Thank you for being part of our Community!

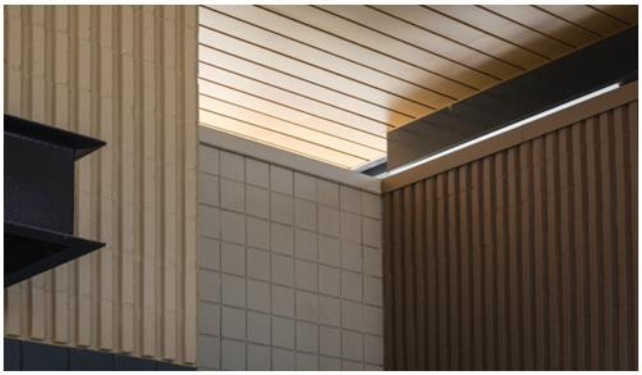
CMC is the best resource to connect and learn about Masonry. Follow CMC and get access to: Events, Webinars, Continued Education, Research & Case Studies, Design Assist, Industry News, and more.

Sustainability & Low Carbon	**Design & Architecture**	**Energy Efficiency & Net Zero**	**Technology & Innovation**

Del Oro High School by HMC Architects

Built with Masonry, Built to last 100+ Years!!

Education, Empathy, and Positive Change in a 77-acre canvas in **Bakersfield, California**, has transformed into an innovative high school fostering sustainability, student well-being, and empowerment for at-risk learners to reach their full potential.



2024 CMACN/AIACA Concrete Masonry Design Merit Award for Education Design.

IIDA Southern California Calibre Design Award.

Gold Nugget Grand Award Winner, Best Educational Project (Housing Excluded).

Why Choose Masonry?

"One of the key reasons for choosing CMU for this project was its longevity. The district wanted a project that would stand the test of time, and CMU provided a durable and affordable solution. Additionally, the availability of the material and experienced local labor helped offset the carbon footprint of the project. This material choice also complemented our "quilted landscape" concept, allowing us to select a variety of textures and colors that created a rich tapestry for the campus."

James Krueger, Design Director, HMC Architects.

CMU (Painted)
- 4-Score 2x1 Precision
- Vertical Score Precision
- Half-Face Split

Architect: HMC Architects
Engineer: Hohbach-Lewin
General Contractor: SC Anderson
Masonry Contractor: Bratton Masonry
Block Producer: Angelus Block

Read more...

Del Oro High School by HMC Architects

Connecting the A/E/C Community with the Masonry Trade

Fire Resistance, Protecting Property from Wildfires with Masonry

Sunup Mathew
Director of Industry Development
& Technical Services

INTERNATIONAL MASONRY INSTITUTE

Sunup speaks with California Masonry Council:

Extended periods of drought, rising temperatures, and strong winds have intensified the frequency and scale of wildfires in California. The 2024 wildfire season has starkly illustrated this trend, with more than 170,000 acres already burned by early July.

Winter's above-average precipitation followed by record-high summer temperatures has provided ample fuel for the fires currently sweeping across California. Particularly vulnerable are the wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas, where residential and commercial structures meet wildlands, resulting in significant property damage and loss of life.

Map Source: CALFIRE / FRAP

To mitigate these impacts, preventative measures and resilient construction practices are essential. Current building code provisions in California, aimed at WUI areas and focusing on flame spread resistance, seem insufficient. These standards allow materials with flame spread restrictions lasting only 30 minutes, which appear to be inadequate in the face of recent wildfire destruction.

Masonry construction presents a robust solution to enhance fire resistance and safety in wildfire-prone regions. Structures built with materials such as brick, stone, and concrete are less prone to ignition compared to those constructed from wood or other combustible materials.

The inherent **fire-resistant properties of masonry can prevent the spread of flames**, providing crucial protection for buildings and allowing occupants more time to evacuate safely. Moreover, masonry walls maintain their structural integrity even under extreme temperatures, reducing the risk of collapse during a wildfire.

Integrating Masonry into building designs can significantly decrease the vulnerability of homes and businesses to wildfires. Beyond its fire-resistant qualities, masonry construction requires minimal maintenance and offers durability against various environmental challenges. Communities in high-risk areas can benefit from updated building codes that promote or mandate the use of non-combustible materials. By adopting masonry construction practices, designers and developers can effectively safeguard lives and properties from the persistent threat of wildfires.

Sustainable, naturally sourced, cost effective

Masonry materials are sourced naturally without depleting limited resources. With their high thermal mass, masonry materials can effectively store and release heat. This helps maintain a consistent interior temperature in both hot and cold climates, reducing heating and cooling costs, being energy efficient and complying with green building codes.

Fire-resistant and non-combustible

Brick and stone are non-combustible materials that can prevent the spread of fire. Concrete masonry units (CMU) and other masonry materials are often used in fire-resistant barriers to enhance safety as well.

Durable and long lasting

Masonry is resistant to pests, rot, and certain weather conditions, contributing to its long lifespan and reduced need for frequent repairs or replacements. The industry launches new materials and technologies every year, ensuring masonry remains the best solution for long lasting and cost-effective building projects.

A vital component of California infrastructure

In California, masonry plays a vital role in construction and infrastructure development. Masonry buildings, reinforced with steel, can withstand earthquakes and other seismic activity.

Case Studies & Sustainability

The Albert Robles Center's Path to LEED® Platinum Certification

Masonry and Sustainability in Harmony

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS

The Albert Robles Center (ARC) for Water Recycling and Environmental Learning in Pico Rivera is a 5.2 acre advanced water treatment facility campus capable of treating up to 14 million gallons of water per day. ARC's goal is to completely eliminate the need to import water to California's Central Basin, which provides water to 10 percent of the state's population.The facility also serves to educate the local community on water reuse and conservation, with the surrounding landscape playing a crucial role in this endeavor.

Q&A

Building the Future with Masonry and Mastery

Uncover Carl Hampson's unconventional path into architecture, his insights into innovative masonry techniques and advice to young architects ready explore the limitless potential of traditional materials in contemporary designs.

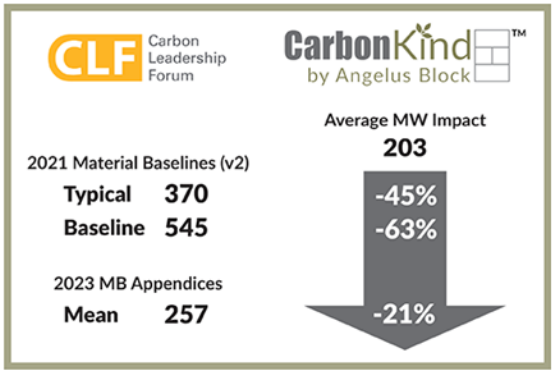
READ MORE >

CarbonKind ™, Low Carbon CMU

Angelus Block has taken a great system further with CarbonKind, a CMU with substantially lower CO2 impact. CarbonKind does not use higher-GHG ordinary Portland cement, but instead, incorporates a blended cement, Portland-limestone cement, or PLC .

PLC is getting increased attention as an alternative to OPC. By reducing a portion of limestone in kiln-fired clinker, then adding it post kiln, PLC reduces energy input and minimizes the CO2 released by its production.

It is notable Angelus Block began using PLC before it became popular in trade publications. With use of PLC and other production and material efficiencies, CarbonKind eliminates a good portion of CO2 that would be typical of OPC products and provides low-carbon CMU produced with proven, sustainable market methods. It does not rely on nascent technologies that are not quite ready for a real-world production environment.



Values in GWP kg CO2e per m3

CarbonKind by Angelus Block achieves the largest CO2 reductions for CMU in the Southern California region

Angelus BLOCK CO., INC. Since 1946

Event Alerts!

Extreme Heat Certificate Training For Construction Professionals

Online via Zoom

Fri, August 2nd
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM PDT

Extreme Heat for Construction Professionals

As one of the most climate-stressed places in the world, California experiences profound and varied impacts across its vast expanse. Preparing for climate change requires learning how to adapt in the face of this change in order to increase the resilience of communities, natural systems, and our built environment to withstand and recover from climate-related disruptions.

Climate adaptation and resilience are related, but distinct concepts. Generally, climate adaptation is an action or set of actions that reduce physical climate risk which builds climate resilient communities.

Register for this event.

SEPT 17 + 18 | ANAHEIM, CA

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CARBON
CLIMATE
EQUITY
ESG
NET ZERO
RESILIENCE

Produced by Verdical Group

PROGRAM SUMMARY

LACCD is currently planning its next round of design-build project opportunities. Join CMAA and Deborah Wylie for an update on the efforts informing these upcoming opportunities: regional campus planning and building renewal studies, which are currently in process on all nine campuses.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

$750 - Platinum - Includes 4 Tickets
$500 - Gold - Includes 3 Tickets
$250 - Silver - Includes 2 Tickets

EMCEE
Saundra Price
Associate Director, Business Development
W.E. O'Neil Construction

SPEAKER
Deborah Wylie
Master Planning Director
BuildLACCD

MODERATOR
Tonya Giebel
Director, Education Business Development
Corgan

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CALIFORNIA MASONRY COUNCIL
A DIVISION OF MIA

California Masonry Council (CMC)'s mission is to be a catalyst, advocate, and the best masonry resource in California.

Our organization promotes masonry as an essential design and building material while uniting our trade with the AEC community (architecture, engineering, and construction).

CMC is a non-profit organization.