



**NOT ALL SIP MANUFACTURERS ARE CREATED EQUAL**

Discover why builders & design professionals choose Murus Structural Insulated Panels.



**MURUS HAS SUPPLIED SIPs TO PROJECTS IN ALL 50 STATES & CANADA.**

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**Structural Insulated Panel Association**

# Select SIPs News



**A Better Way to Build**

March 23, 2023

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## TOP NEWS

### Expanded Energy Efficient Tax Deduction Increased to as Much as \$5 per Sq Ft

SIPA

#### Updates Include Incentives for Nonprofit Project Design/Build Teams


Starting January 1, 2023, expanded tax deductions, equaling up to \$5 a square foot, are available for new and existing energy-efficient building projects as part of The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. The tax deduction is available for new and existing nonprofit, government and commercial building projects that achieve specific energy efficiency goals and ASHRAE standards.


Examples of eligible four-story and above commercial projects include schools, health care facilities, museums, governmental buildings and multifamily projects like this year's Building Excellence Award Winner for [Best Overall Commercial Project: PrairiE Lofts Apartments](#). Unique benefits previously available to governmental projects are now extended to nonprofit projects.

Existing commercial projects that use SIPs for wall and roof energy retrofits may also be eligible. SIPA has several free resources to help, including a free [downloadable retrofit with SIPs guide](#). In addition, the US Department of Energy has also invested in vacuum-sealed retrofit insulated panels or VacRIPs, announcing in March 2022 a \$4.5 million dollar investment in [this nail-based retrofit panel solution](#). Seven awardees are currently testing renovation techniques using VacRIPS to upgrade energy and environmental performance more quickly, affordably and effectively while reducing tenant disruption.

**Updates to the 179D Energy Efficient Tax Deduction at a Glance** 

 **Deductions up to \$5.00 per square foot** – now range from \$2.50 to \$5 per square foot, up from the previous \$1.88 per square foot, for qualifying projects that meet prevailing wage and apprenticeship standards.

 **Deduction reset** – Starting January 2023, maximum deductions can be taken every three and four years over the next ten years (versus once over the life of the building, as previously allowed.)

 **Inclusion of not-for-profits** – The expansion allows for qualifying not-for-profit projects to claim deductions, even though nonprofits typically do not have tax liabilities. This special provision was previously only available to design and build teams for qualifying government projects. Designers in this category include architects, engineers, energy service companies, lighting, design/build, mechanical and design firms.

To learn more about 179D, please speak to your tax professional.



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## SIPA NEWS

# 2023 BEA Commercial Project Overall Winner: Prairie Lofts Apartments in Luverne, MN

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The project is a model for attainable, sustainable, repeatable workforce housing.

The 2023 Building Excellence Awards Overall Commercial Project winner, Prairie Lofts Apartments in Luverne, MN, by [GreenSmith Builders](#), built with [Extreme Panel Technologies SIPs](#), represents a repeatable and sustainable answer to MN's affordable workforce housing shortage.



"The sheer constructability of SIPs helped us get this job. Since this was a large project, the builder was interested in the increased building speeds of SIPs and the convenience of Extreme's off-site manufacturing process. The builder also appreciated the air-tight factor of SIPs construction to control sound, energy and indoor air quality as this is an apartment building. The cost of utilities for end-users was heavily considered during the construction process," according to Terry Dieken, co-founder of Extreme Panel Technologies. Using SIPs in the project enables electrification and decarbonization with less effort, saving the builder time and labor costs without compromising structural integrity with less construction waste or environmental contamination.



The 56-unit building features 4.5-inch SIP walls, and a 6.5-inch SIP roof was constructed to meet EnergyStar, Indoor AirPlus, Zero Energy Ready Home and LEED requirements. In addition to EnergyStar appliances, in-floor radiant heat systems, EV chargers, solar panels and energy-efficient construction, renters will have a "utility allowance" included in the base rent.

[See more winners from the 2023 SIPA Building Excellence Award here.](#)

## SPONSORED VIDEO



### Quick Tips for Wiring with SIPs

By reviewing installation concepts, basic wiring designs, and some pre-planning, Chuck found that wiring his SIP home was completed quickly and easily. Enercept provides a wiring or electrical guide to help you through the process.

WATCH VIDEO

## SIPA Member Spotlight: Extreme Panel Technologies

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Extreme Panel Technologies has been manufacturing SIPs for over 30 years. When the Cottonwood, MN-based SIPs maker began making panels in 1992, it was out of a 500-square-foot shop. By 2008, demand for their SIPs required them to expand to a 51,000-square-foot facility incorporating a fully automated laminating press to manufacture 8' x 24' jumbo panels and a computer-operated CNC machine to ensure quality. But as the company grew, its dedication to producing high-quality SIPs remained. Today, Extreme Panel Technologies is a nationally recognized and celebrated leader in SIP manufacturing with many honors, awards, and distinctions, including this year's [Building Excellence Award Winning Project](#).



So, what's next for Extreme Panel Technologies? According to co-owner and CEO Terry Dieken, he is spending more time researching and developing new products to complement SIPs and continue to automate the plant as the market demands. Dieken is also dedicated to advancing SIPs technology and is an active member and a past Board President of the Structural Insulated Panel Association. Jeremy Dieken, Terry's son and Operations Manager at Extreme Panel, is currently on the [SIPA Board](#) and co-chairs the SIPA Manufacturer Committee.

Extreme Panel Technologies offers predesigned Home Packages like the 2,300-square-foot [Eco-Friendly Garden Home Cottage](#), designed by tastemaker and garden guru [P. Allen Smith](#).

Our [SIPA member directory](#) includes SIP manufacturers, suppliers, builders, and design professionals. Contact Extreme Panel Technologies today and learn more about SIP speed of construction and sustainability.

## SPONSORED CONTENT



- [The cost benefits of building green - Extreme green home sees payback fast](#)
- [Tech Talk: Learn how to evaluate accurate performance with the U-Factor method](#)
- [SIPs FAQ - Check out this compilation of some of our most frequently asked questions about SIPs](#)
- [Structural Insulated Panels help builders meet tough energy codes, find out how.](#)

## Featured Videos: Closed Wall Systems — Building with SIPs

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Start learning to build with SIPs in the comfort of your own office with two 45-minute videos now up on [sips.org](https://sips.org). *Building with SIPs 1 and Building with SIPs 2* feature SIPA's Jack Armstrong and [SIP school's](#) Al Cobb. These programs that were originally presented at the 2023 International Builders Show are now [available to you free and on demand](#).

SIPA is registering these courses for AIA CEU HSW credits now and once the 10-question test is up online, those interested can register for credit by contacting [info@sips.org](mailto:info@sips.org).



*Building with SIPs – Part 1*



*Building with SIPs – Part 2*

### PRODUCT SHOWCASE



#### Your Project Is Our Passion

Extreme Panel Technologies has been manufacturing Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs) for over 30 years and has expanded to be one of the largest SIP manufacturers in North America. Your project gets individual attention from design to delivery. We work with architects, designers, engineers, and contractors to supply our SIPs.

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

### Rethinking Housing Design in 2023

Professional Builder

While there is much uncertainty in the housing market, both in the for-sale and for-rent sectors, one thing is certain: Demand for housing is not going away. To meet the evolving needs of both homebuyers and renters in 2023 and beyond, we as an industry should take the current market slowdown as an opportunity to rethink housing design in response to emerging trends.

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## Biden's 2024 Budget Proposal Bolsters OSHA Funding by 17%

Construction Dive

The 2,505 full-time OSHA positions sought in the budget is 35% higher than fiscal year 2022 figures — which the text says reflect "actual" employment, as opposed to budgeted. But filling those positions is easier said than done.

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### PRODUCT SHOWCASE



#### Fastening Solutions for SIP Panels

TRUFAST® is a leading U.S. manufacturer of engineered fastening solutions for the commercial roofing industry. Products include a comprehensive selection of fasteners, fastening accessories, adhesives and tools for commercial roofing and SIP/nail base panels. Fastening solutions conform to the highest standards (FM Global, Miami-Dade County Product Control, European Technical Approvals and NTA, Inc.).

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## LEED and PEER Synergies Can Help Boost Global Resilience

USGBC

USGBC and GBCI programs seek to drive environmental, economic and social transformation, and part of this work is advancing reliability and resilience strategies in power and electrical systems. The next generation of green building will operate a wide range of distributed energy resources and microgrids that will make buildings more valuable resources to our power grids.

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### PRODUCT SHOWCASE



#### FischerSIPS

Pre-cut and RTA Packages  
Louisville, KY

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#### Compliance to LEED EQ Low-Emitting Materials credit

MADE IN THE USA  
[sipseal.com](http://sipseal.com)

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## 'Liquid Windows' Could Be the Answer to More Sustainable Buildings

Fast Company

Windows on their own are helpless. If you want to reduce how much light, or heat, comes into your home office on a clammy summer day, you have no choice but to call in reinforcements like shutters, shades, blinds, drapes or even worse — air-conditioning.

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## PRODUCT SHOWCASE



### MagMatrix NEW MGO PANELS

MagMarix's newest generation BMSC (Basic Magnesium Sulfate Cementitious) formulation MgO board is the newest chlorine-free and most advanced formulation and technology to make the panels really as the MgO fire-rated structurally sheathing panel for the fire rated and structurally at the same panel to make fire rated constructions and SIP panels to achieve 1-2 hours fire ratings in type V and also we have the ASTM E136 noncombustible grade panel to cover up the ICC & IBC building code of type I II for the noncombustible construction building code demand.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## 3 Ways Prefabrication Doubles as a Sustainability Strategy

Building Design + Construction

In recent years, we've seen an accelerated shift towards the use of prefabrication in new construction. Prefabricated building elements can help shorten construction schedules, improve quality control and provide safer working conditions, making them an attractive option. Furthermore, prefabrication can help organizations achieve their own sustainability goals related to waste, energy reduction and healthy environments.

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### SelectSIPs News

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