



Designers Embrace New Masonry Software

With real savings of time and money and more design options, it's no wonder that engineers and architects are enthusiastically embracing IMI's new masonry design software. Hands-on seminars are a hit, too. { [more](#) }



IMI New Products Bandwagon Keeps Rolling

IMI's mission to explore new products and expand work opportunities continues in local markets. Building on the success of this fall's New Products Expo at The Flynn Center, local offices work with area contractors and designers to provide targeted education and training programs. { [more](#) }



IMI Assist with Products, Prototype Helps Win Tornado Project

Michigan contractor Andy Hofstra of Hofstra Masonry knew he needed to make masonry more efficient than other materials to win the bid for emergency call centers required to meet tornado ratings. That is where IMI's familiarity with new products and applications came in handy. { [more](#) }



Harley Davidson Museum Celebrates a Century with Style

It's a far cry from its 1903 birthplace in a Milwaukee shed. For its new, 130,000-s.f. museum complex in Milwaukee, Harley-Davidson chose glazed brick to create a signature look. { [more](#) }



TEAM IMI Helps Overturn ICC Committee on Backer Boards

Testimony from Team IMI and other building experts convinced national building officials to overturn an International Code Council committee recommendation that would have allowed glass-mat gypsum-based tile backer boards in wet areas. Similar materials were disallowed by code years ago.

More Good Code News

The Masonry Society [TMS] and Masonry Alliance for Codes and Standards [MACS] reduced redundancies between the International Building Code [IBC] and Masonry Standards Joint Committee [MSJC], so that identical items will now only appear in the MSJC, as of the 2008 edition. That should simplify interpretations of shared provisions.

Add the IMI TOOLKIT to Your Arsenal

The IMI TOOLKIT provides handy and practical ways to address a variety of jobsite situations. Contractors and designers looking for answers about common masonry issues and applications can access the IMI TOOLKIT online at www.imiweb.org.



IMI News Continued

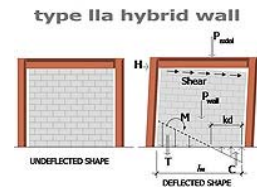
Designers Embrace New Masonry Software

It's only been a few weeks since IMI unveiled new structural design software, but it is already spurring interest in masonry. Developed in partnership with Bentley Systems, Ryan Biggs Associates and the National Concrete Masonry Association, the software performs a whole building analysis of both load bearing masonry buildings and the new "hybrid" concept of masonry/steel design. That dramatically cuts design time and makes masonry more attractive than ever.



To make it even easier, IMI launched a seminar series that lets designers test drive the software and better understand the structural concepts. The more they learn, the greater their interest, with the popular seminars leading to plenty of software orders.

"We'd prefer to use masonry," says engineer Tim Gettelfinger from Structural Services in Louisville, Kentucky. The software "is going to integrate nicely, and will be a plus" for selling masonry design ideas, he says.



IMI also worked with the firm to address their concerns about manpower issues in the traditionally non-union area, providing a list of BAC contractors and demonstrating the union training difference. A particular hit was the grout training and certification provided to Local 4 INKY apprentices and journey-level members. "That's encouraging," says Gettelfinger, who wound up adding IMI grout certification to his structural specification notes.

The software is proving useful with other projects, too, including an 80,000 s.f. rehabilitation center in Wisconsin. IMI is now preparing a custom design software seminar for the designers, Flad & Associates.

To make sure that the next generation of designers understands and appreciates the software's benefits, IMI is collaborating with Bentley on college-level outreach.

For the seminar schedule, go to www.imiweb.org. To see how the software can benefit your project, call 800-IMI-0988.



IMI New Products Bandwagon Keeps Rolling

In New England, the BAC Local 3 MA/ME/NH Training Center hosted a regional expo featuring two track systems, Arriscraft's ARRIS clip and the Redland Thin Brick Clip. The hands-on approach helped contractors learn how to bid and install the work. "The contractors went out of there a lot more confident," says BAC Local 3 President/Secretary-Treasurer Charles Raso. Connecticut contractors and craftworkers got a similar introduction to stone panels.



In Pittsburgh, where restoration is big, IMI and BAC Local 9 PA teamed up with ProSoCo to update contractors and craftworkers on the latest trends in masonry exterior cleaning.

In Illinois, IMI brought together contractors and manufacturers to learn about ventilated masonry facades and proper training. A January 2009 session will educate area architects and engineers. New Jersey will learn about new products early in the new year as well.

In Michigan, contractors gathered at the training center to practice laying out and installing Boston Valley's terra cotta rain screen system. "We have to prepare ourselves for technology," says contractor Ed Davenport. Davenport Masonry now has a large project with the system.



IMI Assist with Products, Prototype Helps Win Tornado Project

The winning masonry solution for the 911 centers included self-consolidating grout (SCG) and a new application using single length rods from footer to parapet. IMI designed and built some test panels featuring both, and Hofstra won the engineers' approval on the spot. IMI also offered job-specific grout certification and flashing training for the project, which is expected to serve as the prototype for others. An added bonus was the general contractor's comment that his opinion of working with union firms changed for the better.



Harley Davidson Museum Celebrates a Century with Style

For the challenging project, which included a stack bond, Kinateder Masonry of Waukesha worked with the architects to create life-size templates to shape the bricks precisely, like a mosaic. A total of 4700 bricks were used to spell out the famous company name in letters ranging from nine to fourteen feet.



“We had never done something quite of this magnitude,” says Fred Kinateder, Jr. “It took a high degree of craftsmanship to pull it off.” He applauds members of BAC Local 8 WI for the great results, including keeping on schedule and budget.

The three building complex, which includes a museum, shops, dining and event spaces, opened this summer.

