

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

Product Innovation

July 15, 2021

Volume 13, Number 13

SPONSORED EDITION

From The Editor

Most of us think of masonry as an ancient material, and rightly so. However, there is a lot of research and innovation going on in the industry from new units to changes in the cement that goes into many masonry products. This edition includes some of the latest news, but the papers and presentations from masonry symposia and conferences are really a great source of information on the latest activities in sustainability and masonry. The Masonry Society provides a searchable database of all past TMS Journals and North American Masonry Conference papers [here](#). The Canada Masonry Design Center hosts all past Canadian Masonry Symposium (CMS) papers [here](#). Watch the CMS website for papers from the 14th CMS later this year. And in 2022 ASTM International will hold a [Masonry Symposium: Advancing Masonry Technology](#). All are great ways to learn more about the latest innovations and research in masonry from sustainability to structural design and more.

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GREEN BUILDING NEWS

Tally, a plugin to Revit for building life cycle assessment, is in the news with new distribution and added features focused on carbon accounting. ~Tina

**KieranTimberlake Gifts Tally Software to
Environmental Non-Profit**

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

Last month architecture firm KieranTimberlake transferred Tally, its software for life cycle assessment (LCA), to Building Transparency—a non-profit whose goal is to enable broad-based and swift action to address the construction industry's contribution to climate change. With this move, the tool will become free and open access. Tally is a plugin to Revit that allows users to run iterative analyses of material choices and assembly options and compare their environmental

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impacts, including those that relate to land, air, and water. Read more [here](#).

New tool to help designers choose low-carbon materials

REMI NETWORK

British Columbia's CleanBC Building Innovation Fund will provide a grant that Perkins & Will, C Change Labs and Building Transparency Canada will use to develop an add-on to the current Tally BIM software. The Tally [Climate Action Tool](#) will offer real-time information on material performance and Environmental Product Declarations that current BIM platforms lack. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Achieving durability with masonry rainscreen walls

THE CONSTRUCTION SPECIFIER

While rainscreens are not new, the materials and systems used for them are continuing to evolve. The [July 2021 edition of The Construction Specifier](#) features a cover story on achieving long-term durability with the latest masonry rainscreen wall assemblies.

CODES and STANDARDS NEWS

In the past, general building codes did little to address the threat from tornadic winds. That is changing with the proposed ASCE 7-2022 *Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures* which incorporates tornado wind loading for the first time. This is a first-step toward more resilient structures. ~Tina

ASCE maps out wind resilience for tornado threat

NIST

Tornadoes' lower wind speeds account for most of their damage, and new building guidelines proposed by the American Society of Civil Engineers take this into account, using maps created by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The first-of-its-kind hazard map reveals wind speeds that different buildings should be designed to withstand, based on their location and size. [Learn more](#).

Updated Green Globes standard opens for public comment

THEGBI.ORG

The fourth comment period on the Green Globes® for New Construction standard has begun. The revised standard includes criteria and practices for resource-efficient, healthy, resilient, and environmentally preferable new construction of commercial buildings. The redline, standard, and public comment form can be found on GBI's website at www.thegbi.org/ansi.

GREEN PRODUCT NEWS

This edition includes news on innovations in products as well as an opinion piece from the Portland Cement Association with thoughts on how to further reduce the carbon footprint of cement. ~Tina

Startup makes recyclable, modular concrete blocks

REUTERS/YOUTUBE

German startup Polycare has developed recyclable and modular polymer concrete blocks made with 90% filler from natural sand and 10% binder. The company says its material is up to five times stronger than ordinary concrete. Learn more [here](#).

Carbicrete touts carbon-negative process

DEZEEN

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Gold Level



Masonry Institute of America



Portland Cement Association **

Silver Level



Spec Mix **

Bronze Level



ACME Brick ***



Cast Stone Institute ***



Nelson Testing Laboratories **

Carbicrete, a building solution company based in Montreal, is creating carbon-negative concrete masonry units through a process that combines waste slag and captured carbon. "We're taking CO2 out of the system every time we make a block," says CEO Chris Stern, in [this article](#).

Carbon-capture tech demonstrated in Alabama

GASWORLD.COM

CarbonBuilt and the National Carbon Capture Center have finished a multi-week test of carbon utilization and concrete production technology at a facility in Wilsonville, Ala. The technology successfully injected carbon dioxide from the flue gas streams of natural gas- and coal-fired generating units directly into more than 5,000 concrete blocks. [Read more](#).

Study: Prefabricated masonry walls could cut emissions

MDPI (Switzerland)

Researchers in Australia, Sri Lanka and the UK have found prefabricated construction of masonry walling systems could save up to 30% in carbon emissions. They also found reinforced, post-tensioned masonry and thin layered mortars are well-suited for prefabricated masonry systems. Read more [here](#).

Opinion: US must fix regulations on alternative fuels

BLOOMBERG LAW

Michael Ireland, president and CEO of the Portland Cement Association (PCA), says the US needs to update regulations to allow cement manufacturers to take steps toward lowering carbon emissions. Among many things, PCA is calling on officials to allow recovered materials and resources to be recycled as fuel and to specify portland limestone cement as a requirement for infrastructure projects. Read [the article](#).

EDUCATIONAL NEWS

Disaster Resilience Symposium

NIST.GOV

The Engineering Laboratory at NIST, Gaithersburg, will be hosting its fourth annual Symposium as a virtual only event on July 20-21, 2021 featuring the Disaster Resilience Grant Research Program recipients. Award recipients will present their research and findings on topics related to Disaster and Failure Studies, National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, Wind Impact Reduction, and Reduced Ignition of Building Components in Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fires Project. [Register here](#).

Fire Safety and Masonry, September 8 at 1 pm ET

THE MASONRY SOCIETY

Come learn from Kevin Cavanaugh, of Cavanaugh & Associates / Arcosa Lightweight / cFIOM about the Balanced Fire Safety Design concept and the crucial role that passive masonry firewalls play in it. Requirements in the building codes will be reviewed along with those in ACI/TMS 216 Code Requirements for Determining Fire Resistance of Concrete and Masonry Construction Assemblies. [Click here](#) for additional information on this helpful new webinar and to register.

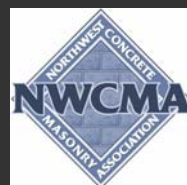
New Masonry Education Hub

THE MASONRY SOCIETY

The Masonry Society (TMS) has launched the [Masonry Education Hub](#), a Learning Management System that allows designers, professors, students, and other users to obtain on-demand masonry education. The Masonry Education Hub provides a central location



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