

DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT

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Another bill calls for data centers developers to pay prevailing wages for construction in order to be eligible to receive sales and use tax exemptions offered by the state. The legislation is headed up by Rep. Elizabeth Fiedler, D-Philadelphia, Rep. Melissa Cerrato, D-Horsham, and Donahue.

"This reform strikes a balance: developers would still have access to incentives to grow in our state, while workers would be protected with fair wages that reflect the going rate in their trades and regions," reads the memo.

The use of prevailing wages is a thorny issue in the state, with many conservatives saying that the policy drives away business or forces state and local governments to pay more than they should to complete projects. Still others say that by requiring entities to pay prevailing wages, workers are protected from being underbid and exploited.

Rep. Mandy Steele, D-Cheswick, is introducing a bill to help reduce the intense energy demand expected from data centers by incentivizing operators to be efficient. The legislation would be another requiring developers to comply in order to receive the massive tax incentives already offered by the state.

In this case, data centers would need to "obtain recognized energy efficiency certifications, such as LEED, Energy

Star, Green Globes, or International Organization for Standardization (ISO)."

"With this proposal, we can incentivize data centers to operate sustainably, reduce electricity demands, and help meet Pennsylvania's future energy needs," writes Steele. "At the end of the day, the cleanest and cheapest energy is the energy we don't use."

A final bill asks what we do when the data goes out and examines the human toll to potential emergencies. Rep. Christina Sappey, D-Kennett Square, has proposed legislation that addresses emergency preparedness for data centers faced with overheating or electrical failures.

"The high-density layout of computing and storage equipment could lead to fast-spreading fires," writes Sappey. "The consequences of a data center fire extend beyond service interruptions, loss of data, and threats to facilities; fires of this type pose special hazards to firefighters and other first responders."

Sappey's legislation would require data centers, fire departments, and local governments to work together on planning and training for rare but dangerous fires occurring within the large and labyrinthine buildings. It would also require centers to meet the National Fire Protection Association's standards for energy storage facilities.



3D ORTHOGONALLY WOVEN 3DMAT QUARTZ MATERIALS DEVELOPED BY BALLY RIBBON MILLS AND NASA AMES RESEARCH CENTER NAMED NASA GOVERNMENT INVENTION OF THE YEAR

Material supports structural and thermal performance needs for Orion mission and more

Bally Ribbon Mills (BRM), an industry leader in the design, development, and manufacture of highly specialized engineered woven fabrics, announces the 3D Orthogonally woven 3DMAT Quartz Material for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV) compression pads, developed through their partnership with NASA, has been named the 2023 NASA Government Invention of the Year. The award demonstrates NASA Ames Research Center's commitment to cutting edge leadership and technology development for the nation. BRM and NASA efforts are a great example of NASA partnering with an American small business with a unique specialized technological capability that will further current and future exploration plans.

Compression pads serve as the interface between the crew module and service module of the Orion MPCV and carry the structural loads generated during launch, space operation, pyroshock separation of the two modules. The compression pads also serve as ablative TPS withstanding the high heating of earth reentry. 3DMAT

leverages NASA's investment in woven materials for the Orion compression pads that combines the weaving of quartz yarns with resin transfer molding.

The 3DMAT technology has helped BRM introduce 3D orthogonal woven materials to a range of new applications.



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