



The face of masonry.

eNewsletter

September/October 2012

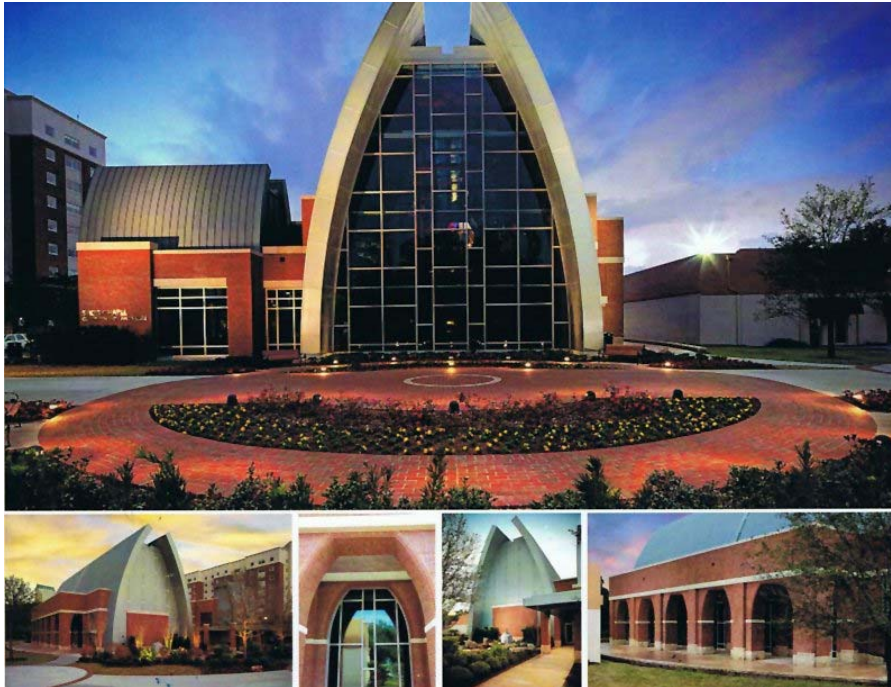
Sykes Chapel Named Florida "Project of the Year"

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Sykes Chapel Center for Faith & Values - University of Tampa, FL

Built to provide a campus gathering place for students of all faiths to pray, meditate and worship their own God, the east, west, and south entrances of the Sykes Chapel were designed to offer the impression of two praying hands reaching towards the sky. Masonry construction included exterior brick veneer and pavers provided by [Oldcastle Architectural](#) used in combination with imported granite veneer at the base. A total of 28 arches were installed in the exterior and interior of the project, built using a concealed lintel system. Most of the load-bearing precast were welded to angle supports at steel columns, but some were actually hung and welded to steel supports above, providing an unusual view with the precast stopping flush at the opening.

"The project was an incredible challenge for our masons from start to finish but also a very rewarding experience--especially because of the great customer service from Oldcastle and their attention to detail, including the design and manufacture of the special shapes and insuring the proper blend of face brick to match the surrounding campus buildings," said Devon Brookshire, President of Red Brookshire, masonry contractors.

The project received the 2011 Brick Industry Association "Best in Class" for Houses of Worship and the 2011 Masonry Association of Florida "Project of the Year."

Architect: TVS of Florida Architecture

Lead Designer: Bob Balke

General Contractor: Peter Brown Construction, Inc.

Insulated Blocks Offer Increased R-Value to Meet New Codes

As jurisdictions begin to adopt International Energy Conservation Codes (IECC), designers and builders are beginning to look for innovative ways to adhere to code requirements for more insulation and a tighter building envelope. [Oldcastle Architectural](#) offers a number of insulated masonry options that can be used either for the entire building envelope or to boost R-Values to allow for trade-offs, such as additional windows or skylights.

NRG Insulated CMU is a fully thermally broken CMU that disconnects the web to provide a full thermal break. It is available in a number of colors and finishes, including Split Face, Marble Face, Marble Face Polished, Weathered Face, and Smooth/Grey block. With an R-Value rating of R-22, NRG offers a significant increase over standard hollow core block with poured insulation, which typically offers only a rating of R-4 to R-8. Buildings using NRG typically consume about one-third the amount of heating and cooling energy of conventionally built buildings, allowing for smaller capacity HVAC equipment to be used. NRG's polystyrene inserts are manufactured with 10-15% pre-consumer recycled content. Masonry units may also contain recycled aggregate.



NRG Insulated CMU is available through Oldcastle companies [Northfield](#) in the Midwest and [Anchor](#) in the Northeast.

For other insulated masonry options available in your area, contact your local Oldcastle sales rep.

INDUSTRY NEWS

2012 MCAA Midyear Meeting a Success

The 2012 MCAA Midyear Meeting was held Sept. 12-14 in Park City, Utah. Attendees participated in fun and educational events throughout the week, including the announcement of the 2012 TEAM Awards, where eleven projects and their construction teams were recognized for their outstanding accomplishments in masonry design and construction.

"The meeting was a great gathering of mason contractors and their suppliers," said John Ciccirelli, who represented [Oldcastle Architectural](#) at the event. "One very interesting part of the meeting was a group round table in which the collective ways were discussed on how to better promote masonry to the construction community. The mason contractors were very interested in attending the supplier's architectural presentations and in being able to provide valuable insight from the installer's perspective." [>>>Read more about the event.](#)

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Lunch & Learn: Avoiding Cracks in Brickwork (Credits: 1 HSW)

Building materials are in a constant state of motion, expanding and contracting due to changes in temperature or moisture content. Building materials can also change dimension due to stress or can flow when subjected to sustained loads. This presentation will discuss these movements—thermal, moisture, deflection, and creep—along with the proper way to control them.

Topics include:

- The difference between expansion joints and control joints
- Proper joint spacing

- When and why to use compressible fill
- Shelf angles that allow for expected movements
- The increasing concern of moisture expansion
- Joint reinforcement options

For scheduling information, contact Gary Clark at (410) 795-2912 or Gary.Clark@oldcastle.com.



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Oldcastle Architectural is the leading North American manufacturer of concrete masonry, lawn, garden and paving products and is a regional leader in clay brick.

