



## ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP & GREEN CONSTRUCTION INITIATIVES

The **AGC Environmental Network** provides a means for AGC to share educational resources with members, both regulatory and those issues that go beyond compliance such as green construction. The Network also provides a forum for members to interact with environmental professionals in construction firms nationwide. AGC calls on Network members to participate in task forces on specific issues so that they can lend their expertise to AGC's educational initiatives.

In 2006, AGC released its **Environmental Agenda** that outlines ways the association will endeavor to provide resources to members and establish relationships with regulatory agencies (e.g., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) and other stakeholder groups (e.g., U.S. Green Building Council).

AGC works collaboratively with the EPA on numerous compliance assistance, environmental management system, and recycling tools and initiatives. AGC partners with EPA in the **National Environmental Performance Track Program** and **Resource Conservation Challenge**. In addition, AGC is the only construction trade association to partner with the agency in its **Sector Strategies Program**. Most recently, AGC is working with the RCC project team on a construction and demolition debris recycling white paper and toolkit for members.

AGC worked with EPA to develop a guideline and template on developing an **environmental management system** specific to the construction industry. AGC and EPA held a series of workshops to help members develop and implement EMS.

AGC often runs educational articles on environmental and green construction issues in its bi-monthly *Constructor* magazine (and several AGC chapter publications). AGC also provides **green construction articles, information** and **resources** online.

Through its **Environmental Solutions Series**, AGC highlights members' efforts to improve the environment. In addition, AGC acknowledges leaders through the environmental category in its yearly **AGC/Aon Build America Awards** program.

AGC routinely offers **green construction programs** during the association's Annual Convention and other key meetings year round. AGC has partnered with the USGBC and the Green Building Initiative to bring training to members at these national events. The 2009 Annual Convention had a record twelve (12) environmental- and green construction-related programs.

In 2007, AGC released **talking points** on the contractor's role on a green project.

An AGC task force assisted the author of a green construction guidebook, published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Once completed in 2008, AGC reviewed and approved the book, and it carries the AGC seal. ***Contractor's Guide to Green Building Construction*** provides information on the relationship between green building practices and construction management. The AGC bookstore now carries several publications on green construction, green building information modeling, and an engineering guide to LEED.

The AGC Education and Research Foundation sponsored research at the Construction Management Program, Michigan State University to identify how the LEED rating system for new construction (v. 2.2) impacts construction practices. AGC developed a curriculum for a full-day course based on the results of this research. AGC debuted this course, ***Building to LEED for New Construction***, in March 2008. AGC is a member of the USGBC and enrolled the course, *Building to LEED for New Construction*, in the council's Education Provider Program, under which the USGBC reviewed and approved the course. AGC delivered *Building to LEED for New Construction* at the USGBC's 2008 Greenbuild conference.

AGC also offers a half-day program called ***LEED Estimating for Green Buildings*** as part of its Estimating Academy.

AGC also works with the **Green Building Initiative**. In addition to holding educational programs on Green Globes during national events, AGC held a webinar on life cycle assessment for buildings in partnership with GBI in the spring of 2008. AGC worked with GBI to hold a three-part webinar series on the liability of building green in the fall of 2008.

AGC is a member of the **National Institute of Building Sciences High Performance Building Council** and Michael Stark (AGC senior director, building division) sits on the executive committee for that council. On a related note, AGC participates in a coalition to support the **High Performance Building Congressional Caucus**. AGC also has joined the newly-formed **High Performance Commercial Green Building Partnership** to provide input to the Department of Energy on high-performance building issues.

AGC is a frequent participant at **meetings and roundtable discussions** organized by the American Institute of Architects and other industry groups on such issues as general sustainability, green buildings, green products, and greenhouse gas emissions.

AGC Environmental Network members are participating on the AGC Contract Documents Taskforce that is working collaboratively with 22 leading construction organizations to develop and publish **the first industry standard contract document comprehensively addressing green construction**.

AGC has a full time LEED AP **staff member** dedicated to green construction and environmental management issues.

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