

SustainabilityENewsVol10 #22 Green Code Updates

Sustainability E-News

Green Code Updates

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From the Editor

I have written before about my participation in the development of the ASHRAE Standard 189.1 on high-performing green buildings. No longer published in the U.S. as a standard, ASHRAE 189.1 is now packaged as the International Green Construction Code (IGCC); and the [2018 IGCC has been released!](#) This edition provides many updates to the 2014 ASHRAE 189.1 standard, including significant changes to the energy chapter, acoustics, and more. Meanwhile, work on the next edition is already underway, with plans to create a tiered system of requirements, not unlike earlier versions of the IGCC. The goal of this approach is to achieve widespread adoption of the IGCC.

On a different note, as we approach the end of 2018, I hope you will consider [supporting the publication of this newsletter in 2019](#). We are thankful for our generous 2018 sponsors, and need your support to continue publishing. Sponsorships are available for as little as \$250 per year for TMS members. Non-members are welcome to sponsor as well, and all are featured with links in every edition of Sustainability E-News.

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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

The past month has been a very active one in the codes and standards arena. The long awaited 2018 IGCC was released, and the popular RESCheck energy code compliance software has been updated to the 2018 energy code. ~Tina

2018 International Green Construction Code

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Released

ICCSAFE.ORG

The International Code Council, ASHRAE, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and the Illuminating Engineering Society [have released the 2018 International Green Construction Code \(IgCC\)](#). The IgCC is part of the Code Council's family of comprehensive, coordinated and modern model codes used around the world and provides a whole systems approach to the design, construction and operation of buildings that result in lower operating costs, better indoor environments, lower impact on natural resources, and improved neighborhood connections and walkability.

Peer Review of *Advanced Energy Design Guide for Small to Medium Office Buildings: Achieving Zero Energy*

ASHRAE.ORG

AIA, ASHRAE, IES, and USGBC, with support and funding from the DOE and NREL, are developing a new series of Advanced Energy Design Guides focusing on achieving zero energy performance. The second guide in this series is now in development and focuses on small to medium office buildings. The 90% Technical Refinement Draft for the *Advanced Energy Design Guide for Small to Medium Office Buildings: Achieving Zero Energy* will be available for review and feedback from Saturday, December 1, 2018 through Sunday, December 16, 2018.

All review input must be received by Sunday, December 16, 2018 in order to ensure that the committee will be able to consider the feedback. For more information, [click here](#).

REScheck Software Updated for the 2018 IECC

US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Support for the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is now available in REScheck. The 2018 IECC is published by the International Code Council (ICC) and represents the latest edition of the national model residential energy code for residential buildings. REScheck is a free software program available from the Department of Energy to enable trade-off energy compliance for low-rise residential structures. In addition to adding support for the new code, the updated version incorporates a variety of new features, including improved input validation, more informative error messaging, and additional user interface enhancements. Try it [here](#).

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Sustainable Building Design Through EDGE

THINKSTEP.COM

EDGE certification is a recognized standard that lends independent third-party verification and credibility to your green building portfolio, enhances your brand image and delivers real business value. As an innovative green building standard, EDGE brings sustainable design to over 140 countries around the world. [About EDGE](#).

Green Certifications Beyond LEED, Energy Star

CONSTRUCTION DIVE

With the demand for sustainability on the rise, the US Green Building Council's LEED program and the Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star program are the main avenues contractors pursue for green certification. Other options, however, include BREEAM and Green Globes. [Read more](#).

LEED Updates

USGBC.ORG

LEED [Interpretation 10484](#) provides clarifications on the use of internally reviewed Type III product-specific EPDs, assigning them a point value as part of the Building Product Disclosure and Optimization credit Environmental Product Declarations.

Commentary: Building Codes Can Slow Rate of Climate Change

GREEN BIZ

Buildings are responsible for 50% of greenhouse gas emissions in cities, but updated building codes could help reduce their effect on climate change, say Karen Weigert of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and Jennifer Scanlon of USG Corp in [this article](#). They note that building codes have not been implemented in many areas that are likely to see new construction, creating urgency and an opportunity to implement and enforce new codes.

GREEN PRODUCT NEWS

Research on new, innovative concrete mixes continues.
~Tina

Gaza Engineer Invents Concrete Block made of "Green Cake": Rubble & Ash

BBC NEWS

According to ancient Greek mythology, the phoenix was a bird born from the ashes of its home in the desert -- which isn't unlike a newly-invented concrete block and brainchild of 24-year-old Majd Mashharawi --a female civil engineer from Gaza. Comprised of rubble and ash, something sadly her homeland has an abundance of, the block could make the territory less dependent on imported cement and aggregate. [Read more.](#)

College Tests Unlikely Substitute for Sand in Concrete: Trash

PENN STATE NEWS

A Pennsylvania State University professor and students are trying to find out how ash from trash incinerators can be used as a partial replacement for sand in cement-based construction materials, like concrete. Aside from it being a sustainable solution that could mean precious space for brimming landfills all across the country, if solved it could also be a more cost effective answer for both the concrete block and waste management industries. The University's research has shown that masonry units produced with the waste materials can meet international standards for units. [Read more.](#)

Researchers Create Concrete Without Cement

E&T MAGAZINE ONLINE

Scientists at Lithuania's Kaunas University of Technology used alkali-activated industrial waste products such as fly ash, biofuel bottom ash and AlF₃ production waste to make concrete without cement that has the same compressive strength as traditional concrete. In addition to being more eco-friendly, alkali-activated concrete also improves resilience to acid, fire and corrosion and adds greater stability when exposed to extreme temperatures. Read the article [here](#).

EDUCATIONAL NEWS

It's not too late to catch the last of the TMS webinars for this winter. Both provide valuable information for every architect and engineer working with masonry. ~Tina

TMS Webinar Series Continues

MASONRYSOCIETY.ORG

The Masonry Society's 2018/2019 2nd-Thursday-of-the-Month Webinar Series are easy ways to learn more about various masonry topics while earning 1 hour of continuing education. Topics include:

- December 13, 2018 - Masonry Façade Inspections - Best Practices and Tips
- January 10, 2019 - Rational Design of Masonry Veneers & Shelf Angle Supports

Webinars will begin at 1 pm ET. For more information and to register for these seminars, visit the TMS website.
<https://masonrysociety.org/1seminars/>

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