

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

October 31, 2014

Volume 6, Number 20

SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

Happy Halloween! In what many will consider a "treat," the U.S. Green Building Council announced this week that LEED 2009 will now be available for registrations until October 31, 2016. This is an extension of over a year and is not surprising given the extent of changes in LEED v4 and the pushback from the architectural community. The news will also be welcomed by manufacturers who are just beginning work on product transparency. It's especially good news for the masonry industry given that at present there are no North American Product Category Rules (PCR) specifically for masonry products. The PCR is the first step in development of an EPD, and fortunately development of PCR for many masonry products is underway. Stay tuned for further updates.

Christine "Tina" Subasic, PE, LEED AP
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.

CODES and STANDARDS NEWS

Lots of news related to LEED this time. Important to note: the deadline for the phase out of LEED 2009 has been extended to October 2016. Not surprising given the extent of changes in LEED v4 and the pushback from the architectural community. Read more below. ~Tina

LEED v4 Deadline Pushed Back to October 2016

LEEDUSER.COM

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) has announced that LEED 2009 registrations will be extended to October 31, 2016. USGBC has decided that requiring new LEED projects to register for LEED v4 as of June 2015 was too soon and has shifted that date back to October 31, 2016. In an announcement, USGBC said that it was giving the market more time to get ready for LEED v4 based on feedback it received during the Greenbuild conference. According to USGBC, 61% of respondents to a survey said they are "not ready" or "unsure" if they are ready for LEED v4 and require additional time to prepare. [Read the full story here.](#)

LEED v4 Addenda - October 2014

USGBC.ORG

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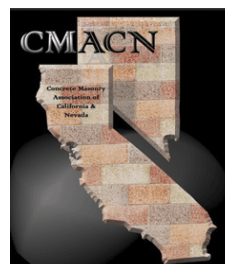
Click on the links below to find out more about each of these organizations who have graciously sponsored this E-Newsletter. Sponsors designated with an Asterisk(*) are also TMS Members at the following levels:

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Platinum Level



[Concrete Masonry Association of](#)

The [October 1st quarterly addenda](#) to the LEED rating systems and reference guides are now available. One important change to note: the Building Products Disclosure and Optimization (BPDO) Calculator (an Excel spreadsheet) has been revised so that the location valuation factor calculations (for Regional Materials) only apply if the entire product meets local criteria. No longer can a percentage of a product comply. Also of interest, is a change to the Material Ingredient reporting credit, Option 1. The addenda now states that reporting of hazards associated with GreenScreen LT-1, LT-P1 or Benchmark 1 screenings is required in addition to the chemical and CAS registry number. This language is contrary to other language in the credit, so stay tuned to see if further revisions are posted. You can access a summary of changes [here](#).

USGBC Announces Plan for New Supply Chain Optimization Group

USGBC.ORG

USGBC has announced the forward plan for the newly constituted Supply Chain Optimization Working Group. The working group's members include chemical suppliers, building product manufacturers, design teams, producers of raw materials, academics and government entities along with USGBC staff. The working group, focuses around development and optimization of the LEED v4 Materials and Resources (MR) credit 4. [Read more](#).

GREEN BUILDING NEWS

Several of the links below relate to energy, an important aspect of sustainable design. In a big step toward more stringent codes, DOE has updated to the 2013 ASHRAE Standard 90.1. Look for states to follow. ~Tina

Is it Time for Anti-LEED?

ARCH DAILY

Many industry professionals think it's time to abandon LEED as a green building rating system. [Here's why](#).

DOE Updates National Reference to ASHRAE 90.1-2013

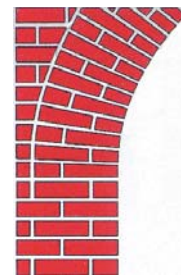
EDC MAGAZINE

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has updated the national reference for commercial building energy codes to the 2013 edition of ASHRAE Standard 90.1. The determination means that states are required to update their codes to meet or exceed

California and Nevada***



National Concrete Masonry Association
FOUNDATION



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

Gold Level



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



Silver Level

the 2013 standard within two years. To learn more, [click here](#).

New Guide to Combat Thermal Bridging

ECO BUILDING PULSE

A new report guides architects and engineers to stop thermal bridging, which reduces overall energy consumption in buildings. [Read more](#).

Sefaira Releases Energy Analysis Plug-in for Revit

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

Sefaira has released a revamped plug-in for Autodesk's Revit that offers both daylighting and energy analysis in real-time within the native modeling environment. Check out the article [here](#).

LEED Helps Hotels Book Quickly and Charge More

BUILDING GREEN

Contrary to an earlier study on consumer behavior suggesting that sustainability certifications do not increase booking revenues, a second Cornell report identifies the opposite trend by directly analyzing financial performance and narrowing its study sample to LEED-certified hotels. [Read more](#).

PRODUCT NEWS

Plant Captures Carbon Dioxide Produced in Cement Production

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

A pilot project with the Department of Energy is looking to produce alternative products from waste released during cement production. The plant in Austin, Texas, captures carbon dioxide and turns it into sodium carbonate, which is "used as water softener, and sodium bicarbonate, or baking soda" according to [this article](#). The plants can capture and convert up to 75,000 tons of carbon dioxide. A portion of the funding came from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

GREEN BUSINESS NEWS

Skanska Exec Talks About Sustainability

ARCHITECT MAGAZINE ONLINE

[In a Q-and-A](#), Skanska's Chief Sustainability Officer Beth Heider talks about the company becoming a charter member of Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure, the benefits of various green-building





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Bronze Level



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certifications, and the trends she sees. She noted that she'd like to see more transparency among green-building suppliers.

EDUCATIONAL NEWS

We don't usually include the free webinars you often see advertised because they are often promotional or very one-sided, but the link below does provide a good overview of Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) for those unfamiliar with them. ~ Tina

Environmental Product Declarations: Worthless or Priceless?

MCGRAW HILL

In this [free webinar](#), you will:

- Understand Type III Environmental Product Declarations
- Be able to describe the process for developing an EPD
- Become familiar with the environmental impact components reported in a concrete EPD
- Recognize and evaluate the key elements of a registered EPD for LEED v4
- Understand the comparative LCA evaluation tool Eco-Efficiency Analysis and how it differs from an EPD

TMS Sustainability Brochure Available

THE MASONRY SOCIETY

TMS announces the publication of a new brochure, "Masonry Is Sustainable" that discusses the many "green" aspects of masonry, beyond just LEED requirements. A link to the new brochure can be found [here](#).

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