

the latest product developments
new & improved

Do No Harm?

As recapped in this issue's *Perspective*, Johnson Controls' latest Global Energy Efficiency Indicator survey, coupled with recent news from the USGBC, hints that the economy and environment may be significantly intertwined. Regarding the JCI survey, it says that 70% of building owners are interested in implementing energy efficiency projects eligible for tax incentives, which have just been kicked into high gear by the president's administration in the form of its "Better Buildings Initiative," a plan to make existing commercial and multifamily buildings more energy efficient. The USGBC reports that the initiative has potential to create 114,000 new jobs. Something, however, that has not been addressed in federal legislation is transparency in the products used to meet high-performance buildings' stringent standards. This begs the question: What is in these products? As Perkins+Will's Kim Farrah points out in *Resource Librarian*, 25 known carcinogens commonly found in building materials appear on the firm's "Precautionary List," of substances to avoid. This may frustrate designers who discover a proven product on this list, however, these instances allow P+W to ask the market for people-safe replacements, such as the non-toxic fire-proof coating on p. 85. But it is left to A/E/C professionals and manufacturers as a whole to take such a "do no harm" oath. The tricky part is doing so while trying to operate themselves efficiently in tough economic times. Good luck.

—Megan Mazzocco, *associate editor*

↓ FIRST CRUSH

Crush. **Fireclay's** 100% recycled glass tile, is grown from right within its local environment. "Crush" stems from raw waste glass sourced and transformed into glass tiles within 20 miles of its San Jose, Calif., manufacturing facility. Acai, Poppy and Walnut are color names inspired by nature, and touch on the company's sourcing and production of Crush. Visit www.fireclaytile.com or **Circle 479**



↑ AWARD-WINNING LOOK-A-LIKE

Managers of the Henderson, Nev., city hall wanted to maintain the look of their metal roof when that system required replacing, but were open to a different material. The project met requirements by providing a standing-seam profile with a watertight seal. The project won first place in the manufacturer's 2010 Project of the Year competition, addressed by **Sika** and interfaced with on-site cladding systems. Visit www.sika.com or **Circle 480**

↓ WAVING HI

Contoura carved acoustical ceiling panels form a 3-D design to provide a visually spacious interior. The 2-ft. x 2-ft. scored mineral-fiber ceiling panels by **Interior Systems** come in a variety of different waves and are made with over 50% recycled content to install on a coordinating 3/4-in. tee-bar grid system. Shown here: Contoura Ripple Wave in Metallic Silver. Visit www.interiorsystems.com or **Circle 478**



↓ HIGH MARKS

Ideal for highly hygienic environments, **Duravit** automatic flush valves sense that the user has finished. Features include a self-cleaning action that is triggered by a touch. Visit www.duravit.com or **Circle 477**

