

# The Masonry Society

## Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

### From the Editor

Happy New Year! Back in December I received a note from a Girl Scout leader in Texas whose troop was searching for information on sustainability as part of their "Go Green" patch when they discovered TMS' *Sustainability E-News*. Their leader wrote to me and included a page on green tips for your home that they thought would be helpful to readers. (I've included a link [here](#).) Her letter got me thinking about just how far this newsletter travels. Are you a regular subscriber? If not, would you like to be? TMS members receive *Sustainability E-News* in their in-box twice a month as one of the many [benefits of membership](#). For information on how you too can [join TMS](#) and get your own subscription, please [contact the TMS office](#).

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### GREEN BUILDING NEWS

#### Get Caught Up on Green Building Rating Systems

##### ECO BUILDING PULSE

Certifying buildings at the rate of 1.6 million square feet per day, the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED rating system is unquestionably a juggernaut. But it's just one of the many certification programs in the United States that are continually raising the bar of sustainable design. [Here's a look](#) at the latest developments from the other major players.

#### Why We Need Outcome-Based Codes

##### VISION 2020

Expanding our range of expected outcomes from high-performance buildings is key to meeting aggressive environmental goals. It's time to increase our focus on building operations and occupancy issues, says Mark Frankel in this article. Read his outlook for the next decade [here](#).

### PRODUCT NEWS

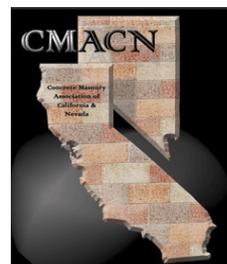
The latest trend in sustainability and products is the European product environmental footprint (PEF). Based on life cycle assessment (LCA), the PEF is intended for

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#### Platinum Level



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

comparative evaluation of products. At present it is only in the pilot phase. Read more below. ~Tina

## New European Product Environmental Footprint

EU Commission announces [Environmental Footprint \(PEF/OEF\) Pilots](#). Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) is a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) based method to calculate the environmental performance of a product. Similar to a carbon footprint but broader, the PEF is intended for product comparisons and was developed by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre based on existing, extensively tested and used methods. [Learn more](#).

## Are We Beginning a Product Revolution?

### VISION 2020

Advances in green chemistry and the relationship between design professionals and building product manufacturers will revolutionize the way we think about products and materials, according to Tom Lent's [VISION 2020 outlook](#).

## LEED v4

If you aren't yet up to speed on the newest version of LEED check out the links below for the latest information. ~Tina

## LEED v4 Encourages Developers to Build for the Future

### SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

The new version of LEED focuses on outcomes, rather than piecemeal features of buildings. [Read more](#).

## A New, More Accessible LEED Online for LEED v4

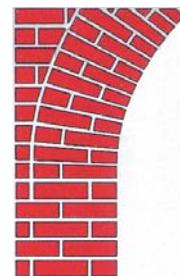
### LEEDUSER

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) has announced that LEED version 4 (LEED v4) will be supported by a new LEED Online documentation platform. [Read more](#).

## LEED v4 for Homes is Here

### ALLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

GreenBuild 2013 initiated the Launch of the LEED v4 rating system. LEED v4 will be mandatory on June 1st 2015 and all Multifamily Midrise projects that are 50% or more residential must use this system. In order to help bridge the gap, all LEED projects must score a 70 on the HERS scale after April 1st 2014. [Click here](#) for a checklist, manual, articles from industry professionals and a free 1 hour webinar from chief LEED for Homes Reviewer.



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

Gold Level



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



Silver Level

## USGBC Addenda / Interpretations

### USGBC

January 1st quarterly addenda to the LEED rating systems and reference guides are now available. There are 71 new LEED Interpretations including 65 for Homes and Multifamily Midrise. To access the LEED Interpretations, search the [LEED interpretations database](#) using keyword 1/1/2014, or search the [credit library](#).

## LEED v4 Material Ingredients Market Analysis

### USGBC

In order to map the current landscape of products available that can be used to earn LEED v4 MR Credit Building Products Disclosure and Optimization - Material Ingredients, USGBC engaged McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry (MBDC) to create a market analysis earlier this year, "Market Opportunities for the Cradle to Cradle Certified Products Program". The report lists the top 50 product categories and approximate costs to certify a typical product. Estimates to certify clay and concrete masonry products is \$10,000 to \$30,000 per product. [Click here](#) to learn more.

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### Bronze Level



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