

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

Sustainable Building

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From the Editor

As I write this I have recently returned from the Winter Meetings of the project committee (SSPC) for ASHRAE Standard 189.1 on high-performing green buildings. As I've noted in this newsletter before, the SSPC decided in 2018 to undertake a restructuring of the standard to create two tiers, "core" and "above-core" provisions. The work to make this happen began in earnest at the meetings when each of the Work Groups recommended sections of ASHRAE 189.1-2017 to be marked as "above-core". Look for them to be published as addenda for public comment in the coming months.

A special THANK YOU to our 2019 Sponsors! We are still over \$2,000 short of being fully funded for 2019. Please consider becoming a [Sponsor](#).

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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

One of the goals of sustainable design is to create buildings that do not just tread lightly on the land but are restorative as noted in the articles below. ~Tina

Concrete Block Building Helps Cure Depleted Hawaiian Soils

ARCHITECTS NEWSPAPER

The Los Angeles offices of Perkins+Will and Hawaii-based KYA Design Group have completed work on a new health-focused administrative complex at the University of Hawaii, West Oahu, that, among other things, works to replenish and nurture the site's depleted, post-agricultural soils. The multi-gabled, masonry-clad complex is inspired by vernacular sugar mill structures and stretches across an open site that was once used to grow sugar cane. The site's rich soils became depleted after a century of

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CODES and STANDARDS NEWS

As we noted in our last edition, LEED v4.1 is available for all LEED rating systems. Check out the links below for some useful resources. ~Tina

New Guidelines Can Help Communities With Resiliency Measures

BUILDING DESIGN + CONSTRUCTION

The International Code Council and the Alliance for National and Community Resilience have developed the [first resiliency guidelines](#), which local communities can use to improve buildings codes. "These benchmarks provide a standard for local and state governments to follow ensuring they are well prepared for the next disaster," ANCR Executive Director Ryan Colker says in [this article](#).

LEED v4.1

USGBC.ORG

- LEED v4.1 rating systems are now [available in tracked-changes format](#) that shows the updates in red-line and strike-out.
- Take part in LEED v4.1 [monthly discussion forums](#). Each month, covers a different aspect of LEED v4.1.
- LEED [Interpretation 10484](#) provides clarifications on the use of internally reviewed Type III product-specific EPDs.

GREEN PRODUCT NEWS

Innovations in concrete mixes can lead to innovative concrete masonry as the links below demonstrate. ~Tina

Commentary: Green Building Materials Drive Sustainability Efforts

BUILDING (U.K.)

Developing environmentally friendly building materials and greener concrete solutions is the key to reducing the construction industry's carbon footprint and meeting bold sustainability targets, [writes Barry Mellor](#) of Aggregate Industries. For example, replacing quarried natural aggregate in the concrete mix with secondary aggregates could slash carbon emissions in buildings by up to 10% and make concrete 50% lighter, he says.

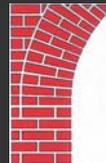
Super Tensile Building Block Could be Terror's Kryptonite

THE CONSTRUCTION INDEX

Tarmac, a producer based in the United Kingdom, says they've developed a building block that uses a super tensile constitution -- almost elastic -- to



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Association *



Spec Mix **

communities around the globe -- one of them being concrete testing. In doing so, he introduced a brand new, practical handheld tool that makes it easier than conventional methods to measure the strength of concrete block. It's also a lot less expensive and doesn't ruin the block. The apparatus, called NDART (non-destructive acoustic resonance testing), looks like a metal ball on a wire. You swing it, the ball hits the concrete block or cylinder and, using an app on a smartphone, and it provides a reading. Four things have been calibrated so far: two standard concrete block sizes and two different sizes of standard cylinder. [Read more.](#)

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