The Integrative Approach to Pursuing Net Zero Facilities

Moderator: Kelly Olson, P.E., LEED AP, MilCon, ODASD (Infrastructure Modernization and Resilience)

Speakers:

- Adolfo Salas, Director of High-Performance Facilities Consulting, Merrick & Company
- Robert Tirocchi, Project Executive, Harkins Builders
- Shanti Pless, Senior Building Energy Researcher, National Renewable Energy Laboratory

May 14, 2024, 3:00 p.m.







Kelly Olson, P.E., LEEP AP Associate Director, MilCon ODASD (Infrastructure Modernization and Resilience)

Fun Facts

- I recently moved to Raleigh, NC and bought my first house
- I ran the Boston Marathon last month (my 6th marathon)
- I love karaoke
- I once biked down the World's Most Dangerous Road in Bolivia



MAY 14-16, 2024 **DRLANDO, FL**





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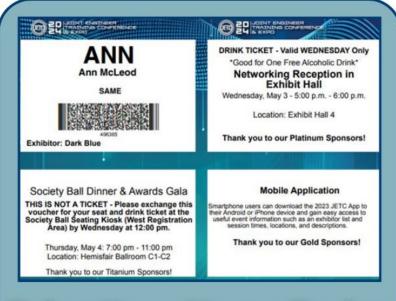




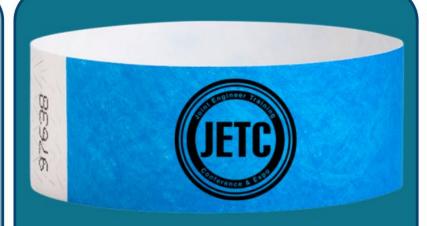


Opening Reception at Universal CityWalk

(Minimum age 18 - No Children)



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TODAY at the
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or SAME Booth



Buses depart Gaylord & Caribe Royale, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Live Content Slide

Poll: When does the federal government plan to achieve 100% Net-Zero emissions across the federal portfolio of buildings, campuses, and installations?

Top Priorities













Adolfo Salas III Merrick & Company Director of High-Performance Facilities Consulting

Fun Facts

- Mechanical Engineer, Commissioning Authority, & **Sustainability Consultant**
- Self-Defense Instructor
- Traveled to Spain for a tomato fight

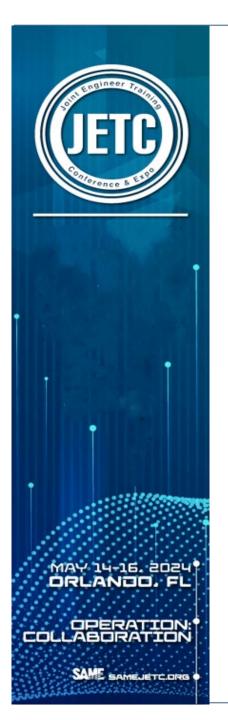
Merrick

- Net-Zero Carbon / Net-Zero Carbon Ready
 - Impact on utility infrastructure
 - Resiliency
- Practical Application of Sustainability Strategies
- Sustainability Approach Education









SPEAKER



Robert Tirocchi **Harkins Builders Project Executive**

Fun Facts

- Favorite sport: Changing my 1year old's diapers
- Did you know? I have a twin sister
- Hobbies: Trying to find quiet time

Harkins

Standard Details for Construction

The more consensus in the industry about how to achieve outcomes reduces risk

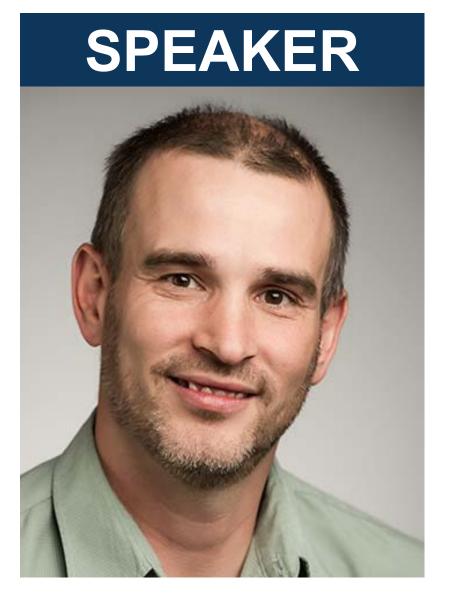
Pre-Construction Expertise

- Budgetary data is limited due to burgeoning field
- Difficult to advise owners when cost data is still being developed









Shanti Pless National Renewable Energy

Laboratory (NREL)
Senior Building Energy Researcher
https://www.nrel.gov/research/staff/shanti-pless.html



NREL

- What is the building's role as the grid evolves?
 - On-site renewables
 - Electrification
 - Do you know your local utility plans?





Key Challenges

Merrick

- Decreasing Pool of Technical Professionals and Skill-Sets
- Desire for Sustainability is Outpacing the Industry
- Great Ideas with Not Enough Research to Support Their Application
- Resiliency is Not Just Based on Climate



Harkins

- Budgets don't match the request
 - Net Zero is administratively burdensome and impacts both cost and schedule
- Certifying Agency
 - Who is setting the bar?
 - How do we know we are on track to achieve goals?





NREL

- How can a project reduce first costs and operational costs while eliminating fossil fuel scope 1 emissions?
 - Heat pumps, electrical infrastructure sizing, peak demand charges, passive design for load reduction

Potential Opportunities









Merrick

- Clean Power Generation
 - Vertical wind turbines
 - Modular Reactors better for campuses
 - Allam Cycle power plants (carbon capture)
 - Nuclear plants
 - Micro Reactors possible for larger buildings
 - Thermal batteries
- Carbon Capture used in Other Industries
- Look Back at Older Technologies



Harkins

Growing Market

 Net Zero is rapidly growing driven by government regulations, environmental concerns, and increasing demand from building owners

Early Adopter Advantage

 Early adopters of Net Zero construction methods positions contractors at the forefront of innovation

NREL

Building Electrification

- Passive design for load reduction even more important
- High efficiency heat pumps
 - Air source
 - Ground source
 - Waste heat source
 - Wastewater
 - Cooling
 - Refrigeration
 - **Datacenters**







Key Takeaways

Merrick

- Prime opportunity for innovation
- Need for technical support
- Opportunity for end users, designers, and contractors to expand sustainability expertise





Harkins

- The field is new with many unknowns and untested designs
- Room for contractors to grow with the field
- No clear guidelines or best practices
- Opportunity to be an early adopter and build expertise







NREL

- Cost effective building electrification can be achieved with an integrated approach
- Understanding the interaction with the grid becoming more important
 - Sizing
 - Peak demand costs
 - New utility rates that include time of use impacts





THANK YOU

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