

CONTACT: Great Ink Communications – 212-741-2977
 Eric Gerard/Sara Williams/Francisco Miranda
egerard@greatink.com; sara@greatink.com; francisco@greatink.com;

Thornton Tomasetti, Inc. – 917-661-7800
 James M. Kent JKent@ThorntonTomasetti.com

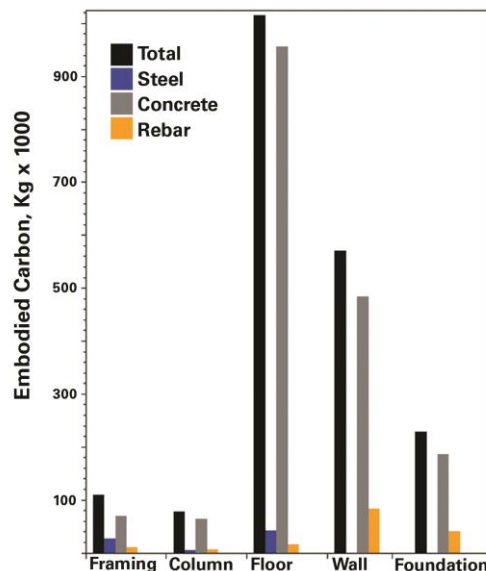
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thornton Tomasetti Launches BEACON, First-of-its-Kind Embodied Carbon Measurement Tool

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The open-source tool gives users the ability to develop carbon reduction strategies in real time.

(New York – January 8, 2020) Thornton Tomasetti, the international engineering firm, has launched **Beacon**, an innovative embodied carbon measurement tool poised to change the way structural engineers understand and manage embodied carbon optimization. The tool – first-of-its-kind – gives users the ability to measure embodied carbon, allowing for more informed decisions throughout the design process.



Beacon is being introduced after an intensive, three-year research and development process led by Thornton Tomasetti’s CORE studio, a firm-wide virtual incubator focused on innovation through computational modeling and research. The tool is a sophisticated Autodesk Revit plugin that generates a comprehensive data visualization of a project’s embodied carbon. Beacon provides data in a manner similar to the engineer’s thought process, providing a clear visualization of a project’s embodied carbon quantities by material type, building element and floor levels, allowing engineers to know exactly where embodied carbon can be minimized for optimization. It also grades the model’s embodied carbon levels against the Carbon Leadership Forum’s database of models by building type using a red, yellow, and green rating system.

“Thornton Tomasetti continues to lead the industry’s efforts on efficient and environmentally conscious designs,” added Robert Otani, principal and chief technology officer at Thornton Tomasetti. “We decided to make Beacon an open-source and easy-to-use tool, so it can be shared at a global scale. We hope this unique and comprehensive tool will push the industry forward into developing innovative strategies that result in more sustainable and efficient structures.”

Beacon's launch follows Thornton Tomasetti's November release of results from its multi-year, project-based embodied carbon measurement study. The study focused on identifying the type of structures, materials and components with the highest carbon emissions.

"The built environment is estimated to be responsible for about 40% of global greenhouse gas emissions when building materials are factored in," said Amy Seif Hattan, corporate responsibility officer at Thornton Tomasetti. "Therefore, it is up to us to help effect change. Beacon will help structural engineers address embodied carbon in new construction. It will also be extremely valuable to measure progress toward the Carbon Leadership Forum's Structural Engineers 2050 Challenge's primary goal of zero carbon buildings by 2050." Hattan added that this challenge was recently endorsed by the Structural Engineering Institute Board of Governors, showing strong industry support for the initiative.

Beacon is currently available for download at the following website:

<https://core-studio.gitbook.io/beacon/>.

About Thornton Tomasetti

Thornton Tomasetti optimizes the design and performance of structures, materials and systems for projects of every size and level of complexity. An employee-owned organization of engineers, scientists, architects and other professionals collaborating from offices worldwide, we support clients by drawing on the diverse expertise of our integrated practices. We are committed to be a sustainable and enduring organization and the global driver of innovation in our industry.

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