

# The Masonry Society

## Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

### From the Editor

This edition is a little later coming to you because for the last few days I have been participating in The Masonry Society's (TMS) Annual Meeting in Greenville, SC. TMS celebrated 35 years as a society, complete with a birthday cake! While there was time for fun, lots of work was done too, including progress on a new Sustainability Brochure, approval of a Guide for Condition Assessment of Masonry Facades, and of course, work on the 2013 edition of the Building Code Requirements for Masonry Structures (also known as the MSJC Code). If you work in the masonry industry, you should be a financial supporter of TMS! Among other things, the work of TMS is essential for inclusion of masonry in the International Building Code. You can support TMS by joining as an individual member, and companies can show their support through Sustaining and Affiliate memberships. With membership come numerous benefits including discounted and even free publications as well as satisfaction of supporting your industry. For further information on membership, visit the [TMS website](#), or [contact TMS](#).

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### GREEN BUILDING NEWS

It's not often that I come across articles directed toward contractors, but the first article below provides some useful tips for contractors on recycling and salvaging building materials. ~Tina

#### 6 Tips for Profiting from Recycling Building Materials

TriplePundit.com

Recycling and reusing construction materials can be a source of savings and income for contractors, but only if your team is on board and prepared, writes Bill Roth in [this article](#). "Managing waste requires the engagement of all of your trades' people. If you expect them to handle your demolition materials and fixtures like the dollars they represent, then you have to train them, set performance expectations and motivate them," Roth writes.

#### Energy Data for NYC Buildings Released

BuildingGreen blog

New York City has posted 2011 energy use data for more than 2,000 large, privately owned buildings, making it the first major city in the world to release this kind of information. According to [this BuildingGreen.com article](#) "Energy Reporting: It's the Law," several major cities in the U.S. now mandate energy reporting and benchmarking. The energy use is posted in a sortable and searchable Excel spreadsheet, so anyone can download the file and look up the energy use data for a building of interest. The files list 3,600 properties—all those that were subject to the mandate—including some that failed to provide the required data. Those are now subject to fines by the city, charged quarterly until they comply.

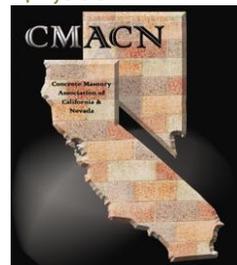
#### Pittsburgh to join Architecture 2030 Challenge

The city of Pittsburgh and Green Building Alliance announced on Aug. 21 that Pittsburgh is taking part in the Architecture

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2030 Challenge. The challenge encourages cooperating cities to cut their energy, water and transportation emissions in half in a designated district by the year 2030. [Read more.](#)

### **Energy Efficiency Is Still Cheaper than Natural Gas** SustainablePlant.com

The recent boom in shale gas production and the subsequent decrease in the price of natural gas have left some wondering what the role for energy efficiency will be in the future. Despite the current low prices, energy efficiency is still the most cost effective new energy resource, according to [this article](#).

### **Building Facade Uses Live Algae to Generate Energy**

Design Building Source (Australia)

A building in Germany will incorporate a "bio-reactor facade and shading system" that uses live micro-algae to generate energy. "We have put a lot of work into meeting the technical challenges and we now have a commercial-scale, effective solution that uses live algae as a smart material to deliver renewable energy," said Simon O'Hea, director of Colt International, in [this article](#). "You can't get greener than that."

### **Why Drexel University Chose Green Globes Over LEED**

Facilities.net

Drexel University's main campus sits on 74-acres just west of the Schuylkill River near downtown Philadelphia. To accommodate rapid growth in student enrollment the university built approximately half a billion dollars of new buildings in the last five years with more on the horizon. After using both Green Globes and LEED, VP of University Facilities Bob Francis and his team decided to use Green Globes for future buildings. [Read the full story.](#)

### **PRODUCT NEWS**

ASTM Committee E60 on Sustainability has formed a new subcommittee on manufacturing. While it will include more than just building products, this is one to keep an eye on. Check out the link below for more information. ~Tina

### **New Subcommittee on Sustainable Manufacturing Formed**

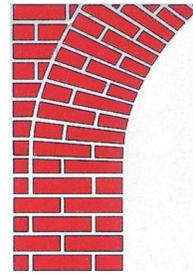
ASTM

E60 Executive subcommittee recently approved the establishment of a new subcommittee in E60 called E60.13 on Sustainable Manufacturing. The scope: The promotion of knowledge, stimulation of research, and development of standards related to the environmental performance and sustainability related to manufacturing and the gate-to-gate processes in the production of finished goods. For further information, [contact Steve Mawn](#) at ASTM.

### **Fact Sheet Available on ASTM C90 Update**

NCMA

In late 2011, ASTM C90, the material specification for hollow loadbearing CMU, was modified to permit the cross-webs of units to be configured in different ways to meet specific project needs and performance requirements. A Fact Sheet has been created to provide a short review of how this new flexibility on unit configurations can benefit your next project. The Fact Sheet has been vetted by NCMA committee



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members and can be [downloaded](#) from the NCMA website.

## **Sequestered CO2 Makes Concrete Blocks Green, Stronger**

**Financial Post (Canada)**

CarbonCure Technologies developed a technology that it licenses to concrete makers that infuses carbon dioxide from industrial waste sources into concrete's curing stage -- thus producing limestone -- which makes concrete blocks stronger and greener. "It's very cheap. We can retrofit a plant in less than a day," says Robert Niven, CEO and company founder in [this article](#). "And it's scalable. We can put this into any plant in the world, without displacing any existing manufacturers."

## **2012 MIT Industry Day Registration Available**

**MIT Concrete Sustainability Hub**

On Sept. 27, researchers from the MIT Concrete Sustainability Hub will bring the industry up to date on their latest research findings and progress. The theme of this year's event is "Research with An I 4 Sustainable Change." All stakeholders in the cement and concrete industries, transportation and building communities, and policymakers in these areas are encouraged to come learn about the MIT Concrete Sustainability Hub's work to date and help to translate research findings into practice. [Click here](#) for more information.

## **"Green Barcode" Introduced**

The Green Building Research Institute (GBRI) is pleased to introduce "The Green Barcode" - a green building product and service database that will serve as the world's local green pages. The Green Barcode Directory will launch on January 15, 2013. [Click here](#) to learn more about this marketing directory.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Resilient Buildings Workshop: Integrating Materials, Systems, Resilience and Sustainability**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate and the Concrete Joint Sustainability Initiative invite you to attend the Resilient Buildings Workshop: Integrating Materials, Systems, Resilience and Sustainability. The workshop is free of charge and will take place at the National Building Museum on Oct. 18. The Resilient Buildings Workshop is a collaborative effort between federal government and private sector. To learn more, [click here](#).

### **Greenbuild 2012 Registration**

Registration is open for the [Greenbuild International Conference and Expo](#) — the world's largest conference and expo dedicated to green building, to be held November 14-16, 2012 in San Francisco, California. Learn about what education will be available at Greenbuild 2012 and [access the education program »](#)

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