Carbon Drawdown Now: Climate Justice and the Built Environment

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Abstract:

The work of decarbonizing the built environment is a global movement of transformational change that spans across every discipline in our industry. Renewable energy, electrified building systems, high performance construction, energy storage and management systems, community-scale development, transportation networks, low embodied carbon materials, carbon storing materials, adaptive building/material reuse, circular economy, social justice and equity, healthy building environments, nontoxic materials, off-site construction and advanced manufacturing, policy and regulatory development, and many more content areas are all a part of this work. Navigating all this change and complexity is a real challenge, and the transition is messy. In this Keynote presentation, we will explore the through-lines, shared strategies, and case studies showing the integration of many of these themes that are leading our industry towards a systems-level change. This presentation will include tangible examples of working strategies that can be used in your practice, as well as inspiration on how to move this work forward together.

Presenter Biography:

Jacob Deva Racusin is Director of Building Science and Sustainability with New Frameworks, Vermont-based worker-owned cooperative. As a consultant, designer, and educator, Jacob merges his passions for ecological stewardship, relationship to place, and social justice. Jacob is an Embodied Carbon Analyst and BEAM Trainer and Co-Developer with Builders For Climate Action. Jacob has authored two books and numerous articles, and instructs and consults on topics of building science and climate impact. An active member of the Carbon Leadership Forum, Jacob is engaged in code and policy development, professional training, and other initiatives supporting the transition to a more just industry.

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