

from Lou's desk



It's been an exciting spring as we move away from the long winter. We recently were chosen as **installers for the Solar Tompkins program**, as part of a team with ETM Solar Works. We look forward to contributing towards greatly increasing the number of houses that are powered by the sun in Tompkins County.

A project that we started more than 6 years ago, Bushwick Inlet Park, just **won a 2014 AIA COTE Top Ten Green Projects award!** Nate Goodell and I have been commissioning the building, making sure that all the energy saving aspects actually work as they are intended. Umit Sirt also created the energy model for the building, and Courtney Royal and Crista Shopis have shepherded the LEED certification (currently awaiting review). It is a beautiful building on the East River in Brooklyn.

Best wishes for a wonderful, warm summer!

Umit Sirt, a partner at Taitem, has been recognized by Consulting Specifying Engineer magazine with its annual 40 Under 40 award. This award is given to 40 building industry professionals age 40 and younger who stand out in all aspects of their lives. Candidates were judged based on nine areas including their **commitment to excellence in their professional, personal, and community** lives. Congratulations, Umit!



in the field



Evan Hallas looks over the Aerosol equipment at work in a new multifamily building in NYC.



Nick Kirk uses a fisheye lens to check out the solar access of a potential residential rooftop installation



Lou Vogel commissioning the solar preheat wall at Cherry Road Elementary School

Huron Building 33-40, Endicott, NY



This is **Taitem's first ENERGY STAR® Certified building**. The building received an ENERGY STAR score of 87 and will be listed in the EPA online registry of ENERGY STAR certified buildings.

The Huron Campus is the former home of IBM in Endicott, NY. Taitem provided NYSERDA FlexTech benchmarking and walk-through audits of 16 buildings that each have over 50,000 square feet, for a total of **approximately two million square feet of space audited**. The buildings include office, warehouse, waste treatment, data center, and manufacturing spaces, as well as the historic office of Thomas J. Watson, former chairman and CEO of IBM.

All buildings were benchmarked using EPA Portfolio Manager. The EPA's ENERGY STAR score is an assessment of a building's energy efficiency as compared with similar buildings nationwide, adjusting for climate and business activity. Buildings with a score of at least 75 out of 100 may qualify for ENERGY STAR certification.



Solar Tompkins, a community solar program working to increase the number of **solar PV systems in Tompkins County**, was launched this month. Taitem is teaming up with ETM Solar Works to provide design and installation services. [Learn more](#) about how easy and affordable these systems are at a [community meeting in your neighborhood](#), or [contact Gordon Woodcock](#) at Taitem.

The Senate Finance Committee has **extended the 179D Tax Deduction**. 179D is a tax deduction for expenses incurred for energy efficient building expenditures made by a building owner (up to \$1.80/SF). Certification must be obtained to verify that the retrofits are installed as part of a plan to **reduce energy costs by 50% or more** in comparison to a specified minimum standard. [Contact Umit Sirt](#) to learn more about 179D building qualifications.



The Finger Lakes Climate Fund is a way for people to support our community while offsetting their home or transportation pollution. The funds help promote energy efficiency projects in the Finger Lakes while strengthening the regional economy and assisting local families in need.

featured project

21kW residential solar pv install, Freeville, NY



This **21 kW solar photovoltaic system** was mounted on a barn near the clients home. Lines to connect the system from the barn to the house are buried underground. Our crew was **able to put up all 84 modules in a single day.**

This is a leased system through our partners at Sungevity. Learn about **the difference between owning and leasing a solar system at titem.com.**



After install



During install

what we're working on

Our research department has been awarded three NYSERDA Emerging Technologies and Accelerated Commercialization (ETAC) research projects and one Behavior Research project. One of the projects aims to **optimize solid-state lighting and controls in new low-rise affordable housing**. To learn more, contact our research department manager, [Beth Mielbrecht](#).

Taitem has **completed forty-five farm audits** for dairies, wineries, greenhouses, vegetable growers, a cidery, a mushroom farm and others. The [NYSERDA Farm Audit Program](#) has been successful in providing reimbursement for energy improvements at farms.

In partnership with the Consulate General of Canada in NYC and [Green Light New York](#), Ecosystem Energy Services hosted a round table to discuss ways to [overcome challenges in current building retrofit practices](#), with special focus on the **Integrated Energy Performance Contracting (IEPC)** model. Taitem president Lou Vogel was part of the group of over 20 energy professionals.

Green Building Illustrated - 绿色建筑说明

Ian Shapiro's book was **recently translated into Chinese and Korean** and is available through Amazon and ASHRAE. Here's what people are saying:

The combination of incredibly expressive illustrations and accessible technical writing make concepts of green building on paper as intuitive as they would be if you toured a space with experts in sustainable building. — Rick Fedrizzi, **President, U.S. Green Building Council**

[The book] addresses general principles such as holistic and integrated design, along with practical realities like affordability and energy codes. It describes a pathway for reaching Architecture 2030's carbon emission reduction targets for the built environment.— Ed Mazria, **founder, Architecture 2030**



proud members

Taitem is now a member of **NY Solar Energy Industries Association (NYSEIA)**, supporting the advancement of markets for all solar technologies in the Empire State, and the **NYS Sustainable Business Council (NYSSBC)**, an emerging alliance of business organizations committed to advancing a vibrant and sustainable economy in New York. Taitem will attend the first congress of the council, Growing a Sustainable Business Economy, on June 19-20 in Binghamton.

investing locally

Taitem is joining other **local B-corporations** for the national B the Change Volunteer Day to support a local non-profit. Contact Theresa Ryan if you would like to volunteer on June 17 between 5 pm and 7 pm.

Here's a winning shot of the Taitem team at the **Tough Turtle 5k**. This exciting event raised money for the **Ithaca Children's Garden**.



Gas Free Seneca hosted **Renewable Energy Night at Damiani Wine Cellars in Burdett, NY**. A large energized crowd found out how easy it is to switch to renewable energy. Lou Vogel spoke about Net Zero Energy possibilities and Gordon Woodcock explained our Solar PV capabilities.

Erin Caruth and Jim Holahan launched their **Neighborhood Battery and Plastic Bag Recycling Project** in Danby, NY. [Contact Sustainable Tompkins](#) to learn about the mini grant that made this program possible.



On May 4, streets in Ithaca's Northside and Fall Creek neighborhoods were closed to motor traffic and filled with people. Taitem joined the community at **Streets Alive!** to celebrate active transportation.

featured project

Cherry Road Elementary School, Syracuse, NY



Taitem provided **LEED® energy modeling and commissioning** for an addition to this elementary school that features a solar preheat wall and advanced HVAC and lighting controls scheduled around class times.

Cherry Road School earned **LEED® Silver** certification and also received an award for **Outstanding Design** from *American School and University* magazine.

Congratulations to the lead architect Scott Perry and **Ashley McGraw Architects** on another successful project.

Taitem's input was fundamental to help us achieve LEED silver at Cherry Road Elementary School in a smooth and prompt manner.

— Tomas Delgado, **Ashley McGraw Architects**

