

November 3, 2009

Biden's home energy retrofit plan

U.S. Department of Energy - October 21

Vice President Biden released the "Recovery Through Retrofit" report which details a plan for U.S. residents to upgrade their residential energy efficiency. The plan aims to increase green jobs and save energy. Concurrently, the DOE issued a solicitation that offers \$454 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds—including \$390 million for a "Retrofit Ramp-Up" program—to support energy efficiency throughout the country.

Green Building Focus

Report: growth in green retrofitting market

McGraw-Hill Construction - October 22

The green retrofit market is growing and projected to reach 20-30% of all commercial building retrofit and renovation work in five years, according to a new McGraw-Hill construction report. *Green Building Retrofit & Renovation: Rapidly Expanding Market Opportunities* was released at the Green Retrofit Conference in New York.

Report: Asia-Pacific's green building market

Global Markets Direct - October 21

The building industries in the Asia-Pacific region are witnessing the highest growth among other global regions. A growing market combined with favorable government policies mark the Asia-Pacific region as the next growth driver for the global green building industry in the coming years, according to a report by Global Markets Direct. Click [here](#) for the report.

Video: DOE's OpenStudio

Tonic - October 26

A video highlights the U.S. Department of Energy's newly released OpenStudio plug-in for Google's SketchUp 3-D software. OpenStudio runs simulations based on materials, energy inputs and other considerations that affect how energy is consumed by a building. OpenStudio is integrated with the DOE's EnergyPlus software which "simulates building heating, cooling, lighting, ventilation and other energy flows." Also, OpenStudio links to a construction cost database and the LEED standards.

Green building materials sector

Thomson Reuters - October 26

The green building materials sector is growing fast. Cleantech Group LLC says investors entered 45 deals worth \$350 million last year. Serious Materials, a green building materials company, is expecting "tremendous" growth next year due to federal stimulus funding for green building.

Book: Greening retail worldwide

International Council of Shopping Centers - October 26

ICSC Research Scholar Jerry Yudelson's latest book presents a solid business case for greening retail real estate and details how leading companies are advancing sustainable retail. This comprehensive guide includes green building and marketing strategies, corporate sustainability programs and features a 10-point "action program" for greening any retail real estate portfolio.

Green Cities' new website

Greener Buildings - October 21

www.GreenCitiesCalifornia.org is designed to help communities go green. The site lists best practices and tools. Also, it covers seven key areas identified by the United Nations Urban Environmental Accord: energy, waste reduction, urban design, urban nature, transportation, environmental health and water.

Southwest to test 'green' 737

San Francisco Business Times - October 21

Southwest Airlines is testing environmentally friendly materials on a refurbished "green plane" that could cut enough weight from aircraft to save the company about \$10.3 million in fuel costs if the concept is rolled out fleet wide.

Notable green building projects...

NASA laboratory earns LEED gold

OC Metro - October 21

NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Flight Projects Center in Pasadena earned LEED gold and is the greenest completed NASA building.

Portola Valley center earned LEED platinum

Inhabitat.com - October 26

The Portola Valley vintage schoolhouse straddles the San Andreas Fault and is part of the LEED platinum Portola Valley Town Center that balances seismic safety and sustainable design.

SF's \$887.4 million LEED trauma center

The Examiner - October 20

San Francisco's Department of Public Health, started its 448,000 sf Trauma Center. The \$887.4 million, LEED-certified building is scheduled to open in 2015.

Green nonprofit in Salinas

The Californian - October 23

First Community Housing is planning the Salinas Gateway Development, which will provide affordable rentals with a green roof irrigated with recycled and rain water.

First LEED gold insulation facility in the U.S.

Owens Corning - October 22

Owens Corning's Oregon plant became the first LEED Gold insulation facility in the U.S. The plant manufactures greenhouse gas-reducing FOAMULAR(R) insulation.

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[Bryan C. Jackson](#)
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[Michael Kostecka](#)
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Events

Our attorneys speak at many conferences and seminars on green building topics.

Bryan Jackson's list of recent speaking engagements can be found [here](#).

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