

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

The articles featured in “A DIFFERENT VIEW” below are a good reminder that practices promoted in LEED, the International Green Construction Code (IGCC), and other green programs are not always fully proven, and often times focus on only one beneficial aspect of a practice or product while ignoring the full picture. I think this latter tendency, to “put on blinders” and only consider one characteristic, is perhaps the most dangerous. My experience has been that every practice and product has both beneficial aspects as well as drawbacks that should be considered. It is this balance that is most important in achieving a sustainable design – not just selecting products for LEED points!

I wanted to take a moment to thank our 2014 Sponsors! We are grateful for your support. We are almost fully funded (over 90%) – help us to reach our goal! For further information, [contact the TMS office](#).

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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

I think one of the things we will be hearing a lot about in 2014 is building resiliency. Read what one architectural firm thinks about resiliency in the link below. ~Tina

Perkins+Will: 5 Global Trends for the AEC Sector in 2014

BUILDING DESIGN + CONSTRUCTION

Perkins+Will surveyed its design staff to predict trends that will affect how architecture, engineering, and construction firms do business in 2014. The [company found](#) that resiliency in building design, an eye toward green design as well as the health and space needs for a multigenerational force are some of the top five trends, according to [this article](#).

Public Comment Sought on Energy Efficiency Road Map

ANSI

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) [Energy Efficiency Standardization Coordination Collaborative](#) (EESCC) has released for a 45-day public comment period the [EESCC Standardization](#)

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
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Platinum Level

[Roadmap V1.0 draft](#), which outlines 116 recommendations to advance energy efficiency in the built environment through standards and conformance activities. Interested stakeholders are invited to submit input on the EESCC Roadmap V1.0 by March 15, 2014. The draft is being issued for public comment to provide an opportunity for feedback on the EESCC's findings and recommendations before final publication in mid-2014.

Say What? A Quick Guide to Building Science Jargon

ECOBUILDING PULSE

CYA on BS jargon with this great new list of 153 green building acronyms and initials. First things first: BS, in this reference, is a good thing you should all be paying attention to. [Read more](#).

LEED NEWS

LEED v4 is "Evolutionary," Rewards Team Approach

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

Adam Fransen, program manager of CBRE's Sustainability Programs Group, recently spoke in Minneapolis about LEED v4, saying the new standards are "evolutionary," not "revolutionary." He highlighted some of the changes, and noted that the newest version rewards "a team approach to LEED design, improve[s] disclosure of materials used in construction and ask[s] for details on the lifecycle of a project," according to [this article](#).

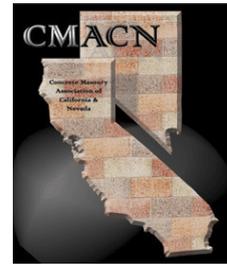
LEED: The Benefits and Effects in Numbers

CLEAN TECHNICA

[This article](#) breaks down the effect of implementing the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED rating system on the thousands of buildings it has certified across America, and includes an outlook of the program's effect on the country's future. "Even as LEED is in itself an innovation, it has and will continue to serve as a gateway to further advances in the movement to create healthier, high-performing buildings and vibrant, resilient communities," said Rick Fedrizzi, USGBC President and CEO.

PRODUCT NEWS

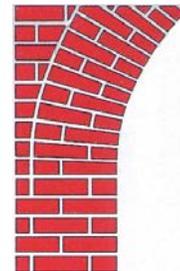
Our last edition featured a link on a new Environmental Product Footprint (EPF). This one features another new product transparency tool, the Environmental and Health Statement, or EHS. Read more below. ~Tina



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



National Concrete Masonry Association
FOUNDATION



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

Gold Level



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



New Transparency Tool Based on Cradle to Cradle Program

BUILDING GREEN

Resilient flooring manufacturer Tarkett and the German consulting company EPEA Internationale Umweltforschung GmbH (EPEA) have developed a new product ingredient disclosure format called an Environmental and Health Statement, or EHS. A new way to report product ingredients, the EHS puts yet another spin on transparency. To learn more, [click here](#).

Concrete-like Mixture Being Explored

WIRED.COM

Peter Trimble, as part of his graduate thesis, looked into alternatives for concrete that would involve using less heat and thus be more sustainable. He came up with a material that is about 66% as strong as concrete, making it from sand, bacteria, calcium chloride and urea. Researchers at Brown University and Stanford University are also exploring this mixture, and BioMason currently makes bricks from the same material. [Read more](#).

A DIFFERENT VIEW

Green building practices aren't always fully supported by science. Check out the links below for two cases where the "green" approach may need revisiting. Those these present only one side of the issue, it is not the view we hear about very often. ~Tina

When Good Intentions Go Bad

ECOBUILDING PULSE

Wood — chosen for its environmentally preferable properties — is rotting in Make It Right homes in New Orleans, sparking debate about the use of new-and-green-building materials. [Read more](#).

More Questions Than Answers in Report on Reflective Pavements

BUILDING GREEN

A white paper funded by The National Asphalt Pavement Association and the State Asphalt Pavement Associations recently drew attention by asserting that reflective pavements, which are promoted in programs like LEED for mitigating the urban-heat-island effect, could be doing more harm than good. Read [the article](#).

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