

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

Recognizing Brick Excellence

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SPONSORED EDITION

From The Editor

I recently read an article about the [reduced emissions and improved air quality](#) in China as a result of the steps taken to contain the coronavirus. While it is not practical or desirable to continue the total shutdown of activities that resulted in these environmental gains, this period does offer an opportunity to reassess our "normal" ways of doing things. In some ways our environmental impacts may have gone down (i.e. less driving); in other ways they may have increased (i.e. more electricity used). How has this period impacted the environmental footprint of your business and your activities? If you have some tips to share, please send them my way.

This edition features two articles recognizing brick excellence. The first is an award winning public housing project in the UK. The second is a brick manufacturer whose Sustainability Report won an Austrian award for sustainability reporting. Both are an inspiration, demonstrating what is possible with masonry.

Christine "Tina" Subasic, PE, LEED AP
CSubasicPE@aol.com

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

The award-winning housing project, Goldsmith Street, is a great example of how durable masonry materials combined to form energy efficient, affordable housing. Read more in the first link below. ~Tina

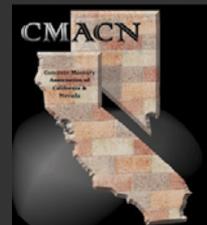
Energy-Efficient Masonry Social Housing Wins 2019 RIBA Sterling Prize

[ARCHITECTURE.COM](#)

The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) has named Goldsmith Street, Norwich, UK, winner of the 2019 RIBA Sterling Prize for the UK's best new building. This social housing project, for Norwich City Council, consists of almost 100 highly energy-efficient brick homes, of two and three stories, arranged in rows. While units share central terraces and a wide, landscaped walkway, each has its own front door and private balcony. Goldsmith Street also meets rigorous

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Platinum Level



Passivhaus standards, unusual for a dense, mass housing development. It is a passive solar scheme, designed to be 70% cheaper than for the average household. [Read more.](#)

The concrete industry's role in streamlining embodied carbon

CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Input from ACI Foundation members and concrete industry stakeholders has been crucial to improving the usefulness of embodied carbon data from the new Embodied Carbon Calculator. The tool is playing a major role in Microsoft's headquarters redevelopment. Read the [full story.](#)

CODES and STANDARDS NEWS

Did you know that most of the green codes and standards are updated on a regular basis? Check out the links below to see what's new with two of the most popular. ~Tina

LEED updates

USGBC.ORG

The U.S. Green Building Council updates LEED over a multi-year period based on feedback from users. The most recent was LEED v4.1. However addenda and interpretations are provided quarterly. You can find a summary of all v4 addenda issued through January 2020 [here.](#)

ASHRAE 189.1 / IGCC updates

ASHRAE.ORG

ASHRAE 189.1, the standard that forms the basis for the International Green Construction Code (IGCC) is on continuous maintenance, meaning that revisions (addenda) are published throughout the year with opportunities for public comment. You can find the current public draft addenda for all ASHRAE standards [here.](#)

GREEN BUSINESS NEWS

An Austrian brick manufacturer recently won an award for their Sustainability Report. If your company is considering taking this step, I recommend checking out theirs at the link below. ~Tina

Austrian brick producer wins award for sustainability report

WIENERBERGER.COM

The jury of the renowned Austrian Sustainability Reporting Award (ASRA) cast their vote in favor of the 2018 [Wienerberger Sustainability Report](#), as they were particularly impressed with its consistent and transparent realization of the Sustainability Strategy 2020. Every year, the ASRA Award is given to companies that live up to the highest standards of sustainable business management and transparently present the results of their sustainability reports. For the first time, the report focused more strongly on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, and underlines the company's voluntary commitment to measurable targets in terms of resource efficiency, energy efficiency, climate protection, occupational health and safety and anti-corruption measures.

How companies are exploring C02 reduction

GLOBAL CEMENT

LafargeHolcim, HeidelbergCement, Solidia and Hoffman Green Technologies are among the companies exploring multiple methods to reduce embodied carbon dioxide in their products, [David Perilli](#)

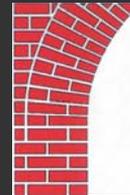
Concrete Masonry
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of
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Portland
Cement Association **

Silver Level



Southeast Concrete Masonry
Association *



[writes](#). Demand for low carbon cement and concrete products will increase once markets receive sufficient stimulus, Perilli predicts.

EDUCATIONAL NEWS

The Masonry Society Spring Meetings move online

MASONRYSOCIETY.ORG

Impacts from the coronavirus mean that the TMS Spring Meetings will be held virtually. Virtual meeting notices will be [posted here](#). If you have interest in the activities of a specific TMS committee, but are not a member of that Committee, please complete the form [here](#) to have your name added to a distribution list for virtual meeting notices. For more information, or to join TMS please visit the [TMS website](#).

Call for Abstracts: Building Enclosure Symposium

ASTM.ORG

Papers are invited for a Second Symposium on Building Science and the Physics of Building Enclosure Performance to be held Sunday, April 11, 2021 and Sunday, June 6, 2021. Sponsored by ASTM Committees E06 on Performance of Buildings, D08 on Roofing and Waterproofing, and C16 on Thermal Insulation, this two-part symposium will be held at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel in Toronto, ON, Canada, in conjunction with the April standards development meetings of Committees E06 and C16; and June standards development meetings of Committee D08. Topics may include thermal bridging considerations, durable and resilient design, and thermal mass in buildings. Preliminary abstracts are due April 24, 2020. For more information visit the [symposium website](#).

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The Masonry Society | 105 South Sunset Street, Ste. Q, Longmont, CO 80501

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