



# THINK green™

June 2009

an e-newsletter on the green benefits of thin brick

What area of our lives accounts for the single largest environmental impact? According to statistics provided by the USGBC the answer is - BUILDINGS

- 65% OF ELECTRICAL CONSUMPTION
- 30% OF GREENHOUSE GAS
- 30% OF WASTE OUTPUT
- 36% OF ENERGY USE
- 30% OF RAW MATERIAL USE
- 12% OF POTABLE WATER USE

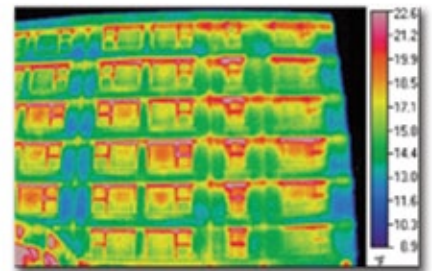
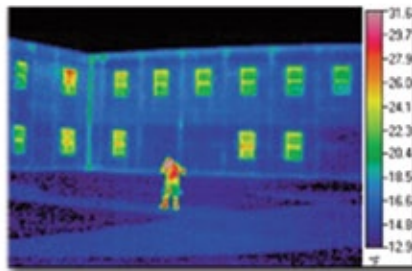
## How does this affect your exterior wall choice?

If the thermal mass effect is of benefit to your project, an insulated concrete wall system has superior performance and can eliminate the need for stud framing.

The Precast Concrete Institute, The Tilt-Up Concrete Association and the Insulated Concrete Form Association have detailed information to compare their wall systems to a stud frame system (which is the baseline used by USGBC). Using one of these systems as recommended by the respective organization's recommendations will lower your energy consumption and reduce your monthly expenses.

If energy control is critical to your project, a concrete wall system should be considered in lieu of stud framing. The near photo shows an insulated precast building with thin brick. The far picture shows a typical brick and block structure.

Images courtesy of Thermomass Insulation Systems



### LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) 2009

EA Credit 1: Optimize Energy Performance 1-19 Points

#### Intent

To achieve increasing levels of energy performance beyond the prerequisite standard to reduce environmental and economic impacts associated with excessive energy use.



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