



Green Newsletter
May 2008

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Emerging

IAPMO Begins Work on Green Supplement

Following through on its commitment to be the leader in sustainable model code provisions through the promotion of safe and reliable, environmentally responsible construction practices, the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) on April 9 in Chicago convened the inaugural meeting of its Green Technical Committee. This initial dialogue formally launches IAPMO's efforts to identify opportunities to make the *Uniform Codes* more embracing of sustainable practices and technologies and develop the first ever green supplement for plumbing and mechanical codes.

Assembled from a host of top experts in water efficiency and the sustainable plumbing and mechanical industries, the Green Technical Committee seeks to develop and maintain a supplemental document establishing requirements for green plumbing and mechanical systems, while ensuring these practices are safe and reliable. The green plumbing and mechanical supplement will also serve as a repository for provisions that can ultimately be integrated into the *Uniform Codes* and supplement codes developed by other organizations.

"I consider it a great honor to be part of this pioneering effort to develop a whole new set of provisions that promote and ensure sustainability in our future building practices," said committee Chairman Bill Erickson of C.J. Erickson Plumbing Co. "I have placed a very high priority in my work to see this to its fruition."

The supplement will seek to meet these requirements through the use of high-efficiency fixtures, appliances and equipment, water reuse and conservation, and renewable energy sources; reexamination of sizing methods and design practices; placing more emphasis on maintenance; and many other tenets of the green movement.

"By creating a comprehensive green plumbing and mechanical supplement, many proactive jurisdictions will have the option of adopting the requirements or using them as a resource to complement their existing plumbing and mechanical codes," said Dave Viola, IAPMO director of Special Services. "Many municipalities across the country have been asking for such a document."

At the meeting, clearly defined goals were established and task groups were formed to tackle specific issues in the development of the code supplement.

The committee's next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Aug. 21 in Chicago.

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Green Valley Summit

Economists, state and regional officials, technology leaders, and community members gathered for the Green Valley Summit at the Ontario Convention Center to discuss growing Southern California's Inland Empire as the global center for green technology and environmental sciences. The movement, known as the *Green Valley Initiative (GVI)*, is a GIVE project plan that aims to "integrate social, economic and environmental forces to bring new jobs, greater opportunities and a higher quality of life to the region."

"Green is about humanity. We need to find ways to do more with less," said Ali Sahabi, founder of GIVE (Green Institute for Village Empowerment) and President of SE Corporation, the master developer of the sustainable mixed-use community of Dos Lagos in Corona. "Finding ways to do more with less is really what green technology is all about."

The challenge the Inland Empire faces, he said, is a lack of local jobs. More than 50



percent of its residents commute over three hours a day, resulting in a waste of energy, time and resources. To make matters worse, the Inland Empire is projected to have significant growth, with its population expected to increase from 4 to 6 million by 2025. Without the jobs to employ them, this growth will be the breaking point for the region's already strained infrastructure.

All successful plans in the past have been regional, said Ali, and can be accredited to the collaboration of government, business, universities, civic organizations, and the community working together. The third element, he said, is focus. That focus needs to be on green technology and environmental sciences.

More than 200 stakeholders in the Green Valley Initiative have been meeting since June 2007 to develop a plan to bring green businesses to the region, create jobs and improve the quality of life for the people in the Inland Empire.

Another challenge, said California Lt. Governor Garamendi, is to remove "the stop signs and speed bumps" on the road to sustainability. Talking of the green rebuilding effort following the San Diego wildfires, he cited as an example a lack of knowledge of green building practices and unfamiliarity with the new Title 24 by building inspectors. Training and education of the workforce is essential to green building and growth, said Garamendi, as well as a coordination of legislation between local and state policies.

He also called on the Federal government to put in place a rational energy program that moves us away from a carbon economy. The time to act is now, he said, and the first step is to extend the renewable energy tax credits.

"We lost a decade. We have to catch up," said Garamendi. "And catch up means we have to do far more."

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Greensburg, Kansas Marks One-Year Anniversary

The town wiped out by a tornado marked its one-year anniversary since that fateful day May 4, 2007. Greensburg, Kansas lost over 90 percent of its buildings when an EF5 tornado 1.7 miles wide tore through it, claiming 11 lives and injuring 60 others.

The city has come together to rebuild, rising from the rubble with an ambitious plan to become the greenest town in America. The city is encouraging residents to consider green design principles when re-constructing their homes, and recently passed an ordinance requiring LEED Platinum standards for all city buildings.

Businesses and residents have become involved in the sustainability plan. BTI-John Deere plans on installing two wind turbines to supply power for their property. With the help of General Motors, Dwane Shank Motors plans to rebuild their business to serve as a model of energy efficiency. Even the Baptist Church is committed to rebuilding to LEED Platinum standards.

The Town held a special event to commemorate the first anniversary. Tragedy to Triumph – Greensburg Rising, held May 2- 4, focused around community activities, including the groundbreaking for the new Business Incubator, a golf tournament, the dedication of the victim's memorial, and a candle light vigil.

President Bush also visited the town for the second time since the tornado. The President gave the commencement address for the graduating Greensburg High School students.

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Caroma Pledges 200 Additional Toilets to Greensburg

In the April I-Connection we told you of Caroma's generous donation of 200 dual flush toilets to the town of Greensburg. The Australian company, known around the world for pioneering the water-saving dual flush technology, has pledged 200 additional dual flush toilets to assist the town's green rebuilding efforts.

Daniel Wallach, founder of Greensburg GreenTown, a non-profit organization that provides residents with information, support and resources to build green, says Caroma's

donation was significant. "Thanks to Caroma for being the first large scale donor of construction materials for Greensburg residents. When companies saw that Caroma had jumped on board to help, we started getting calls from others wanting to assist. It also made our residents realize this plan was really going to happen."



Greg Waters, president of People's Bank in Greensburg, Kansas, gets some help from Alanna Goodman of the Greensburg GreenTown organization, loading his car with a dual flush toilet donated by Caroma.

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WaterSmart Innovations Conference and Exposition announces "Early Bird" registration through July 11

"Early bird" full conference registration is underway until July 11 for the inaugural WaterSmart Innovations Conference and Exposition, Oct. 8-10, 2008, in Las Vegas.

A discounted rate of \$330 is available through the conference's Web site, <http://www.watersmartinnovations.com/index.html>. After July 11, full conference registration will increase to \$390. WaterSmart Innovations will be held at the South Point Hotel & Casino, at the south end of the famed Las Vegas Strip.

Presented by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) WaterSense Program, WaterSmart Innovations will serve to broaden the knowledge of innovations in urban water efficiency and water conservation including products, programs and outreach. It is anticipated to be the largest and most comprehensive conference of its kind.

The conference's Program Committee selected more than 100 of the highest quality presentations from about 240 abstracts submitted by water-efficiency professionals from around the globe. In addition to representatives from the United States, the Program Committee received proposals from Australia, Canada, China, Bulgaria and Bangladesh.

Education and training tracks at WaterSmart Innovations include Alternate Sources; Drought Management; Plumbing, Appliances and Fixtures; Code, Policy and Rates; Conservation and Incentive Programs; Construction and Development; Education; Landscapes; Utility and Infrastructure; Innovation Marketplace; Marketing and Outreach; and Special Topics.

Other organizations collaborating with the SNWA and the EPA on WaterSmart Innovations include the Alliance for Water Efficiency, California Urban Water Conservation Council, the California-Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association, Irrigation Association, American Society of Irrigation Consultants, Audubon International, the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and the National Association of Home Builders.

For more information: <http://www.watersmartinnovations.com/index.html>

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Update: Dallas Approves Green Building Ordinance

Dallas City Council voted unanimously in favor of the new green building ordinance.

The ordinance will be implemented in two phases:

Phase 1 becomes effective Oct. 1, 2009 and includes requirements for energy efficiency, water conservation, and cool roofs for proposed projects affecting less than 50,000 sq. ft. of floor area in a single 12-month period.

Phase 2 begins Oct. 1, 2011 and applies to all proposed projects. Proposed projects must

be LEED-certifiable, Green Built North Texas-certifiable, or certifiable under an equivalent green building standard.

The requirements call for a 20 percent reduction in water use and a 15 percent reduction in energy use.

The water reducing strategies include installing high-efficiency (low-flow) fixtures or fittings, which meet at least four of the following requirements:

- Average flow rate of all lavatory faucets must be 2.0 gallons per minute.
- The average flow rate for all showerheads must be 2.0 gallons per minute.
- The average flow rate for all toilets must:
 - Be 1.3 gallons per flush
 - Be dual-flush and meet the requirements of ASME A112.19.14: or
 - Meet the US EPA WaterSense specification and be certified and labeled accordingly
- Utilize Energy Star labeled dishwashers that use 6.0 gallons or less per cycle
- Utilize Energy Star labeled clothes washers with a modified energy factor (MEF) >2.0 and a water factor (WF)<5.5.
- Utilize drip irrigation emitters for all bedding areas of landscape plan

To read the full version: http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/green_building_ordinance.pdf

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Los Angeles Finalizes Green Building Ordinance

The Private Sector Green Building Plan for Los Angeles has been approved by the city council and signed into law by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

"After decades of poor policies that neglected environmental concerns, this city is at a turning point," said the mayor at the signing ceremony. "This measure will serve as a blueprint for a smarter, greener Los Angeles."

The new law requires all projects at or above 50,000 sq. ft. or 50 units to meet the requirements of the LEED-certified standard. The city promises to expedite plan review for those who pursue a LEED Silver rating.

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AIA's Top 10 Green Projects

The American Institute of Architects Committee on the Environment (AIA/COTE) has released their top ten choices of sustainable architecture and green design solutions.

A few of the choices:



Photo Credit: Jeff Goldberg/Esto

Queens Botanical Garden Visitor & Administration Center (Flushing, NY)

The building features waterless urinals, composting toilets, bioswales to manage storm water on site, photovoltaic panels, and a ground-source heat pump system to manage energy on site.



Photo credit: Bill Timmerman

Cesar Chavez Library (Laveen, AZ)

"To lessen cooling needs, the building was built into the site and bermed with excavated earth. Extensive overhangs protect the building from solar heat gain and glare, while window walls provide daylighting and views to the outdoors. The building is split into zones for heating and cooling, each with its own thermostat and controls. Ventilation is provided through the mechanical system even when the cooling is turned off, and supply air is filtered and monitored for carbon dioxide. The exhaust air from the building is used to temper an outdoor patio, making it usable for more of the year."

To see the full list: http://www.aia.org/aiarchitect/thisweek08/0425/0425n_cote.cfm

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Getting Into Hot Water - The 2008 Forum on Water Heating and Use

Interest in meeting domestic hot water needs with greater efficiency is exploding. New hot water generating technologies, structured plumbing approaches, new demand-reduction devices (e.g., in fixtures and water-efficient appliances), and programs for stimulating market uptake of new approaches are all being discussed by individual communities of interest, with limited dialogue among them.

This first-ever ACEEE forum on water heating will bring together leading experts from manufacturing; distribution; electricity, gas and water utilities; government; and the research community to learn from each other and build momentum for market

transformation in residential and light commercial water heating. The conference will be a forum for discussing both the technical efficiency potential and the policy or program implications across three areas: hot water generation, distribution, and use.

Interested in attending? <http://aceee.org/conf/08whforum/index.htm>

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DOE To Invest \$60 Million for Solar Tech

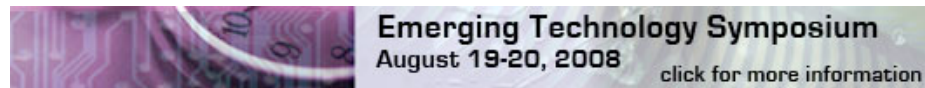
The U.S. Department of Energy has issued the Solar Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for up to \$60 million in funding over the next five years. The funding will support the development of low-cost Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) technology.

The FOA makes funding available for projects from industry and academia that develop advanced thermal storage concepts and heat transfer fluids to further increase the efficiency of concentrating solar power plants. DOE anticipates making 10-25 awards through this competitive solicitation. With a minimum 20 percent cost share by the private sector for research and development phases and a minimum 50 percent private cost share for final demonstration phases, the total research investment in advanced solar technologies under this solicitation is expected to exceed \$75 million.

"Harnessing the natural and abundant power of the sun and more cost-effectively converting it into energy is an important component of our comprehensive strategy to commercialize and deploy advanced clean, alternative technologies that will allow us to become less reliant on foreign oil," said U.S. Secretary of Energy Clarence Albright. "The Administration's investment in solar technology will not only bolster innovation, but will help meet the President's goal of making solar power cost-competitive with conventional sources of electricity over the next seven years."

To read the full DOE press release: <http://www.energy.gov/news/6189.htm>

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Go Green! Register online for IAPMO's 79th Annual Education and Business conference at www.iapmo.org

Events Calendar:

IAPMO Technical Committee Meeting 2008
May 5-9, 2008
The Adams Mark Hotel
Denver, CO
www.iapmo.org

63rd National Hardware Show
May 6-8, 2008
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV
www.nationalhardwareshow.com

National Green Building Conference
May 11-13, 2008
Sheraton New Orleans
New Orleans, LA
www.nahb.org

Ecobuild America® & AEC-ST
May 19-22, 2008
Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim, CA
www.ecobuildamerica.com

Green West Expo 2008
May 20-22, 2008
LA Convention Center
Los Angeles, CA
www.greenwestexpo.com

Commercial Construction Expo
June 3-5, 2008
Orange County Convention Center
Orlando, FL
www.cc-show.net

PCBC 2008
June 24-27, 2008
Moscone Center
San Francisco, CA
www.pcbc2008.com

**Canadian Institute Annual Business
Conference (ABC)**
June 29 - July 2, 2008
Fairmont Chateau Whistler
Whistler, BC
www.ciph.com

**IAPMO Emerging Technology
Symposium**
August 19-20, 2008
O'Hare Marriott
Chicago, IL
www.iapmo.org

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