

**From:** Susan Scheurer <tmsmeetings@masonrysociety.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2013 10:10 AM  
**To:** info  
**Subject:** TMS Sustainability E-Newsletter, Vol. 5, No. 11

## The Masonry Society

### Sustainability E-News

June 15, 2013

Volume 5, Number 11

SPONSORED EDITION

#### From the Editor

Green building requirements, such as legislation that requires LEED certification of building projects, have come under fire lately on local, state, and national levels. *Architect* magazine included an interesting map tracking the recent anti-LEED legislation. Also in the news is related activity by Green Globes trying to make its way into green building legislation. Read about this and more in GREEN BUILDING NEWS below. And of course, LEED v4 is open for voting for members until June 30.

Christine "Tina" Subasic, PE, LEED AP  
[CSubasicPE@aol.com](mailto: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 recent disasters in the midwest have spurred discussion about safe rooms in design – a great use of masonry. Read more in the links below. ~Tina

##### **Tornado-Resistant Hospital Takes Shape in Joplin, Mo.**

A new hospital taking shape in Joplin, Mo., with an exterior of masonry, precast concrete, and specially made windows, designed from the outset to protect patients, visitors and staff from the effects of a catastrophic tornado. "The new facility will not be covered with EIFS in any of the patient care areas," said John Farnen, executive director of strategic projects for Mercy Health System. "Exteriors in those areas will either be reinforced concrete, stone and brick, or precast concrete. The entire exterior skin will be made of a harder material, which will prevent the kind of exterior damage we saw at the old hospital and help prevent the kind of serious interior damage that led to chaos and injuries." [Read more.](#)

##### **Project Seeks to Develop "Green Building" Policies, Practices**

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS OREGON

#### **Sponsors of TMS's Sustainability E-Newsletter**

Click on the links below to find out more about each of these organizations who have graciously sponsored this E-Newsletter. Sponsors designated with an Asterisk(\*) are also TMS Members at the following levels:

- \*\*\* designate Sustaining Members
- \*\* designate Affiliate Members
- \* designate that at least 1 person is an Associate or Professional Member of TMS.

#### **Platinum Level**

The International Living Future Institute has launched "Economics of Change," a research project that aims to develop regulations and accounting practices for green building. The project will be funded by grants from three foundations, including \$100,000 from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and research will be conducted in Washington state's Puget Sound region. "The building industry is capable of producing buildings and infrastructure that have neutral or even positive impacts on their ecosystems, but our current financial structures create unnecessary cost barriers," said the Institute's executive director, Richard Graves, according to [this article](#).

### Map Tracks Anti-LEED Legislation

ARCHITECT

Under pressure from certain industries, some states are turning against using LEED as a building performance rating system. [Read more](#).

### Green Globes Revises Program to Meet Standards

AMERICAN CITY BUSINESS JOURNALS (PORTLAND, OR.)

The Green Globes for New Construction program has been updated to comply with federal sustainability standards for government buildings, according to an announcement by the Green Building Initiative. The new release is based on the ANSI/GBI 01-2010: Green Building Assessment Protocol for Commercial Buildings. The Green Globes program is an alternative certification program to the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED. [Read more in this blog](#) or check out the [press release](#).

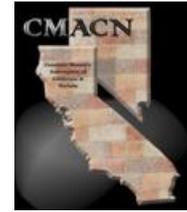
### ENERGY NEWS

In regard to the article on clay brick air permeance testing in the TMS Sustainability E-News published May 28, 2013, please be aware that this is not in the code yet. It still has to clear the final hearing later this year although it appears likely that it will. If it does, then it would be a part of the 2015 IECC. ~Tina

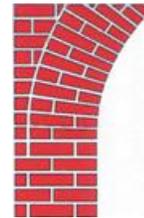
### Energy Reforms Threatened by Two "Poison Pills"

BUILDING GREEN

The Shaheen-Portman energy bill, a sweeping energy-efficiency bill soon to be on the U.S. Senate floor would help boost energy codes, finance retrofits, and support training programs for building tradespeople and professionals. But rumors of "poison pill" amendments are souring the process for green building advocates and could jeopardize the progress of the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act. One rumored amendment would effectively shut the LEED rating systems out of the federal government by redefining what counts as a "consensus process" for governance and rating system development ([read more about this amendment at LEEDuser.com](#)). Another takes aim at the very heart of the last major energy law passed by Congress—attempting to repeal the part of the law that targets design for zero fossil fuel use in new and substantially renovated federal buildings by 2030. [Read the full article](#).



[Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada](#)\*\*\*



[Western States Clay Products Association](#)\*\*\*

Gold Level



[Masonry Institute of America](#)\*\*\*



Silver Level

## PRODUCT NEWS

More on concrete masonry with a reduced carbon footprint and more old made new with Roman concrete. ~Tina

### U.K. Firm Launches "Carbon-Negative Building Block"

DESIGN BUILD SOURCE

Recycled aggregate and carbon aggregate made from industrial thermal residues combine to create the world's first "carbon-negative building block," according to [this article](#). The block stores more carbon dioxide than it releases in the manufacturing stages, according to U.K.-based Lignacite, the product's co-developer.

### Press Release: CarbonCure Signs Deal with Northfield Block

CARBON CURE  
Clean technology innovator CarbonCure Technologies Inc. (CarbonCure), has signed a licensing agreement with Northfield Block, a division of Oldcastle Inc., the largest producer of concrete masonry and precast products in North America. Since 1949, Northfield has been a leading manufacturer of masonry products in the Midwest, and was acquired by Oldcastle, Inc. in 2003. CarbonCure will install its retrofit carbon sequestering technology this month in Northfield Block's concrete products plant in Morris, Illinois, which is 40 miles west of Chicago. By mid-summer, the plant's three machines will be manufacturing architectural concrete products that contain sequestered CO2 using CarbonCure's proprietary technology. [Read the Press Release](#).

### Key to Sustainable Concrete May Lie in 2,000-yr-old Breakwater

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Researcher Paulo Monteiro of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory may have discovered the key to more sustainable concrete in samples of "sea" concrete found in a Mediterranean breakwater built by ancient Romans. Monteiro found that the sea concrete contained calcium-aluminum-silicate-hydrate, an "extraordinarily stable compound," as well as aluminum tobermorite, a rare mineral, which made the concrete emit "less greenhouse gas pollution, since it can be made at lower temperatures and hence less fossil fuel than modern Portland cement." However, it takes longer for the Roman type of concrete to cure, according to this [U.S. News & World Report article](#).

### Eco Labelling – A Source of Confusion

isonomia.co.uk

Eco labelling: a minefield on the path to sustainability if ever there was one. It should be the bridge between the ivory tower of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and the man on the street, and a way for manufacturers and retailers to show off their green credentials; instead, it is difficult to see them as a source of anything but confusion, contradiction and misinterpretation. [Read more](#).



### Bronze Level



For information on how you can become a sponsor, please contact the [TMS office](#).

## EDUCATION / EVENTS

### **Call for Abstracts**

The 9th International Masonry Conference will be held in Guimarães, Portugal in July 7-9, 2014, as a joint initiative from the University of Minho and the International Masonry Society. The deadline for the submission of abstracts is June 30, 2013 through the conference website ([www.9imc.civil.uminho.pt](http://www.9imc.civil.uminho.pt)).

To Subscribe, click [here](#).

To Unsubscribe, click [here](#).

To be a 2013 Sponsor, click [here](#).



Advancing the Knowledge of Masonry  
[www.masonrysociety.org](http://www.masonrysociety.org)