

Green Building Update

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publication

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The American Council On Renewable Energy announces largest renewable energy conference in the US: February 25-27, 2009

The American Council On Renewable Energy - July 7

The American Council On Renewable Energy (ACORE) and partnering organizations announced the Renewable Energy Technology Conference and Exhibition (RETECH 2009), which will be held in Las Vegas on February 25-27, 2009. RETECH 2009 is expected to be the largest all-renewables gathering in the U.S. in 2009, with an attendance of over 5,000 people. The event is planned to increase in scale in coming years to 10,000 attendees and 500 exhibitors, which will make it "the largest event of its kind worldwide" according to the event website. Registration can be made on the [official website](#).

Green Building Focus

Study shows that 14% of US cities require green building standards

American Institute of Architects - July 3

Los Angeles, Boston and Washington have mandated green standards for new commercial buildings, as well as some renovations of existing buildings. Though big-city regulations get most of the attention, a new study from the American Institute of Architects found 14% of U.S. cities with a population of at least 50,000 have similar laws and dozens more are poised to follow.

UN report calls for more sustainable real-estate development

United Nations - July 7

A report issued by a United Nations agency, UNEP, urges institutional investors worldwide to engage with property fund managers to embrace U.N.-backed guidelines for developing sustainable real estate. The UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative Property Working Group, whose members manage \$300 billion in property assets, collaborated with the Secretariat to produce the report "Building Responsible Property Portfolios." The report highlights leading examples of responsible property investing, categorized according to its six "Principles for Responsible Investment."

CalHFA earmarks \$50 million for affordable "green" housing in San Jose, Salinas and Santa Cruz

Silicon Valley Business Journal - June 30

New affordable "green" and transit-oriented apartments built with environmentally friendly materials in San Jose, Salinas and Santa Cruz will be bolstered by a \$50 million financing program approved by the California

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Enhancing value for commercial real estate

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2002 - 2008

Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA). Fourth Street Apartments in San Jose will provide homes for 100 families. CalHFA is providing nearly \$34 million in construction and long-term loans that provide critical funding for the development of the project for families with household incomes between 25 and 60 percent of the area median income.

CIM Group's purchase of \$412.5 million in Oakland high rises includes LEED development

San Francisco Business Times - July 3

An affiliate of CIM Group, a real estate fund manager, has agreed to pay \$412.5 million for five Oakland high-rise office properties owned by Brandywine Realty Trust. The properties total 1.7 million square feet. The deal includes assumption of about \$95.6 million in existing mortgage loans. Brandywine was seeking LEED certification for one of the properties, 2100 Franklin, with the adjacent buildings sharing a lobby and central atrium and offering floor plates up to 49,000 square feet.

Green building materials manufacturer in Los Angeles

Insurance News Net - June 30

Integrity Block claims to be the first green replacement for concrete block (CMU). Integrity Block use can generate LEED credits. Although transportation is commonly thought to be the primary contributor to emissions, it is eclipsed by buildings, which are responsible for 38% of all CO2 emissions. Manufacturing, including building materials, generates an additional 28% (source EIA).

Integrity Block lowers building emissions by focusing on the life cycle of materials. From energy required to manufacture, to use of pre-consumer recycled material, Integrity Block is a green product alternatives that meet the testing and performance standards of existing CMU. The products are made from an engineered soil composite using a proprietary manufacturing process. Designed to the same standard dimensions as existing CMU, there are no changes required to the building process.

Los Angeles launches \$300,000 pilot program to boost sustainable design

Sustainable Industries - July 1

The Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) is launching a two-year \$300,000 pilot program to educate developers about sustainable design. This CRA program is designed to encourage developers in redevelopment areas of L A to pursue green building projects. The CRA's new Healthy Neighborhoods Policy includes a one-time, green building consultation for developers of new projects within the redevelopment agency's project areas, which include 18,000 acres within LA.

Revitalized LEED for Existing Buildings certifications to include operation and maintenance

Greener Buildings - July 7

The U.S. Green Building Council is hoping to revitalize the LEED for Existing Buildings (LEED-EB) standard, as LEED fever spreads across the United States and abroad. LEED-EB has been trailing behind its popular counterpart for New Construction (LEED-NC) according to Greener

Buildings. As a result, LEED-EB: Operations & Maintenance (EBOM), is set to become the default rating system for existing buildings under the LEED system. If successful, EBOM will provide the muscle to transform an enormous section of the industry, as there are about 5 million commercial buildings in the United States which would be eligible to apply for EBOM certification.

Hotels reducing energy consumption while resisting enrolment in formal green programs: USGBC

U.S. Green Building Council - June 30

A small fraction of over 47,000 U.S. hotels are enrolled in formal green programs. Only 11 hotels are LEED certified and only 314 hotels earned Energy Star certification. However, many hotels are adopting eco-friendly habits and "Eco-chic" suites are now being offered at Fairmont Hotels & Resorts in San Francisco and Washington. Green Lodging News commented that "the fact that there is a relatively low number of certified hotels is by no means a true reflection of how many hotels are actively pursuing energy or water conservation."

Massachusetts signs landmark renewable energy bill

Forbes - June 27

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick signed a landmark energy bill that will do away with long-standing obstacles to building renewable power projects in Massachusetts and building homes and businesses more energy efficient. The wide-ranging Green Communities Act will likely result in utilities designing customized plans for homeowners and businesses to lower energy costs and providing rebates to pay for measures such as installing insulating windows and efficient boilers.

Notable green building projects...

[3.3 million square foot industrial development in Fontana seeking LEED certification](#)

A six-building, 3.3 million square foot industrial development to be built in Fontana is seeking LEED certification. The site is approximately 190 acres and is located near Locust and Alder Avenues in the eastern part of the city.

[Express Scripts' \\$50 million headquarters achieves LEED certification](#)

Express Scripts' \$50 million headquarters located on the campus of University of Missouri-St. Louis was awarded LEED certification. Express Scripts moved 1,100 employees into its headquarters while the renovations were being completed. The 315,000-square-foot building is located on 16 acres.

[Arizona Public Service receives two LEED silver certifications for existing buildings](#)

Arizona Public Service Co. has received two Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver Certifications for facilities in Flagstaff and Wickenburg. The facilities received designation from the U.S. Green

Building Council for existing buildings.

USAA office in Tampa becomes first LEED certified existing building in Florida

USAA's Southeast regional office in Tampa was awarded a LEED gold certification for existing buildings from the U.S. Green Building Council. It's the first existing building in the state to receive gold certification, according to a press release.

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