

NIA Attends Resilience Building Coalition Event at the White House

Introduces Set of Resilience Principles

Reston, VA—May 17, 2016—The American Institute of Architects (AIA), National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS), and 38 other leaders of America’s design and construction industry, including Kristin V. DiDomenico, Vice President of the National Insulation Association (NIA), participated in the White House Conference on Resilient Building Codes, held on **May 10** in Washington, DC.

In conjunction with the Conference, the Resilience Building Coalition provided a report on the progress made on the resilience agenda since the Coalition announced the Building Industry Statement on Resilience 2 years ago. ([Click here to view the report.](#)) The report includes results from a survey of signatories about how their work has been impacted by the Building Industry Statement on Resilience. Among the survey’s major findings:

- A majority of signatories report that they have “become more aware of their unique role in achieving resilience” since committing to the statement, which has clearly catalyzed the integration of resilience goals into existing organizational frameworks.
- Almost 30 percent of respondents have seen an increase in resilience as a priority within their organizations.
- More than two-thirds of respondents listed high-performance buildings as an initiative they were most interested in advancing.
- More than half of the responding signatories have used the Statement to “advance their organizational mission statement/values,” as well as “provide support and/or validation for moving forward on organization initiatives.” This shift in organizational priorities has led to concrete action.
- Respondents reported more than 40 initiatives they have begun that support the resilience focus areas committed to in the Statement.

The Resilience Building Coalition also released a [set of guiding principles](#) to help the building industry adopt resilient design and policies. These include developing and advocating for codes and policies that advance resilience; developing “whole-systems resilient design” approaches for the built environment; and providing guidance, beyond the baseline life-safety codes, that recognizes the importance of fortifying property for individual and community resilience. Since the initial signing, the Coalition has added 19 new signatories.

The report is an outgrowth of a landmark agreement made in May 2014, in which leaders of America’s design and construction industry agreed to promote resilience in contemporary planning, building materials, design, construction, and operational techniques as the solution for making the nation’s aging infrastructure more safe and secure.

“The National Insulation Association has continued to strive to promote the energy-efficient green benefits of insulation and we were honored to participate in this White House event,” said Ms. DiDomenico.

The list of organizations who have signed the joint statement on resilience is as follows (new organizations are marked with an asterisk):

- The Air Barrier Association of America*
- American Council of Engineering Companies
- American Institute of Architects
- American Planning Association
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Society of Interior Designers
- American Society of Landscape Architects
- American Society of Plumbing Engineers
- American Wood Council*
- ASHRAE
- Associated Builders and Contractors
- Associated General Contractors of America
- BuildStrong Coalition*
- Building Owners and Managers Association
- Congress for New Urbanism*
- Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute*
- Construction Specifications Institute*
- EcoDistricts*
- Federal Alliance for Safe Homes*
- Green Building Initiative*
- Illuminating Engineering Society*
- Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety*
- International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials*
- International Code Council
- International Facility Management Association
- International Interior Design Association
- Lean Construction Institute
- National Association of Home Builders
- National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies*
- National Concrete Masonry Association*
- National Fire Protection Association*
- National Institute of Building Sciences
- National Insulation Association*
- National Ready Mixed Concrete Association*
- National Society of Professional Engineers
- Portland Cement Association*
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
- US Green Building Council
- U.S. Resiliency Council*
- Urban Land Institute

[View the Statement](#)

[View the Report](#)

About the National Insulation Association

NIA is a not-for-profit trade association representing both the merit (open shop) and union contractors, distributors, laminators, fabricators, and manufacturers that provide thermal insulation, insulation accessories, and components to the commercial, mechanical, and industrial markets throughout the nation. Since 1953, the northern Virginia–based association has been the voice of the insulation industry and is dedicated to keeping the commercial and industrial insulation industry up to date on the latest industry trends and technologies. Visit www.Insulation.org.

About The American Institute of Architects

Founded in 1857, the American Institute of Architects consistently works to create more valuable, healthy, secure, and sustainable buildings, neighborhoods, and communities. Through nearly 300 state and local chapters, the AIA advocates for public policies that promote economic vitality and public wellbeing. Members adhere to a code of ethics and conduct to ensure the highest professional standards. The AIA provides members with tools and resources to assist them in their careers and business as well as engaging civic and government leaders, and the public to find solutions to pressing issues facing our communities, institutions, nation and world. Visit www.aia.org.

About the National Institute of Building Sciences

The National Institute of Building Sciences, authorized by Congress in 1974, is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that brings together representatives of government, the professions, industry, labor and consumer interests to identify and resolve building process and facility performance problems. The Institute serves as an authoritative source of advice for both the private and public sectors with respect to the use of building science and technology. For more information, visit www.nibs.org.

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