



SSR & THE ECONOMIC STIMULUS

AS STIMULUS FUNDING

remains a hot topic, SSR is hot on the trail for shovel-ready projects. Already seeing some success, David Donoho, director of SSR's transportation division, continues to chase roadways work in Tennessee.

"THE INTENT OF THE STIMULUS BILL is to start construction as soon as possible on 'shovel ready' projects so that unemployed workers are put back on the job," said Donoho.

So far SSR has been selected to provide Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) oversight for a bridge-replacement project in Carter County, Tenn. funded entirely by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

With Tennessee's Governor in attendance, a groundbreaking for the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) bridge-replacement was held in late April. The 70-year-old steel truss bridge, located on the Watauga River, is currently rated as structurally deficient and functionally obsolete because of its restricted load capacity and limited one-lane access.

The \$1.5 million project will replace the existing bridge with a redesigned two-lane bridge that can withstand an increased load capacity. Construction on the project has already begun and its completion is slated for August of 2010.

At SSRCx, the firm is seeing a great deal of interest from municipalities around the country in terms of energy audit requests.

"As these cities are working to determine how to best utilize stimulus funding, we've been asked to collaborate in drafting the initial RFP for several energy audits," said Jamie Qualk, vice president of SSRCx. "This gives us a great foot

in the door once these municipalities actually look to make their selection."

SSRCx was recently awarded a project funded by the stimulus to perform ASHRAE Level I and II energy audits on multiple city-owned buildings in Tennessee. SSRCx is also currently in discussions with city officials across the country for similar projects.

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"While there are a variety of levels of an energy audit, the overall purpose of an energy audit is to assess how much energy a facility uses and to determine how improvements in operations can be made," added Qualk.

For more information regarding projects related to the ARRA, visit www.recovery.gov.

FEATURED PROJECT:

CAT FINANCIAL CENTER AWARDED LEED-EB® GOLD FROM UNITED STATES GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL



“This is truly a company-wide accomplishment of which we can all be proud. Caterpillar Financial, along with Caterpillar Inc., strives to be a good steward in the environmental arena”

- KENT ADAMS, Caterpillar Vice President and Cat Financial President

THE CATERPILLAR FINANCIAL CENTER has been awarded LEED-EB® 2.0 (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Existing Buildings) Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). Achieving the certification makes the Cat Financial Center the first building in the Caterpillar family and the first privately owned, commercial building in Tennessee to become LEED-EB certified. LEED is a third-party certification program and the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED-Gold certification is the second highest rating obtainable in the system.

LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor

environmental quality. SSRCx, a Nashville-based commissioning firm specializing in the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings, provided LEED facilitation services for the project.

SSRCx also provided services including retro-commissioning, a process that improves the operations of an existing building to enhance the

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facility’s overall performance, and Continuous Commissioning®, which is critical for maintaining the long-term energy savings of a LEED-Certified facility. SSRCx is now providing Continuous Commissioning® for CAT and through these

efforts expect to see even greater improvements in energy savings moving forward.

“Congratulations to our employees. This is truly a company-wide accomplishment of which we can all be proud. Caterpillar Financial, along with Caterpillar Inc., strives to be a good steward in the environmental arena,” said Caterpillar Vice President and Cat Financial President Kent Adams.

“Successfully identifying and managing our environmental impact protects the environment we all live in, makes good business sense and is the right thing to do for our community, employees, customers and shareholders.”

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

AMONG THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CAT FINANCIAL CENTER’S GREEN FEATURES ARE:

- Restructured building operation and maintenance practices to be sustainable best practices consistent with the LEED process
- CAT Financial has seen as much as a 20% savings in energy costs on a monthly basis
- Installed low Mercury level fluorescent lights
- Initiated a recycling and composting program
- Formed a Sustainability Committee with employee representatives from various departments to sustain progress

MORE INFORMATION ON THE LEED GREEN BUILDING CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

IS AVAILABLE AT www.usgbc.org/LEED

A green

DEFINING

workforce

by James D. Qualk LEED AP

The following blog is a monthly series by Jamie Qualk for *Environmental Design + Construction Enviro Blog*. Please visit <http://www.edcmag.com/> for more information.

THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF DISCUSSION

in the news right now about the need to create [green jobs](#) to transition our economy into a [green-energy economy](#). While the latter tends to be understood, the former seems to generate a substantial amount of debate. What exactly is a green job? Where does one find a green job? How are green jobs created? While there's agreement on the need for a green collar community, there are no easy or clear answers.

So far, there isn't a universally accepted definition for a green job, at least not one that politicians, pundits, energy professionals and "average Joes" can agree on. This poses a problem for advocates who are working to create green jobs. There are, however, some roles in the marketplace that we can all agree meet some definition of a green job. For example, a person who works in a factory assembling wind turbine components is definitely a green collar worker. But less clear, perhaps, is the designation of a mechanical engineer who regularly performs [energy audits](#) or [existing building commissioning](#) services to help clients reduce building energy consumption. If the engineer does nothing but perform these services full-time, would his role be regarded as a green job? If the engineer performed these services as a result of stimulus spending, would his occupation then be considered green?

At the very least, I believe that the creation of green jobs must be considered a priority regardless of our inability to agree on a proper definition on this emerging category.

The green building industry grew by 80 percent in 2008 related to new construction according to leading green expert [Jerry Yudelson](#). Specialized consultants are needed to support that growth, even if it slows significantly in coming years.

Related jobs include sustainability ([LEED](#)) and energy consultants, vendors of environmentally-friendly products and factory workers needed to make those products. It's important to think about both easily recognizable roles and the support roles that surround them.

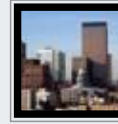
Further, Yudelson concludes that green jobs fall within three major categories:

- **Green building industry**
- **Renewable energy industry**
- **Efficiency upgrades for existing buildings**

It's still hard to tell which sector will serve as the largest provider of green jobs. Whether from any of the three areas mentioned above or unforeseen sources in the future, it's important that we work collectively to stimulate our global economy using both sustainable and inventive methods.



Office SPOTLIGHT:



NASHVILLE:

SSRCx PROMOTES SHEFFER AND LANGFORD

Eric Sheffer has been promoted to senior project manager and Heather Langford to assistant project manager in the firm's Nashville office.



In his new role, Sheffer will work to develop new business opportunities and manage existing SSRCx staff members. He previously served as a project manager with the firm.



Previously a project assistant, Langford will work to coordinate project needs while managing client relationships. She is a LEED Accredited Professional and member of the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council and Environmental Leadership Program Southeast Regional Network.

Both Sheffer and Langford are active members of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the [U.S. Green Building Council](#).

CONGRATULATIONS



Clark Denson recently received his Certified Energy Manager® designation from the [Association of Energy Engineers](#) (AEE).

Denson joined SSRCx in March of 2009, where he is currently responsible for green-building design efforts including energy modeling. With more than seven years of relevant experience, he previously served as a mechanical engineer for SSR.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA. / SACRAMENTO, CALIF.:

SSRCx WELCOMES



Ted Foster, PE, PSP, CxA as a senior project and new business development manager with responsibility for the firm's Southeast territory.

In his new position, Foster will manage new business development within federal, state and local government sectors. Prior to joining SSRCx, he served as a federal account manager for Intellimar/Concentric Security, LLC in Huntsville, Ala.



Joseph Percia as a new business development and senior project manager with responsibility for the firm's California territory. In his new position, Percia will work to penetrate the West Coast commissioning market by cross-selling SSRCx design, engineering and sustainable solutions services. Prior to joining SSRCx, Percia served as design-build manager for Lawson designBUILD located in Sacramento, Calif.

PHOENIX:

GREENBUILD IS COMING TO PHOENIX:

Denise van den Bossche is in her second year on the national Greenbuild Program Committee, which is the team responsible for Conference Educational Sessions. For GB 2009 she is also on the Host Committee and chairs the Hospitality/Welcome Event Committee.



The US Airways Headquarters, located in Tempe, AZ, is an SSRCx project that is expected to be the first LEED for Existing Buildings:

Operations & Maintenance (LEED EB: O&M) certified building in Arizona. The project has been approved as the only LEED for Existing Buildings on the GreenBuild tour in November. Sustainable Solutions Group team member Amy Balderrama serves as the project manager.

For more information on Greenbuild and the events, go to Linked-in Countdowntogreenbuild and join in the conversation!

SSRCx/Cotter Consulting Inc.

recently provided commissioning services for the **HOK Chicago office**, which was awarded **LEED-Platinum certification!**

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

More to come in the next issue of CxMonitor.



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

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keep up!

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The Tennessean Green Voices Blog