

May 2009

THINK green™

an e-newsletter on the green benefits of thin brick

Benefit #4- Construction Site Clean-up



Each year more than 130 million tons of debris from construction sites is dumped into U.S. landfills according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The space available for landfills keeps shrinking- but not the amount of debris that goes into them. More than half of the waste comes from new construction and demolition.

The masked gentleman to the right is adding greatly to the construction waste number by cutting full face bricks in half (sometimes called soaps). The front half gets embedded in concrete as 'thin brick'. The back half flies into the dumpster and off to the landfill. Not all thin bricks are the same- true thin bricks are manufactured to size, saving precious natural materials in production, transportation, and construction site waste.



Manufactured thin brick is the right brick choice when considering construction site clean up. There is less wasted material when field applied, tilt up construction greatly reduces waste over brick and block construction, and job site debris is nearly nil with precast construction.



LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) 2009
MR Credit 2 Construction Waste Management 1-2 Points

The requirements for this credit involve recycling or salvaging construction and demolition debris. By using manufactured thin brick and a low-waste wall system, there will be less waste to salvage. Less waste to salvage means an easier time managing the remaining construction debris.



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