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## **CBC NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2011**

### **Spotlight on Certified Ratings and the Component Modeling Approach (CMA) for Commercial Buildings**

More than 30 percent of commercial heating and cooling energy consumption is due to heat loss and heat gain through windows, doors, curtain walls and skylights – also known as fenestration. To provide architects, specifiers, engineers and code officials with accurate information on the energy performance of commercial fenestration, the National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) offers a powerful rating and certification program called the Component Modeling Approach (CMA). While NFRC's energy rating and labeling system has been used in the residential sector for the past 20 years, CMA is a recent approach that specifically serves the needs of the commercial market. Read the full article to find out more on NFRC and the importance of certified ratings, how CMA works, and what the benefits are. Read the [full article](#).

### **Webinar on Commercial Window Energy Performance Ratings and Simulation Tools**

Coming up on September 26, 2011 at 1:00 pm Eastern Time, this webinar would cover third-party certification by the National Fenestration Rating Council, explain the benefits for code enforcement and compliance, and introduce online tools available for easy performance simulations. Target audiences are design professionals and energy code experts. Exact date, time, and details will be posted on our [webinar page](#) soon.

## **Industry News**

### **IMT Releases Report on Building Energy Transparency**

The Institute for Market Transformation (IMT) released a report last week that offers the first-ever national review of building energy rating and disclosure policies in the United States. The policies, recently enacted into law by five cities and two states, require large commercial building owners to measure their properties' energy consumption and reveal that data. By making building energy use and

costs more transparent, these laws will encourage building energy improvements and stimulate market demand for energy efficiency. [Building Energy Transparency](#) identifies best practices that help jurisdictions overcome common challenges in implementation. IMT's report will be an essential road-map for jurisdictions seeking to adopt rating and disclosure policies. In addition to the report, IMT worked with real estate services firm CB Richard Ellis on a compact user's guide to the requirements, which is also released today. Download CBRE's [Guide to State and Local Energy Performance Regulations](#).

## **California Energy Commission Workshop Results on: Achieving Energy Savings in California Buildings and Achieving a Zero-Net-Energy Future**

California Energy Commission (CEC) staff conducted a workshop on the Draft Staff Report Achieving Energy Savings in California Buildings on July 20th, 2011. The purpose of the workshop was to present information and solicit comments on the report and its proposed recommendations. Specifically, stakeholder and public input is wanted on the Energy Commission staff's draft recommendations for achieving zero-net-energy residential buildings by 2020 and zero-net-energy commercial buildings by 2030.

The report emphasizes the need for better data to drive policy decisions, the need to focus on existing buildings as well as new, and the need for workforce development as a key in the progression towards zero net energy buildings. The report also offers an interesting new way to look at the definition of Zero Net Energy (ZNE) for buildings based on the "societal value" of energy:

*"A ZNE building is a building in which the societal value of energy consumed over the course of a typical year is less than or equal to the societal value of the onsite renewable energy generated. The societal value of energy is the long-term projected cost of energy, including the peak-demand cost (time-dependent valuation [TDV] of energy), the value of associated carbon emissions, and other externalized costs."*

Visit the [workshop website](#) and download the draft staff report: [Achieving Energy Savings in California Buildings](#).

## **DOE Announces 14 Initial Partners in the Better Buildings Challenge**

*Private sector partners, local governments commit more than \$500 million and 300 million square feet to improving energy efficiency*

On June 30, 2011 the Department of Energy (DOE) announced the 14 initial partners committing to the Better Buildings Challenge at the Clinton Global Initiative America meeting in Chicago. Another round of partnership announcements is expected in the fall. To date, the commitments announced include a pledge by Lend Lease to retrofit 40,000 homes for military families and by Transwestern to upgrade

energy efficiency in 78 million square feet of commercial real estate. Overall there are more than 260 million square feet of buildings and facilities enrolled and more than \$575million in commitments for financing energy efficiency projects over the next 18 months. Among many, Lend Lease, USAA Real Estate Company and the cities of Los Angeles, Seattle and Atlanta will provide data on their energy savings and share their efficiency strategies, which will serve as models to save money by saving energy. Read the [full press release](#) and browse the [Better Buildings Challenge Website](#).

## **Industry Events**

[International Energy Program Evaluation Conference](#): August 16 - 18, 2011 – Boston, MA

[NASEO 2011 Annual Meeting](#): September 11 - 14, 2011 - San Antonio, TX

[RETECH 2011](#): September 20 - 22, 2011 - Washington DC

[Behavior, Energy and Climate Change Conference](#): November 29 - December 2, 2011 - Washington, DC

[International Conference for Enhanced Building Operations](#): October 18-20, 2011 - New York City

Commercial Buildings Consortium  
[zeroenergycbc.org](http://zeroenergycbc.org)