

## from Lou's desk



What a beautiful summer in the Finger Lakes! I closed out the season with a bike ride around Cayuga Lake as part of the AIDS Ride for Life alongside others in the Taitem crew; not the most bicycling friendly day, but all the volunteers and the cause made it seem worthwhile.

As part of our retreat this fall, we spent part of a beautiful day walking from our offices at 110 S. Albany St. to the Merrill Sailing Center on Cayuga Lake. The walk was an effort to reduce our carbon footprint and remind us how quick we are to jump in our cars without thinking of the impact on the earth. During the walk, we stopped to check out some of our projects in town including recent solar installs, commissioning, and design at area businesses, we visited our new warehouse space and enjoyed Ithaca's neighborhoods.

We also had a chance to stop at the United Way building where they welcomed us on their beautiful porch to hear from their team and learn about this year's campaign. Check out a photo of our walk on page 4 and let us know what you're up to!

**Get your business ready for cold weather** with a free energy audit offered by NYSERDA and performed by Taitem Engineering. Taitem will identify ways to save money on your utility bills and reduce your carbon footprint. The focus is on no-cost and low-cost measures, and the service is available to small businesses and non-profits with 10 employees or fewer, whether you own or lease. For more info, click [here](#).



## in the field



The team working on our latest solar electric ground mount



The Aeroseal team checks the stats on a recent duct sealing project in Long Island City (see page 2)



Taitem arrives at the job site at Utica Place in Brooklyn for a commissioning visit

## TREE at Ecovillage - The Sustainable Living Center, Ithaca, NY



Taitem is hard at work on the new TREE neighborhood at EcoVillage Ithaca. There are four floors in the common building, and the **framing of the third floor is complete.**

The trusses went up recently, and the **roofing will be complete by the end of October.**

Our senior engineers Yossi Bronsnick and Javier E. Rosa are on site making sure the project stays on track.

The building company behind this project, Aqua Zephyr, was [one of only 23 companies](#) nationwide to receive the **2014 "DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Leading Builders"** award. The award is presented to builders who are changing the way homes are designed and constructed.



Evan Hallas, a Senior Energy Analyst at Taitem, was nationally recognized in the [Home Energy "30 Under 30" Awards](#). Evan works primarily on energy efficiency in multifamily buildings. Recently, Evan led our Aeresal team

on a project at Hunters Point South in Long Island City, the **largest affordable housing complex in New York State to be built since the 1970's**. The team sealed the ducts in the two new buildings that boast 925 affordable apartments.

Yossi Bronsnick and Javier E. Rosa recently took part in a **Structural Engineering Forensics** workshop. They examined the role of forensic engineering in design, and construction, **causes of structural failures** and how to present technical information in litigation.

In 2003, a group of women in rural Nicaragua formed around the use of **solar cookers and other sustainable technologies**. Taitem is sponsoring a visit for these women who are visiting to learn more about sustainable technologies they can provide their village in Nicaragua. [Learn more about their project](#) here and **meet the group at the Greater Ithaca Activities Center** on Tuesday, October 21st at 6:00pm.

### Solar Tompkins

More than 200 households have decided to go solar through the program, totaling about **1.5 MW**

### Net zero energy audit

Taitem completed its **first net zero audit** at 109 S. Albany St., Ithaca, NY. The owner plans to implement all measures.

# featured project

## 3kW residential solar pv install, Ithaca, NY



Installation of this 3kW solar photovoltaic system was completed this fall. The crew has a busy schedule and will continue to install systems into the winter months.



## what we're working on

**In research,** Beth Mielbrecht is serving [NYPA's Energy Efficiency Innovation Collaborative](#) initiative as the program manager for the SyracuseCoE team, directing the activities of the extensive public-private partnership. Ian Shapiro is conducting research through a Syracuse Center of Excellence Innovation Fund Grant for a project on Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) Heat Pumps: The Case for Making the Switch from Steam.

**In training,** Ian Shapiro was awarded a contract to write his second book following [Green Building Illustrated](#). Ian is developing green building training around the publication. His **first training is tentatively scheduled for March 23–24 at EcoVillage in Ithaca, NY**. Please contact [Theresa Ryan](#) if you are interested in attending. Ian is also developing energy code training with the Urban Green Council.

**In renewables,** our crew is busy in the field installing systems and attending community events. Solar Tompkins is coming to a close. More than 200 households have decided to go solar, totaling about 1.5 MW. This puts the program most of the way to achieving its goal of doubling the solar in the county this year.

**In green building services,** the team continues work on commissioning Federal buildings in Manhattan and Puerto Rico. Final reports were recently completed for the Park Foundation in Ithaca and several multifamily buildings in NYC.

## diversifying the Taitem workforce

Taitem adopted a diversity mission statement in May. Below is an excerpt. For the full version, please visit [www.taitem.com/about](http://www.taitem.com/about):

Taitem Engineering is committed to maintaining and increasing diversity in its workforce. Taitem acknowledges that this requires ongoing active commitment and continued effort.

We believe that a diverse workforce brings a wider variety of perspectives. We believe that this will help Taitem Engineering to be more adaptable and sustainable as a company.



## learning and growing

Taitem is now a member of the **Amicus Solar Cooperative**, supporting the advancement of markets for all solar technologies in the Empire State.



Taitem is a proud sponsor of the 14th annual Syracuse Center of Excellence Symposium, [Advanced Building Systems: Integrating efficiency, quality and resiliency.](#)

## investing locally

Taitem took to the streets for its annual retreat, walking as a group from our office Albany St. to the Sailing Center on East Shore Dr. A retreat with a low carbon footprint!



Taitem recently participated in the United Way **Stephen E. Garner Day of Caring event** by contributing goods to local community organizations.

Congrats to the Taitem team on another trip around Cayuga lake for a successful **AIDS Ride for Life!**



## featured project

### Cortland Research LLC, Cortland, NY



Taitem provided whole-building energy models to address savings for similar improvements in different key target markets including New York and California.

Taitem used default parameters for typical commercial construction in the eQuest modeling software and specific properties specified by Cortland Research. Blended electricity and natural gas rates were used for each location.

Taitem provided a report to summarize the energy impacts of the Point of Use Network Controlled Energy Management System (POUNCE®) sample in each location as well as projections for the installed costs of the improvements and a financial benefit analysis.

