

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

As we head into April the pace of things always seems to quicken. ASTM [E60 Committee on Sustainability](#) meets in Toronto April 8-10. Then later in the month, TMS will hold its Spring Meetings in Kansas City. Details on the meetings and a registration form are posted on the [TMS website](#). Both are great ways to get involved in sustainability. I look forward to seeing you there!

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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.

USGBC NEWS

Two of the links below highlight steps USGBC is taking to make LEED easier to work with. The first is an online listing of past innovation credits that have been vetted for use on any project. The second is a resource for Federal projects that seek joint LEED and Guiding Principles compliance.
~Tina

Apply for LEED Committee Membership

USGBC

The U.S. Green Building Council is holding an open call for self-nominations of qualified applicants to serve as members of LEED committees and working groups. Technical Advisory Groups (TAG) in all of the LEED category areas are seeking new members. The call for volunteers will be open until Monday, April 10th at 5:00 pm PST. Visit the [volunteer opportunity page](#) to read more.

Introducing the LEED Innovation Catalog

USGBC

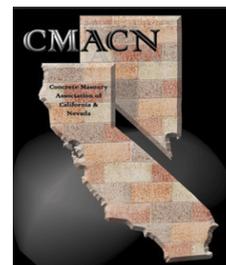
In addition to the LEED credit categories we're all familiar with (Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency...you know the drill), LEED has always reserved a few points for Innovation – things that aren't part of the rating system but are right at home in a green building certification program. USGBC has announced the LEED Innovation Catalog – a place for project teams to find innovative strategies for use on their projects. The [innovation catalog](#) resides in the LEED Credit Library, along with all of the LEED rating systems, pilot credits, credit resources, LEED interpretations, LEEDuser

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

Platinum Level



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

forums and more. Just like credit categories, you'll find a listing for "innovation catalog" within each of the LEED rating systems for v2009 and newer. [Read more here.](#)

USGBC Works With Feds Guiding Principles

USGBC

Federal buildings are required to meet the Guiding Principles for High Performance Sustainable Buildings (Guiding Principles), and now a partnership with USGBC, [Guiding Principles Compliance Initiative \(GPCI\)](#) makes that easier. The idea behind this service is twofold. First, GPCI removes redundancy in reporting for projects that pursue both LEED and the Guiding Principles, and it provides clarity and guidance on compliance pathways for the Guiding Principles. This solution supports all project types, including those in pursuit of LEED and those that are not — for both New Construction/Major Renovations and Existing Buildings. [Read more.](#)

GREEN BUILDING NEWS

The first article below features a new website, GBIG.org. It is an interesting site with all kinds of information on thousands of high performance buildings. I encourage you to check it out for yourself. ~Tina

Green Building Information Gateway

USGBC

Green Building Information Gateway (GBIG) is a global information platform for the real estate industry that provides users with relevant market intelligence that highlights companies, products, services and strategies connected to the world's highest performing buildings. [GBIG](#) delivers actionable insights through three fundamental offerings: project transparency, market context, and timelines. [Read more.](#)

Building Energy Codes Program Leads to Substantial Energy Savings

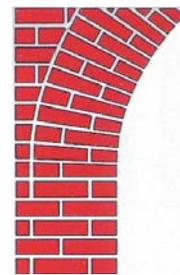
ICC eNews

[New research](#) shows that every dollar the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has spent on building energy codes over the past two decades has resulted in \$400 in energy cost savings. The Building Energy Codes Program was established in 1992 and requires the DOE to participate in the development of national building energy codes and standards, including those maintained by the International Code Council. [Click here](#) to learn more.

EPA Extends Public Comment Period for Environmental Guidelines



National Concrete Masonry Association
FOUNDATION



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

Gold Level



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



America's Cement Manufacturers™ **



**

Silver Level

EPA

In response to stakeholder requests, EPA has extended the comment period on the proposed Draft Guidelines for Product Environmental Performance Standards and Ecolabels for Voluntary Use in Federal Procurement. The public comment docket will be open until April 25, 2014. For more information, visit: www.epa.gov/epp/draftGuidelines.

PRODUCT NEWS

Product innovation continues, as seen in the links below. As always, caution is prudent when considering new products. Testing can help reassure performance. ~Tina

What's Driving Green Product Manufacturers?**ECOBUILDING PULSE**

What drives product manufacturer who are invested in green building? EcoBuilding Pulse set about asking the Vision 2020 underwriters. In the [first part](#) of this new series, we chat with Martin Grohman, director of sustainability for GAF, about the roofing company's approach to sustainability.

Bricks and Stones: Six Stylish and Sustainable Masonry and Concrete Products**ARCHITECT MAGAZINE ONLINE**

[This article](#) looks at six products that are either eco-friendly or fashionable. One is the Watershed Block, a brick that is made using "fused soil and rock fragments" and contains only half the cement used in making a regular concrete block. Another product, the Monarch Cored Brick by CalStar, contains no Portland cement, is made from up to 37% recycled material, and emits only "15% the carbon dioxide of traditional concrete block production," according to CalStar.

Transformation Aims to Turn Concrete into CO2 Hero**BRATTLEBORO REFORMER (VT)**

A new type of concrete that uses calcium carbonate could transform the material into a tool to sequester the carbon dioxide. Brent Constantz, CEO of Blue Planet, says the calcium for the new product can be obtained from either seawater or brine while the carbonate could be extracted from power plant flue gases according to [this article](#).

Family Touts Earth Friendly Concrete, Sans Portland Cement**BRW.com.au (Australia)**

A family from Australia has worked eight years to develop a concrete mix that doesn't include Portland cement. The recipe, which they now plan to export to





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Bronze Level

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regions such as the Middle East and other markets that have corrosive soils, has been used in portions of precast tunnels in Malaysia and Qatar. The Earth Friendly Concrete incorporates slag and fly ash reclaimed from steel manufacturing operations and coal-fired power stations. One of the most visible uses of the concrete is found in a Brisbane airport's aprons and taxiway pavements. [Read more.](#)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Call for Presentations for TMS Annual Meeting

The Masonry Society will hold its 2014 Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, AZ on October 9 -14, 2014. If you have a presentation you would like considered for the Meetings, please submit a title, paragraph description, and a one paragraph biography of the presenter to [TMS](#) by May 15th. Any topic related to masonry will be considered but topics must not be commercial or focused exclusively on proprietary products. TMS will consider topics during the summer based on those that are likely of the greatest interest to attendees.

North American Masonry Conference Calls for Abstracts

TMS is pleased to announce the opening of Call for Abstracts for the 12th North American Masonry Conference to be held at University of Colorado Denver. Preliminary information on the conference, along with a link to submit your abstracts can be accessed [here](#).

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