

**From:** Susan Scheurer <tmsmeetings@masonrysociety.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 15, 2013 2:28 PM  
**To:** info  
**Subject:** TMS Sustainability E-Newsletter, Vol. 5, No. 15 - August 15, 2013

## The Masonry Society

### Sustainability E-News

August 15, 2013

Volume 5, Number 15

SPONSORED EDITION

#### From the Editor

For many of us August brings thoughts of back to school. Whether you have school age children or not, we can all remember the excitement of a new school year beginning. I would encourage you to use this opportunity to take stock of your own educational needs. Have you met all your professional development/continuing education requirements yet? Now is the time to take advantage of the upcoming educational opportunities offered by The Masonry Society. [Registration](#) for the TMS Annual Meeting is now open. The Annual Meeting provides a full day of topical seminars as well as classes on Special Inspection of Masonry Structures and Masonry Testing. For more information [click here](#).

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 CERTIFICATION

The recent *Inhabitat* article featured below provides a good summary of the various types of green certifications available, from products to buildings. I encourage you to check it out. ~Tina

#### **The Many Faces of Sustainable Building Concepts, Products** INHABITAT

From building product and materials certification to BREEAM and LEED, Jill Fehrenbacher outlines the various types of green- or sustainable-building labels and the differences among first-, second- and third-party certification in [this article](#). While there is no right or wrong in choosing among sustainable building guides or products, there is movement to make the landscape more transparent and less complex, Fehrenbacher writes.

#### **LEED for Homes Open for Public Comment**

USGBC

USGBC is addressing the changes made to energy codes over the last three years in the residential construction market sector with an update to the current version of LEED for Homes

#### **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**

(2008). The first step in this process is a public comment period, open now through September 16, 2013, that presents all changes to the public for review and feedback.

This update effects EA credit 1: Optimize Energy Performance. To check out the changes, [click here](#).

## **GREEN BUILDING NEWS**

The Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC) takes a broad view on green buildings, including more than just environmental concerns. This is evident in their annual "Beyond Green™" High-Performance Buildings Award. Read more about the competition and how to enter in the link below. ~Tina

### **Balancing Preservation and Energy Efficiency**

USGBC

The Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study recently achieved LEED-NC v3 Gold certification for its renovation of the historic Fay House, making it the oldest LEED certified building in the United States. Since its construction in 1807, this historic brick building has served as a private residence for a succession of families, a girl's boarding school, the beginning of Radcliffe College and its current use as the administrative center of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. [Read more](#) here.

### **Energy-Efficient Buildings Could be Good for Your Bottom Line**

TRIPLEPUNDIT.COM

Americans spent \$432 billion to power their homes and commercial buildings in 2011 -- but it doesn't have to be that way, writes John Mandyck, chief sustainability officer for United Technologies Climate, Controls & Security. Newer technologies can make buildings more energy efficient, helping the planet and driving down costs for everyone. "Now is the time to make energy efficiency the driver of world-class innovations -- and there's no better place to start than with our buildings," [Mandyck writes](#).

### **How Green Building Standards Can Actually Change People's Behavior**

The Atlantic Cities

New research shows that LEED for Neighborhood Development projects have significantly lower rates of driving than average development projects in the same regions. [Read more](#).

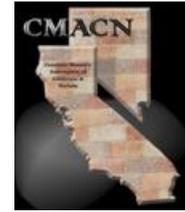
### **A New Concept: A Sustainability Incubator for Cities**

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

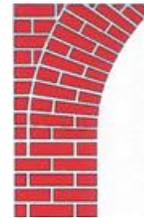
Portland State University's Urban Sustainability Accelerator has selected the first group of cities to assist in making sustainability a reality. To learn more, [click here](#).

### **Nominate Excellence in High-Performance Buildings – SBIC Expands Beyond Green™ Awards to Include Building Attributes, Systems, Innovations**

The National Institute of Building Sciences Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC) has expanded the categories for its 2013 Beyond Green™ High-Performance Building Awards. The



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



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

Gold Level



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



Silver Level

awards program, which issued its 2013 Call for Entries today, will now highlight five building-related categories, in addition to honoring leaders in the high-performance building industry. The deadline to apply for the 2013 Beyond Green™ Awards is Friday, November 1, 2013, at 5:00 p.m. EST. Take this opportunity to recognize a deserving high-performance project. [Submit an entry today!](#)

## **PRODUCT NEWS**

The last edition of this newsletter included several articles related to product category rules (PCR) and environmental product declarations (EPDs). Read more about a recently completed concrete masonry EPD in the press release linked below. ~Tina

### **Life-Cycle Assessment “A Powerful Tool When Used Right” BUILDING GREEN**

Jennifer O’Connor, president of the Athena Sustainable Materials Institute, offers a call to action for responsible use of LCA for sustainable design in [this open letter](#) to *Environmental Building News*.

### **First Concrete Masonry EPD in North America Released CARBON CURE TECHNOLOGIES**

CarbonCure Technologies Inc. and Atlas Block Co. Ltd. have issued the industry’s first Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) for concrete masonry products in North America. The EPD has been issued for 20 cm concrete block made with CarbonCure’s technology at Atlas’ flagship plant, which serves the Ontario and Quebec markets. You can read the full announcement, and download the EPD, [here](#).

### **NRG Confirms Insulated Block as Structural Unit NRG**

[Structural tests](#) have confirmed the patented NRG Insulated Block can be used as a substitute for industry standard 8" block. NRG is the only reinforceable 8" unit with continuous insulation. Read more at <http://www.energyefficientblock.com/>.

### **"Concrete-eating" Robot – Recycling Solution of the Future? FastCoDesign**

A robot concept from designer Omer Haciomeroglu promises to eliminate the waste and dust associated with concrete demolition. The robot "looks like a next-generation Dyson appliance ... [and] has the ability to separate concrete from rebar and recycle the materials right on-site before cataloging them for reuse," writes Sammy Medina in [this article](#).

## **EDUCATION / EVENTS**

### **TMS Annual Meeting Registration Open**

The Annual Meeting and Business Meetings of The Masonry Society will be held near Washington, DC in Herndon, Virginia at the Hyatt Dulles Hotel on October 11-15, 2013. An exciting and educational program has been planned for your enjoyment and



\*\*\*



\*\*



\*\*

### **Bronze Level**



\*\*\*



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

professional development. Plan to attend the meetings today! For more information, including session topics and registration, visit the [TMS website](#).

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)