

**A RECAP**

By James D. Qualk, LEED-AP
Vice President and Team Leader of
Sustainable Solutions Group

GREENBUILD 2008 PROVIDED SSRCx WITH THE OPPORTUNITY to show the world what we have been up to for the past year and also to recharge our sustainable batteries. More than 700 companies exhibited during the conference held in Boston from Nov. 19 - 21.

It was evident by the more than 27,000 people that attend the conference...

the green building movement has arrived.

BASED ON THE GROWTH OF GREENBUILD, and the number of LEED registrations last year, I think we are beginning to see the long awaited market transformation.

We have certainly demonstrated that there is a better way of doing things when it comes to building design, construction and operations. Market transformation is possible because we not only want to do the right thing, but we also want to live healthier lives while positively affecting the bottom line. The LEED rating system has proven that these goals are not in conflict with each other and are in fact complimentary.

Last year in Chicago, much of the attendance was driven by the explosion in popularity of the LEED rating system in the design, construction and operations industry, as well as by key-note speakers Paul Hawken and former President Bill Clinton. This year we attended the key note address delivered by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and his message drove home a sense of hope that we all need in order to address the dramatic crisis of our time. The good news, according to Archbishop Tutu, is there is a reason to hope, and through perseverance we can overcome these troubled times.

Buildings represent one of the biggest opportunities we have to address global

climate change and GHG emissions, proper resource use and the materials economy, energy independence and efficiency, indoor environmental quality, occupant health/productivity and regional/local transportation improvement.



The United States Green Building Council's LEED rating system has been adopted in some fashion by 12 federal agencies or departments, 31 states, 108 cities, 30 countries, 28 towns and countless private sector initiatives.

All of these and more are addressed specifically in the new construction and existing building markets. Because we can affect so much change in one place, there is a tremendous amount of opportunity for companies and individuals to get on board the green train.

FEATURED PROJECT:

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY'S FIRST-YEAR STUDENT CAMPUS
RECOGNIZED FOR "GREEN" BUILDING



"A building owner gets lasting value from a network of participants who work together to determine environmentally responsible practices for building a facility, and later become actual stakeholders in the facility's operation and occupancy,"

- TONY FORT, Vanderbilt director of architecture and construction

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY CONTINUES TO

go for the gold with its latest LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification of three new residence halls. This brings the total to seven LEED-certified buildings at The Commons, the university's new campus for first-year students.

"These seven LEED-certified buildings form one of the largest collections planned on a single campus site in the southeastern United States," said Keith Loiseau, a LEED-accredited architect at the university and project manager for The Commons Center.

A project team of Nashville-based building, design and construction companies worked closely to develop a unique design strategy that considers sustainable policy making and future on-campus growth. This team includes Vanderbilt's Campus Planning and Construction department, American Constructors; Street Dixon Rick Architecture, PLC; and SSRcx, the commissioning subsidiary of Smith Seckman Reid, Inc.

"It forces a very useful community fabric to get woven in the process that raises everyone's awareness of the sustainable operational practices that will positively affect the occupants and surrounding environment for many years to come," Andrea George, Vanderbilt director of sustainability, said.

LEED is the U.S. Green Building Council's leading-edge system for designing and constructing a sustainable, energy-efficient and high-performing building. Combined, the residence halls are predicted to reduce energy-use by 15 percent.

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"As we all work to incorporate environmentally friendly practices into our daily lives, the value of creating a sustainable living-learning community will have a lasting impact for generations to come," said Eric Sheffer, LEED facilitation project manager for SSRcx

The three residence halls – Stambaugh, Hank

Ingram and Murray Houses – total more than 175,000-square-feet and cost approximately \$40 million. As a part of its LEED-Gold certification, Vanderbilt achieved Innovation in Design points for:

- free ride to work program with Nashville's Metro Transit Authority
- on-campus biodiesel vehicles
- green housekeeping program
- utilization of 26.4 percent recycled content in construction
- diversion of over 74 percent of demolition and construction waste from landfills

- approximately 53 percent of building materials were purchased regionally

For the most recent phase of construction, Barge Cauthen & Associates provided civil engineering services and Smith Seckman Reid, Inc. provided mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) engineering services for the project.

PILING UP THE POINTS

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY ACHIEVED INNOVATION IN DESIGN POINTS FOR:

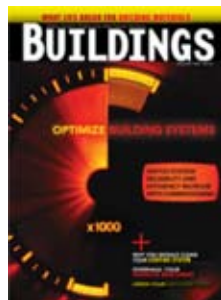
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OPTIMIZE BUILDING SYSTEMS

WITH COMMISSIONING

By STEVE HARRELL

Buildings magazine featured an article by Steve Harrell, manager of Continuous Commissioning in SSRcx's Nashville office, on its January cover. In the article "Optimize Building Systems with Commissioning," Harrell discusses the opportunity to watch the energy consumption of building systems drop when you use commissioning to improve its efficiency and reliability.



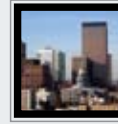
Harrell focuses on the aspects of Retro-Commissioning that set it apart from other types of building commissioning, savings that are seen as a result of commissioning processes, the need for Continuous Commissioning® and how to choose a commissioning firm.

The process of Continuous Commissioning® was created by Texas A&M over a ten year period that focused on creating a well-defined and documented methodology with consistent results, a repeatable process and a basis on engineering fundamentals. Texas A&M began using this process, which has been referenced by the Federal Energy Management Program and accepted outside of the university environment.

TO VIEW THE FULL ARTICLE PLEASE VISIT:

<http://www.buildings.com/Default.aspx?TabId=3413&ArticleID=6837>

Office SPOTLIGHT:



NASHVILLE:

The sustainability industry continues to grow and SSRCx is growing along with it. Our Nashville office has grown out of space. To practice our goals of sustainability we have moved into a new space designed and built with the goal of LEED-CI certification.

Our new 14,386 sq. foot leased office space includes a high level of sustainability, energy, and indoor environmental and user requirements. Located in a transitioning industrial area, the new location is close to bus lines and mixed-use development.

The office will include an area for table tennis, exterior dining and lounge area, video conferencing and an outdoor nature setting and bird feeder. We are seeking LEED-CI v2.0 certification with the goal of achieving LEED-Certified interior space.

The interior of the building includes low or no VOC paints, CRI Green Label plus certified carpets and cushioning with low-VOC adhesive, recycling areas and water use reduction technologies, among many other elements.

To increase visitor understanding and implement a Green Building Education Program, SSRCx has included signage and a pamphlet explaining the green features and requirements of the building.

SSRCx Nashville is looking to welcome you into their new space.

CHICAGO:

The SSRCx/Cotter team in Chicago continues to satisfy clients and strives to be the go-to firm with quality Commissioning and LEED-facilitation services. Here's a list of our recently awarded work:

- **WEST COOK YMCA** - LEED- Oak Park, Illinois
- **WASHOE COUNTY SPARKS JUSTICE CENTER** - LEED - Reno, Nevada
- **NORTHWESTERN HOSPITAL RENOVATION** - Chicago, Illinois
- **EDWARD HOSPITAL EXPANSION** (repeat client) - Naperville, Illinois
- **VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG MUNICIPAL BUILDING HVAC RENOVATION** - LEED - Schaumburg, Illinois

The New Year brings new possibilities! SSRCx/Cotter will continue to establish itself as a quality commissioning provider in the Chicago-land area, maintaining relationships with our valued clients and creating new working relationships.

TAMPA:



Colleen Smith, of the Tampa office, received the SSRCx Employee of the Year award.

PHOENIX:

SSRCx Phoenix Partners with Arizona Green COC



SSRCx's Phoenix office is proud to announce its charter membership in the Phoenix Chapter of the Arizona Green Chamber of Commerce. This network of information, education and connectivity serves as a valuable resource for fully utilizing Phoenix's ever growing sustainability industry for the betterment of the community.

The Chamber partnership adds to SSRCx's list of credentials including: EPA Energy Star Partner, APS Trade Ally, SRP Qualified Service Provider, accreditation of the national Building Commissioning Association (BCA), and the U.S. Green Building Council."

[Click here](#) to learn more about SSRCx's Phoenix area partnerships.

NEWS IN BRIEF

SSRCX RECENTLY TEAMED WITH THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S ENERGY STAR PROGRAM.

To learn more about this partnership [click here](#).

SSRCX REMINDS YOU EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22, check with your city for events and activities.



Click the link below to learn more about regulatory compliance & facilities management by reading [SSR's Compliance News](#) newsletter.

In keeping with our corporate philosophy to minimize negative impact on the environment, the Cx Monitor's primary form of distribution is email. If you would like to be added to this email list please [click here](#) to sign up online at www.ssrcx.com.

SSRCx news



SSRCx PARTICIPATED in the first annual Southwest Build-it-Green Expo & Conference. Approximately 9,000 attendees helped make this the largest green expo in the Southwest U.S. Jamie Qualk, LEED AP, vice president and team leader of the Sustainable Solutions Group, and Paul McCowan, senior project manager of the Sustainable Solutions Group, presented "Busting the Myth that Green Costs More Green."

In preparation for the show, Jamie was interviewed on AM1510 KFNN in Phoenix. To hear the interview [click here](#).

SSRCx WELCOMES

MARTHA REYNOLDS, LEED AP, and project manager. Reynolds received a master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Georgia in 2008 and will facilitate and manage LEED projects in and around the Georgia marketplace.

CLARK DENSON, PE, engineer and **HANNAH BARGER**, engineer in training have joined the energy modeling team at the Sustainable Solutions Group in the Nashville office. Previously, they both worked for our parent company SSR.



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