

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

Resilient Design Tools

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From The Editor

Have you ever wondered how specific provisions of codes or standards come to be? Or who decides what the criteria should be for a given requirement? For many codes and standards developed using an accredited consensus process, it could be YOU! Even if you're not on the code or standard development committee, such documents generally go out for public review and comment, which is your opportunity to weigh in on the specific requirements. As someone who has been involved in the development of numerous codes and standards, I can tell you that public comments make a difference! So now's your chance...two such standards are currently in the process of soliciting public input. Check out the articles below under [CODES and STANDARDS NEWS](#) for more information.

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GREEN BUILDING NEWS

Resilience is a really broad topic, as you can tell from the articles linked below. ~Tina

DOE introduces Finance and Resilience Roadmap Toolkit to support building investments

[USGBC.ORG](#)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has released its new [Finance and Resilience Roadmap](#), helping building owners make the financial business case for resilience. In the new Resilience Roadmap, DOE aims to help businesses seeking to enhance the resilience of their building portfolio, but encounters challenges to committing to the related initial investment. It outlines how businesses can quantify and articulate the financial business case for resilience improvements, including how to understand and measure risk, manage the cost of insurance and implement resilience projects across a commercial building portfolio, thus articulating the case for investors. [Read more.](#)

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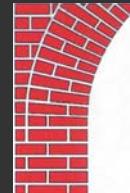




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Call for research proposals in support of improved disaster resilience

NIST

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the National Science Foundation (NSF) are now [calling for research proposals in support of improved disaster resilience](#). NIST and NSF plan to award a total of \$3.1 million for scientific and engineering research into disaster-related phenomena that can significantly improve our nation's defenses against natural hazards. The agencies will co-manage the Disaster Resilience Research Grants (DRRG) program and intend to make 8-12 awards of up to \$400,000 each. The deadline to submit a letter of intent is Aug. 14, 2020.

Fact sheet: Resilient Buildings

MIT

As hurricane seasons become more intense, the need for hazard resilient construction has grown. America, however, has not met that need—in part, because the financial benefits of resilience have not been widely communicated. The MIT Concrete Sustainability Hub (CSHub) research investigates these substantial benefits with the goal of conveying them to the broader public. They have released a new fact sheet detailing the benefits of resilient construction for communities. Read more [here](#).

Novel system could help buildings save energy

THE ENGINEER (UK)

A system that relies on water-filled glass can help buildings cool and reheat themselves and save energy, according to research by Matyas Gutai at Loughborough University. The system uses embedded pipes to circulate fluid between water-filled panels and a storage tank and could be used in conjunction with other thermal mass strategies. [Read more](#).

CODES and STANDARDS NEWS

Below are two opportunities to provide input on revisions to green building standards. The first to the standard on storm shelter design published by the International Code Council (ICC), and the second to a new green building standard for existing buildings produced under the Green Globes banner. Both have rapidly approaching deadlines.
~Tina

ICC 500 on Storm Shelters public review period open

ICCSAFE.ORG

The second draft of ICC 500, Standard for Design and Construction of Storm Shelters, is now available for public review and comment. The development process through the International Code Council is open to everyone, and the public is welcomed to review and provide comments on the draft standard. Public comments are due by August 10, 2020. Find the draft and instructions on submitting comments [here](#).

Green Globes Standard update

THEGBI.ORG

The Green Building Initiative (GBI) has announced their next public comment review meeting for a new standard currently in development, Green Globes for Existing Buildings (Green Globes EB 2019). The meeting will be held via webinar on **Friday, July 17, 2020**, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM ET. The meeting notice and tentative agenda for the 7th Consensus Body meeting can be found online:

<http://www.thegbi.org/ansi/meetings>. To attend the meeting, RSVP to Secretariat, Emily Marx at marx@thegbi.org by July 15.

Spec Mix **
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GREEN PRODUCTS NEWS

Last edition we heard about greening mortar. This time it's greening aggregate. ~Tina

Ecobond injects CO2 into recycled aggregate

CREATE ONLINE (Australia)

Ecobond is developing a method that injects carbon dioxide into recycled aggregate in a pressure chamber, resulting in a stronger material that decreases water absorption. The process converts calcium hydroxide into calcium carbonate with small crystals. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Lehigh Cement publishes EPDs under new product rule

CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Lehigh Cement says it has published the first cement plant-product specific environmental product declarations utilizing the new North American Product Category Rule according to [this article](#). Climate Earth prepared the EPDs for Lehigh's EcoCem brand of products.



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