

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

Using Innovative Materials

June 15, 2022

Volume 14, Number 11

SPONSORED EDITION

From The Editor

As you read this, ASTM Committees C12 and C15 are holding a [Masonry Symposium: Advancing Masonry Technology](#). Several papers feature research on ways to provide masonry with a lower environmental impact. Personally I think it is important to explore new ways of creating 'masonry'. This may include non-traditional masonry materials, non-traditional ways of constructing masonry, or improvements in traditional materials and processes. One of the important things to remember though, about using new materials and techniques, is that testing and validation of performance are just as important as the environmental benefits new products may bring. Which is why it's so great to see research being done. Are there new masonry products you have used on your products? If so, I'd love to hear more about it.

Christine "Tina" Subasic, PE, LEED AP
CSubasicPE@gmail.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

Podcast: Advantages of retrofits not understood

ECO-BUSINESS

Misconceptions, such as retrofits are prohibitively expensive and only new buildings can be green, hinder the drive to retrofit old buildings, says Vinod Jethani in [this article](#). Jethani explores issues around retrofitting, such as return on investment and how retrofitting compares with new construction.

The West, a building in New York with a recycled-brick façade

DESIGNBOOM

The West's intricate brickwork is the result of a collaboration between the Amsterdam-based design firm Concrete, and the Dutch company StoneCycling. The brick matrix is a proprietary mix of recovered construction debris blended with raw clay quarried in the Netherlands. A total of thirty different brick shapes and sizes were required for the

TMS's Sustainability E-Newsletter Sponsors

Platinum Level



**Concrete Masonry
Association of California &
Nevada *****

project, and each piece was individually hand-brushed with a subtly reflective glass glaze before being fired in a centuries-old factory. [Read more.](#)

Urban Sequoia design concept touts sustainable materials

STRUCTURE MAGAZINE

In [this column](#), four engineers explore the Urban Sequoia design concept, which holds great potential to reduce carbon emissions in vertical construction through the use of alternative materials such as recycled ground glass, carbon fiber, algae-based concrete, hempcrete, and Mycelium. "By combining optimized structural design resulting in minimal materials and integrating biomaterials, biomass concepts, and carbon-capturing technologies into an integrated system, the Urban Sequoia can achieve substantially more carbon reductions than using these techniques separately," they write.

CODES and STANDARDS NEWS

Earning the full [Living Building Challenge certification](#) is not easy, and not many buildings have done so. Most earn 'Petals' that represent achievements in specific areas such as energy or water. The fact that a sizable building has achieved this status is big news. ~Tina

World's largest commercial living building opens

ARCHITECT'S NEWSPAPER

At 58,000 square feet, the newly opened PAE Living Building in Portland, Ore., is the largest commercial building in the world to earn full Living Building Challenge certification by the Seattle-based International Living Future Institute. Portland-based ZGF Architects designed the building to last 500 years and withstand powerful earthquakes, while meeting ILFI standards for beauty, place, water, energy, equity, materials, and health and happiness. [Read more.](#)

Whole Building Design Guide commissioning section to be updated

BUILDING ENCLOSURE ONLINE

The National Institute of Building Sciences has partnered with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), Building Commissioning Association, AABC Commissioning Group, and NEBB to advance and revise the *Building Commissioning* resources on the Whole Building Design Guide (WBDG). The WBDG's Building Commissioning section presents information about current approaches and processes as well as overcoming challenges and emerging issues. Read more about their plans [here](#).

GREEN PRODUCTS NEWS

Innovations in masonry and related products continues. Do you have any experience using any new products on the market? ~Tina

Cambridge academics achieve zero-emissions cement breakthrough

THE CONSTRUCTION INDEX

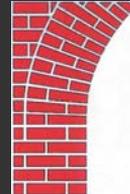
Researchers have filed a patent and secured funding for what they say is "the world's first-ever zero-emissions cement." There are many ways to make cement with reduced emissions, mainly based on mixing new reactive cement (clinker) with other supplementary materials. However, it had not previously been possible to make the reactive component of cement without emissions. The new invention achieves this for the first time within the parameters of established



International Masonry
Institute***



Mason Contractors
Association of America**



Western
States Clay
Products
Association

Gold Level



Masonry
Institute
of
America



Southeast Concrete Masonry
Association**

Silver Level



Spec Mix

Bronze Level

industrial processes, [they say](#). Another article that further describes the process can be found [here](#).

Biocement producer secures \$8M in funding

CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Sofinnova Partners led a \$8 million Series A funding round for Prometheus Materials, a producer of biocement that uses microalgae as a binder. The funds will be used to produce masonry units that will be marketed to architects, engineers, developers as the company aims for commercialization. Read more [here](#).

EDUCATIONAL NEWS

If you or someone you know are an educator interested in teaching masonry, **act fast** to be a part of the upcoming virtual Masonry Educators' Workshop! This is a fantastic opportunity to learn from recognized masonry experts and award-winning instructors. Check out the link below. ~Tina

Call for Abstracts for 14th North American Masonry Conference

THE MASONRY SOCIETY

Papers are invited for the 14th North American Masonry Conference (NAMC), which will be held from June 11-14, 2023, in the heart of historic Old Market in Omaha, Nebraska. The conference is being jointly hosted by the Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and the Nebraska Masonry Alliance (NMA). The conference provides a forum for sharing the latest advances in masonry knowledge and applications from around the world. Papers are sought on a wide variety of masonry topics. For more information, visit masonrysociety.org/14namc.

Masonry Educators' Workshop

THE MASONRY SOCIETY

Register now for the [Virtual Masonry Educators' Workshop \(MEW\)](#) on **June 21-23, 2022**. The workshop is targeted towards professors and educators teaching undergraduate and graduate design and construction management classes on masonry and seeks to assist them teaching future designers and construction professionals. Topics will include Innovative Approaches to Education, Masonry Design and Detailing, Designing for Constructability, and much more. As an added bonus, the Concrete Masonry Association of CA and NV is offering scholarships to all educators in CA and NV. [Contact TMS](#) for a coupon.

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



ACME Brick ***



Cast Stone Institute ***



Nelson Testing Laboratories **



North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association **



Northwest Concrete Masonry Association *



Pennsylvania Concrete Masonry Association ***



Masonry Institute of Washington*

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](#).

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
- * 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](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by tmsmeetings@masonrysociety.org