
IMT's Cliff Majersik Speaks About High-Performance Building on the Hill

May 24, 2011 (Washington, D.C.) – IMT's executive director Cliff Majersik spoke about the importance of collecting building energy data and enforcing energy codes at a Capitol Hill press conference today organized by the High-Performance Building Congressional Caucus Coalition (HPBCCC). The event kicked off the coalition's third annual High-Performance Building Week.

"High-performance buildings are an opportunity—an American-as-apple-pie opportunity—to grow our national wealth, create jobs, and protect the environment at the same time," Majersik said.

Majersik called on Congress to restore funding to the federal government's Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS). The country's most comprehensive program to collect and analyze building performance data, CBECS is "critically important to a sector that uses \$422 billion a year in energy," he said. "And yet we couldn't find \$4 million to understand ... where that money is going? You can't manage what you don't measure. We need to fund CBECS."

Majersik went on to praise cities and states that are leading efforts to rate and disclose buildings' energy performance, and stressed the importance of enforcing building energy codes. [IMT research](#) has found that every \$1 spent on code enforcement produces \$6 in energy savings.

The initial speaker at the event was Rep. Russ Carnahan (D-MO), the caucus co-chair. Carnahan noted that building construction accounts for 15 percent of the U.S. GDP. "High-performance buildings are more important as our economy recovers, because they reduce energy costs, heighten building values, and lower overall operating and maintenance costs," he said.

Other speakers were Lynn G. Bellenger, president of ASHRAE; Henry L. Green, president of the National Institute of Building Sciences; Dan Daniels, president of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials; and Kate Marks, managing director of the National Association of State Energy Officials. For more information about High-Performance Building Week and the coalition, visit <http://www.hpbccc.org/>.

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