



GreenTrends

The electronic newsletter of the FLORIDA GREEN BUILDING COALITION

August 31, 2009

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FGBC Social Community

Join FGBC's two new social communities on Linked-In and Facebook

Quick Links

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New FGBC Website Goes Live! Special Notice

FGBC Members

The new FGBC website was launched last week, so I hope you find its new format enticing and easy to navigate. Due to a breach in our security on the old site, we had to take quicker than anticipated actions to move to the new site. We continue to bring updated functions online and ask for your patience as we complete the transition.

The search features for certifying agents and members are activated, but the member log-in, committee functions and search for projects are being phased in. We'll keep you updated on our progress through messages posted on our Home Page.

As you know, serving on an FGBC committee is a member benefit. Because of the security issues on our old site that allowed anyone (non-members and hackers) to sign up for committees, we cannot transfer our committee information. When the member login and committee functions are activated, we will ask you to go online and through your member account, select the committees you want to join.

During the transition period, if you would like to play an active role on a committee, please [email FGBC](#) to indicate the committees on which you want to serve. FGBC will provide each committee chair a list of their members. The chairs will create a temporary group distribution list for committee activity, since several of our standards are currently under the review process with approaching deadlines. (Please note that once the new website is fully functional, you will be able to enroll in or remove yourself from committees at any time through your member account.)

Thank you for your active role within FGBC and helping us achieve the many goals we've set.

Sincerely,

Suzanne B. Cook, CAE
Executive Director

NAHB-Research Center Creates 'Green Approved'

[Linkedin Group](#)
[Facebook Blog](#)
[Join Our List](#)
[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Calendar

Sept 15-18, 2009

APA Florida
Hyatt Regency
Jacksonville, FL

Sept 28-30, 2009

EEBA
Denver, CO

Oct 1-3, 2009

FNGLA Show
Orange County Convention
Center
Orlando, FL

Octr 27-30, 2009

Remodeling Show
Indianapolis Convention
Center
Indianapolis, IN

Oct 28 - 31, 2009

FHBA Fall Conference
St. Petersburg, FL

Nov 11-13, 2009

GreenBuild
Phoenix, AZ

Nov 14-15, 2009

E-Fest
Sarasota Polo Club
Lakewood Ranch, FL

Recent FGBC Certifications

City of Tallahassee

Local Government
1st Gold City
Upgrade from Silver

Greg Hardwick

Orlando
1st FGBC Platinum
Certified Home

City of Plantation

Local Government
Gold-Level

City of Palm Bay

Local Government
Silver Level

Articles of Interest

The National Home Builders Association Research Center (NAHB-RC) has awarded its Green Approved label to structural frame products from iLevel by Weyerhaeuser and Owens Corning's fiberglass insulation, duct products, foam insulation and masonry veneer products.

The research center, a subsidiary of NAHB, introduced its Green Approved program this year to attest that products bearing the label are eligible for earning points under the National Green Building Standard toward green certification of a building - provided the products are used in a way that enables them to be considered. The research center, a subsidiary of NAHB, introduced its Green Approved program this year to attest that products bearing the label are eligible for earning points under the National Green Building Standard toward green certification of a building - provided the products are used in a way that enables them to be considered.

Important to note is the National Green Building Standard does not define criteria for certifying products as "green." A product bearing the NAHB Research Center Green Approved mark is not certified as being "green." Rather, the product has been approved as eligible for earning points under the National Green Building Standard toward green certification of a building if the product is used in a qualifying way (for example, in sufficient quantity or under certain conditions as noted in the Certificate).

The iLevel engineered wood products and solid sawn lumber were the first to receive the Green Approved label. They include TJI joists, TimberStrand laminated strand lumber, Parallam parallel strand lumber, Microllam laminated veneer lumber, iLevel Frammer Series Lumber, iLevel Premium Joists and all other wood structural framing products in the iLevel line.

The Green Approved Owen Corning products are its PINK Fiberglas Insulation batts, rolls and unbonded loosefill; duct liner, duct wrap and duct board products; FOAMULAR and Celfort Extruded Polystyrene Insulation; and Masonry Veneer products, including Cultured Stone and ProStone brands.

ICC to Develop Model Green Code

The International Code Council (ICC) launched its International Green Construction Code (IGCC) initiative. Entitled "IGCC: Safe and Sustainable By the Book," the initiative is committed to develop a model code focused on new and existing commercial buildings. It will focus on building design and performance. This code will be developed by a newly created Sustainable Building Technology

[McGraw-Hill Provides Latest Stimulus News](#)

McGraw-Hill Construction's Stimulus Special Section provides the latest information on the Federal Stimulus Package. It has the industry's most comprehensive list of Federal Stimulus construction projects (Shovel Ready and ARRA-Funded), in-depth economic forecasts and timely market research.

[Alabama Power Seeks Renewable Energy Resources](#)

Alabama Power Company is seeking bids for renewable energy resources available to meet Alabama Power's renewable energy program needs. Renewable energy resources are defined as those resources capable of supplying electrical energy from sources such as solar, wind, hydro, biomass, landfill gas, and other renewable sources.

[Johnson Controls Installs 1.1-MW Rooftop PV at Orange County Convention Center](#)

Johnson Controls, Inc. completed installation of a 1.1-MW rooftop photovoltaic system at the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC) in central Florida. The system occupies approximately 200,000 sq. ft. of roof space and is expected to generate 1.1 million kWh in its first year of operation.

[DOE Says Goodbye to Incandescent Lighting](#)

New national minimum energy efficiency requirements for light bulbs will save more energy than any other standard ever issued by any administration, according to a coalition representing environmental and consumer organizations, state government, and utilities. The new standards announced on June 29 will make the hundreds of millions of fluorescent tube lamps that light offices,

Committee (SBTC) appointed by the Board of Directors of ICC. The 28-member committee represents interests across the green building landscape. It has a target date of 2010 for a first draft and will focus mostly on traditional commercial buildings, additions, and alterations. It will address residential construction by referencing the ICC 700 National Green Building Standard. It will be coordinated with the other I codes, and will provide criteria to measure compliance.

It will use the model code approach that will allow jurisdictions to adopt and will cover energy-use efficiency, water-use efficiency, building materials, indoor air quality, environmental impact, site design, and owner education. It will set minimum and advanced levels of performance written in mandatory language, while still providing both prescriptive and performance solutions. It will account for local conditions such as weather or geographical considerations. It will comply with local, state and federal laws.

Furniture Makers Seek NAHB-RC Green Seal

UL Environment Inc. has become an official certification body for the Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association and will help makers of building materials attain the NAHB Research Center Green Approved product seal.

Under that arrangement, building products and materials whose eco claims are validated by UL Environment -- recognition that entitles the product to bear ULE's Environmental Claims Validated mark -- are, in effect, expedited through the NAHB Research Center's review process for the research center's Green Approved seal.

The NAHB Research Center created the Green Approved program to identify products and materials that can be used by builders and designers to obtain points toward certification under the National Green Building Standard. NAHB rolled out the standard earlier this year. [[More](#)]

USGBC Faces Green Building Performanc Issues

Ramping up efforts to ensure that green buildings deliver on their promise, the U.S. Green Building Council rolled out a sweeping initiative this week to amass data on all LEED-certified structures and use the information to help close any gaps between expected and actual performance.

The move dovetails the USGBC's new reporting requirement, announced earlier this summer, for ongoing performance information about buildings as part of the certification process under the new version of LEED standards. The green building design standards referred to as LEED v3 and LEED 3.0 also took effect this summer.

stores, and factories more efficient. They also will phase out conventional incandescent reflector lamps, effectively extending the phase out of inefficient incandescent products initiated by Congress in 2007 to the common cone-shaped bulbs used in recessed light fixtures and track lighting. The new lamp standards, which will take effect in 2012, will have little effect on the outward appearance or lighting performance of the affected light bulbs. [\[More\]](#)

[New Report Published on "Unlocking Energy Efficiency in the U.S. Economy"](#)

The McKinsey & Company is an influential source of policy analysis for national and international policy makers, particularly on climate and energy issues. The latest McKinsey report, "Unlocking Energy Efficiency in the U.S. Economy" provides a thoughtful view of the role of energy efficiency, the barriers to energy efficiency, and options for addressing the barriers.

[Florida Water Star Bronze Comment Period Opens](#)

The Florida Water Star (FWS) Bronze tier is now available for public comment. This residential tier is designed for retrofit of existing homes only. FWS staff have worked closely with SFWMD and SWFWMD in the development of this tier and greatly appreciate their input. If you are interested in reviewing and providing comment on this proposed tier, go to homepage to find a link to the tier. Comments should be e-mailed to dirwin@sjrwm.com on or before Sept. 9, 2009.

The USGBC's Building Performance Initiative is "about gathering knowledge about building performance in a way no one has ever done before," USGBC LEED Senior Vice President Scot Horst said in a statement. "The information that we collect from our certified projects is a workable, holistic approach for achieving better performing buildings."

The NAHB Research Center is one of three major organizations to launch a product verification service this year. Introduced in concept at Greenbuild last fall, the UL Environment Inc., the environmental claims verification service of Underwriters Laboratories, went live in January.

In March, Good Housekeeping Research Institute announced that its Green Good Housekeeping Seal program will begin in the second half of the year.

Spray-On Solar Panels Possible in Three Years

Researchers at the University of Texas have developed a method to create photovoltaic panels at one-tenth the cost of existing technologies using nanoparticle "inks" to generate electricity from the sun.

The group, lead by Brian Korgel in the University's chemical engineering department, predicts that the technology, which would allow solar panels to be painted on rooftops or the sides of buildings, could be market-ready in three to five years. When the technology has been improved, the panels could consist of inks painted on plastic or stainless steel, or directly onto buildings themselves. While the technology has yet to reach efficiency levels of existing solar technologies -- currently the spray-on panels are just 1 percent efficient, while existing panels can reach 25 percent efficiency or more -- using the nanoparticles can potentially boost efficiency because of the tiny size of the materials.

EPA Publishes New Guide to Smart Growth

With a focus on basic principles of neighborhood and town design, the guide seeks to expand the awareness of why design matters, how involvement in community decisions about growth can make a place better for growing old, and how to remake a neighborhood for easier access regardless of whether it's a city, suburb or small town. The guide also includes a community assessment tool [Download](#) the publication.

How to Sell What the Customer Can't See

Improving environmental performance often takes place behind the scenes - for instance, energy efficiency measures are not always evident on the finished product. But these intangible benefits represent significant environmental upgrades -- sometimes more than reduced packaging or other claims touted in labels or in ads. [\[More\]](#)

Baby Congrats to Eric Martin & Family

Congratulations to Eric Martin and his wife for the birth of their daughter a couple of months ago. Welcome to the world Avery Elizabeth Martin

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