

# solargreen



let the sun shine in ...



## SOLATUBE

### Solargreen News The Daylight Window

January, 2010 Vol 1, Issue 3

#### Featured In This Issue

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#### Quick Links

<http://www.buildinggreatcommunities.com>

<http://greenrankings.newsweek.com/>

#### Green Metrics

NEWSWEEK Magazine recently did an evaluation of businesses titled "The Greenest Big Companies in America". NEWSWEEK's *green ranking*, done in collaboration with several environmental research groups, attempted to quantify the environmental impact of companies' operations, something few have done in the past in a comprehensive way. The magazine took over a year to rank 500 of the largest U.S. companies based on their overall environmental impact, their environmental policies, and their reputation. NEWSWEEK used data from Trucost, a company which has created a widely acclaimed system for estimating emissions of companies that fail to provide them. Over half of companies' overall Green Scores were based on their environmental policies and reputation, industry-neutral metrics that help even the playing field for companies in carbon-intensive businesses, something we wish *all* companies would

#### Best Wishes for a Productive New Year!

We look forward to building better, and more sustainable structures this year *as well as* building stronger relationships within our green community. We strive to form an organization that places as high a value on people as it does on "the bottom line".

#### Golden Triangle Construction



We value all of our Commercial Contractors who are committed to managing projects in the most efficient and time conscious way. Golden Triangle Construction is one such company we wish to highlight this month.

Over **115 Solatube tubular daylights** have been installed through GTC in **Douglas County Elementary School # 47** this past month. We are pleased to partner with GTC in bringing a healthy and innovative solution to reducing energy costs and providing the full spectrum light that studies show leads to notable changes in students behavior and productivity.

Thank you to Todd Schroeder and Mike Slagle in the field and Bonnie Gehringer and Deb Nelson in the office and to all the GTC supervisors, estimators and project managers that made this a successful and rewarding job experience.

pay attention to.

To read more on the companies who ranked in the top 10 and find out what methodology was used go to <http://www.newsweek.com/id/215577> .

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## Noteworthy News

### The Sun and Vitamin D ... a Winning Combination



Sunlight and the Vitamin D it helps to create in the body, are crucial elements in maintaining healthy cellular growth and regulating the immune system. Recent studies in North America and Europe indicate that a staggering 95% of people are deficient in vitamin D. To counteract this trend, the National Institute of Health advocates spending 10 to 15 minutes a day outside, without sunscreen, three times per week.

According to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, it is recommended that people younger than 50 should be getting 200 IU of vitamin D per day, 400 IU for those 51-70 and 600 IU for people 71 and older, although the American Academy of Pediatrics have called on the government to raise those numbers to 1,000 to 2,000 IU daily.

In sunny Colorado it isn't hard to get outside for those few minutes a day and soak up some sunshine! Lunchbreaks are a great time to get out and get the sun working for us in order to create the vitamin D we need to stay healthy.

## Solargreen Adds Owens Corning Attic Cat Pink Insulation to our Product Line



Sometimes a perfect opportunity can be right in front of your eyes and you don't even realize it! For years, Solargreen residential installers have been going up into attics to install Solatube Daylighting and Solarstar attic fans and have noticed the lack of proper insulation in both new homes and older ones. Perhaps the installer mentioned to the home owner that they should look into adding insulation, but that's as far as the conversation went.

Then the proverbial light bulb went off (CFL of course)! This is a service that we should offer to our clients! Having proper insulation levels in the attic, is one of the easiest and most affordable ways to **stop energy loss**.

So after putting our installers as well as our team of energy consultants thru extensive training and product education, Solargreen began offering Owens Corning blown fiberglass insulation to all our clients as the first of this year. We feel it is a perfect match to add to our selection of other energy saving products.

Considering that an average home can lose up to 40% of its indoor air through the attic

(windows account for only 10% loss), adding insulation can make a huge difference in both comfort and energy costs.

The Department of Energy recommends a minimum of R49 (about 18 inches) in homes in Colorado. The average home tends to have between R19 and R30.

The simplest way to start conserving energy today may be the easiest ... a few inches more of insulation.

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## Current Projects

Cherry Creek Elementary #41 has 74 Tubular Daylights (TDD's) going in.

At Casey Middle School we are doing 119 TDD's.

Green Valley Ranch Campus is getting 40 TDD's in their gymnasium. To learn more about this school and project click here [learn more](#).

For the next few months Solargreen will be highlighting a different company that we value doing business with in our Solargreen Newsletter "The Daylight Window". If YOUR company is chosen and we get 50 recipients from within your company to sign up to receive the newsletter, all of you will be put into our monthly drawing where we will give away 2 \$25.00 gift certificates to Rock Bottom Brewery.

Check back every month to see who goes to the Rock on us!

Sincerely,  
Lisa Millen  
Marketing and Research Coordinator