting me at the email below.

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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 STANDARDS NEWS

ASTM committees E60 on Sustainability and E06 on Buildings have been busy with several new Work Items proposed relating to sustainability. Check out the links below for more information on two of the most notable items and how to get involved. ~Tina

Sponsors of TMS's Sustainability E-Newsletter

Click on the links below to learn more about each of these organizations who have graciously sponsored this E-Newsletter. The Sponsors

New ASTM Work Item: Guide for Recycling in Life Cycle Assessment

ASTM.ORG

A new ASTM Work Item WK52051: Guide for Recycling in Life Cycle Assessment has been created to focus on recycled material modeling practices for the purpose of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA). For more information visit the [ASTM website](#).

New ASTM Work Item: Guide for Building Resiliency Assessment

ASTM.ORG

Parties interested in the development of a Guide for Building Resiliency Assessment met at the October 2015 ASTM E06 Committee Week. The Guide for Building Resiliency Assessment will be developed under E06.25 Whole Buildings and Facilities Subcommittee, and the format for the Guide will be similar to E2026-07 Standard Guide for Seismic Risk Assessment of Buildings. For more information on WK49227 visit <http://www.astm.org/DATABASE.CART/WORKITEMS/WK49227.htm>

GREEN CONSTRUCTION NEWS

The two articles below feature examples of sustainable construction using masonry. The first features an entire neighborhood constructed with masonry walls and roofs built to withstand hurricanes in northwest Florida. The second focuses on permeable interlocking masonry pavements that reduce storm water runoff. ~Tina

A Beachfront Model for Resilient Design and Sustainable Construction

ECOBUILDINGPULSE.COM

A tiny beach community in northwest Florida is making its mark as a national model of sustainable construction and resilient design. Alys Beach is the first development in the country to require that all homes meet the rigorous criteria of the Fortified for Safer Living program, a national inspection-based certification from the [Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety](#). To stand up to hurricanes and high winds, the houses will be constructed with solid masonry roofs and walls and go well beyond code requirements. [Read more](#).

Concrete Turns Green, Figuratively Speaking

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

For minimizing storm water runoff, permeable interlocking concrete pavements are increasingly popular. Learn about their use, design, construction, and maintenance in this [online publication](#).

GREEN PRODUCT NEWS

The article below recaps the recent BizNGO-Chemical Footprint Conference. This conference featured presentations on safer chemicals, understanding your chemical supply chain and more. Of the many presentations, which are available at the link below, of particular interest was the one on GreenScreen for Safer Chemicals. ~Tina

Highlights from BizNGO-Chemical Footprint Conference

BIZNGO.ORG

The recent BizNGO-Chemical Footprint Conference featured in-depth, high quality presentations that openly addressed the challenges of and opportunities for transitioning from chemicals of high concern to safer alternatives. Presenters and participants included a diverse range of business and environmental leaders including a discussion panel on

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Platinum Level



Concrete Masonry Association of California & Nevada

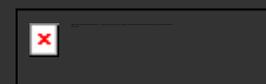


Western States Clay Products Association

Gold Level



Masonry Institute of America



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chemical ingredient transparency in building products. Visit [BizNGO-Chemical Footprint 2015](#) for more conference details, including presenter PDFs.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Faculty/Professor's Workshop Scheduled at UCSD

MASONRYSOCIETY.ORG

The Masonry Society will present the 2016 University Professors Masonry Workshop at the University of California, San Diego, March 20 - 22, 2016. This is an ideal opportunity to bring together university educators with masonry industry leaders. For more information on the workshop click [here](#).

Call for Abstracts: Conference on Detection Limits

ASTM.ORG

The concept of detection limits in environmental measurements can vary in meaning dependent on technology, application or stakeholder community. Stakeholders in volatile organic compound (VOC) measurement will define detection in a very different way than those interested in asbestos or mold determinations. This conference aims to bring together diverse stakeholders on this issue. The conference will be held August 29-31, 2016, in Raleigh, NC. For more information contact conference chairman Mike Brisson, at mike.brisson@srs.gov, 803-952-440, or visit <http://www.astm.org/D22ConferenceAug2016>.

To Subscribe, click [here](#).

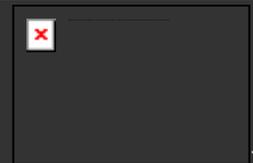
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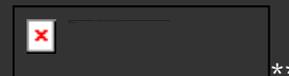
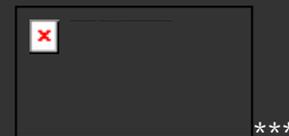
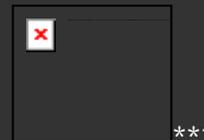
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Silver Level



Bronze Level

