

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

Masonry Innovation

Sept. 30, 2020

Volume 12, Number 18

SPONSORED EDITION

From The Editor

Have you ever wondered how the standards and codes used in construction and the green building industry come to be? Who makes up these rules anyway? Well, for the next couple of weeks you have an opportunity to provide your thoughts on two important standards. The first is the Product Category Rule (PCR) for concrete masonry products. These are the rules that govern the development of environmental product declarations (EPD) for the covered products. The second is the standard used by the Green Globes green building assessment program. Both are updates, and you can find more information on both in the articles linked below.

And don't forget registration for the [TMS Virtual Annual Meeting](#), including educational sessions, is now open. Hope to see you there!

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 articles below feature less common masonry designs: a super-energy-efficient concrete masonry housing project and an off-grid home built using structural brick arches. ~Tina

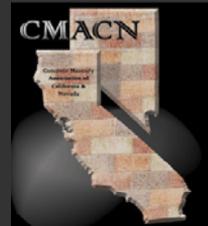
Concrete masonry building achieves Passive House Certification

NCMA.ORG

A new housing project in New York City is not only affordable to rent—it also saves residents money on energy bills. The envelope of 15-story, 154-unit Park Avenue Green is built from concrete masonry units with a brick veneer on the ground floor and an exterior insulation and finish system (EIFS) on the other floors above. Passive House is a building certification built around the principles of passive building, including a tight building envelope and insulation that helps the building keep conditioned air in and weather out, cutting down on

TMS's Sustainability E-Newsletter Sponsors

Platinum Level



energy waste that would normally result from air leaks. Passive House design can be challenging to attain, like any certification, but the rewards are worth it. The building is modeled to use 45-50% less energy than a building of the same size simply built to code. That saves money for the operator and the residents. [Read more.](#)

House of the Big Arch, South Africa

DEZEEN

The off-grid House of the Big Arch by architecture collective Frankie Pappas nestles within Bushveld nature reserve in South Africa, which is an hour-and-a-half drive from the nearest town. To reduce its impact on this setting, it was built around existing trees on the site using structural brick arches and functions completely off-grid using technologies such as solar panels for electricity and a rainwater collection and filtration system for the building's plumbing. Check it out [here.](#)

UK deploys BIM to measure carbon emissions for HS2

BIM TODAY (UK)

The UK's HS2 rail line project is using an artificial intelligence tool for building information modeling to estimate carbon emissions in construction. "Innovation and digital integration are critical to reduce carbon and work towards net-zero emissions," said Vaibhav Tyagi from Skanska, who is part of the joint venture managing the HS2 sites. [Read the article.](#)

CODES and STANDARDS NEWS

Two standards of note are currently out for public review and comment: the product category rule (PCR) for concrete masonry products and the Green Globes standard that is the basis of the Green Globes building rating system. This is your opportunity to get a copy and provide feedback. ~Tina

Second public review period for concrete masonry and paver Product Category Rule

NCMA.ORG

The second public comment period for the updated Product Category Rule (PCR) for Concrete Masonry and Segmental Concrete Paving Product EPD Requirements is now open. The PCR is being developed through UL Environmental facilitated by a committee of industry stakeholders. The comment period is open until October 5, 2020. Review the draft PCR and comment [here.](#)

Green Globes Standard out for public review

THEGBI.ORG

GBI has announced the second comment period on BSR/GBI 01-2019 (S202x), a continuance maintenance of GBI's American National Standard, ANSI/GBI 01-2019: Green Globes Assessment Protocol for Commercial Buildings. The current standard is available online [here.](#) Comments must be received by November 2, 2020. Please submit comments to comment@thegbi.org.

GREEN PRODUCT NEWS

I included the first article below because the heat island effect and its causes have been subject to some debate in recent years. Using high albedo materials (such as concrete masonry pavers) for paving is promoted as a way to reduce urban temperatures. The article below posits that there may be other benefits as well. ~Tina

Concrete could be lower-emission alternative to asphalt

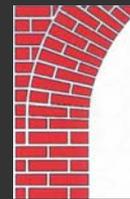
Concrete Masonry
Association of California &
Nevada ***



International Masonry
Institute***



Mason Contractors
Association of America **



Western
States Clay
Products
Association

Gold Level



Masonry
Institute
of
America



Portland
Cement Association **

Silver Level



Southeast Concrete Masonry
Association *



HEALTH24.COM

Using concrete instead of asphalt when possible in paving could reduce carbon emissions, according to Peter DeCarlo, an associate professor with Johns Hopkins University. Emissions from asphalt triple even with moderate levels of sun, according to [this article](#).

Understanding Environmental & Social Responsibility Labels

DOVETAIL.COM

This report examines environmental product labels (ecolabels), types of labels, verification of label claims, and cautions for consumers. Labels focused on various aspects of social responsibility are also discussed. [Read more](#).

Cigarette butts incorporated in bricks

FORBES

Cigarette butts are among the most ubiquitous kinds of litter, but in sterilized form, they may also form a promising material for making bricks, according to researchers at the School of Engineering of Australia's Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. Making just 2.5% of bricks with 1% cigarette butts in the mix could save the energy required by a million homes in the State of Victoria, Australia, according to [this article](#).

Researchers turn soil into printable material

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW (UK)

Any type of soil can be used to 3D print a load-bearing structure with a new method developed by researchers at Texas A&M University. The method blends soil and a binding additive to create a mix that can be extruded by a printer into small cubes with water-resistant surfaces. Read more [here](#).

EDUCATIONAL NEWS

Don't miss out! The deadlines are rapidly approaching for the TMS Annual Meeting registration and for submission of abstracts for the Canadian Masonry Symposium. Check out the links below. ~Tina

Register NOW for TMS Virtual Annual Meeting!

Plan to register for the [TMS Annual Meeting](#) to be held virtually October 12 - 16, 2020. The virtual format includes Committee Meetings as well as Educational Sessions on a variety of topics. You won't want to miss the Awards Program or the fun Social Events that are planned. Best of all, meeting registration is FREE for TMS Members, with nominal fees for the AIA-registered educational sessions and for non-members.

TMS announces new Masonry Night School

THE MASONRY SOCIETY

TMS kicks off a new educational offering, *Masonry Night School*, with a 6 session Masonry 101 course. This evening live webinar program will provide a comprehensive introduction to masonry materials and concepts for those who need a fast-track course, especially new designers and specifiers. Attendees can choose to attend 1 or more sessions, with discounts for registering for the entire course. [Click here](#) for more information and descriptions of each webinar.

14th Canadian Masonry Symposium website live

Planning is underway for the 14th Canadian Masonry Symposium (CMS). The Symposium will be May 16-19, 2021 in Montreal, Canada. The CMS is Canada's eminent gathering for masonry

Spec Mix **
Bronze Level



ACME Brick ***



Cast Stone Institute ***



Nelson Testing Laboratories **



Northwest Concrete Masonry Association *



Pennsylvania Concrete Masonry Association ***



Masonry Institute of Washington

TMS Sustainability E-Newsletter Sponsors

Click on the links above to learn more about each of these organizations who have graciously sponsored this E-Newsletter. The Sponsors designated with an asterisk (*) are also TMS Members at the following levels:

*** Sustaining Member

** Affiliate Member

related technical topics and fields of inquiry and attracts national and international experts on the design, construction, behavior and performance of all things masonry. **Abstracts are due from authors by October 5, 2020.** More information can be found on their newly launched [website](#).

2022 Masonry Symposium: Advancing Masonry Technology

[ASTM.ORG](#)

[Papers are invited](#) for the 2022 Masonry Symposium to be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency Seattle, Seattle, WA. The Symposium is co-sponsored by ASTM Committees C01 on Cement, C07 on Lime, C12 on Mortars and Grouts for Unit Masonry (Lead Committee), and C15 on Manufactured Masonry Units. The objective of the symposium is to gather and disseminate the latest information on all aspects of the innovations in masonry materials, design, specification, construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation.

To Subscribe, click [here](#).

To Sponsor, click [here](#).



Advancing the Knowledge of Masonry
www.masonrysociety.org

Please note: Your email address is from a list solely owned and maintained by The Masonry Society (TMS) for our exclusive email purposes. If you are a TMS Member, participate in a TMS Committee, or have requested TMS mailings, your email is essential to your membership, committee participation (including virtual meeting announcements and ballots), delivery of various TMS e-publications, and meeting/seminar announcements. Unsubscribing through our email sender, Constant Contact, will block all emails from TMS. If you would like to specify what type of emails you would like to receive from TMS, have questions about our email policy, or would like to subscribe to our newsletters, please contact TMS directly at info@masonrysociety.org. To view the TMS Privacy Policy, click [here](#).

* Individual Member

Interested in becoming a Newsletter Sponsor?

Contact [TMS](#) for more information on becoming a Sustainability E-Newsletter Sponsor and having your organization's logo appear before thousands of subscribers.

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

Unsubscribe_jc@masonryinstitute.org

[Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by tmsmeetings@masonrysociety.org