

Green Building Update

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publication

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Frost & Sullivan research finds significant savings from LEED certification

Trading Markets - May 1

Frost & Sullivan new report entitled "LEED and Beyond: Evolving Trends in Green & Intelligent Buildings in North America", found savings from efficient use of water, heat and electricity to reach over \$12 billion in 2007 and estimated to reach \$42.6 billion in 2015. One obstacle to the LEED process, however, is the high cost of certification, which can include data collection, administrative and commissioning costs. Certification can reach up to \$60,000; a prohibitive amount for many small- to medium-sized projects.

Green Building Focus

The American Institute of Architects releases top 10 'green' projects of 2008

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) released its top 10 sustainable design projects of 2008, along with a profile of each building. View the [entire list](#).

Forbes outlines the world's biggest clean-energy projects

Forbes - Apr 30

- Solel Solar plans to supply Pacific Gas & Electric with 553 megawatts of solar thermal energy for 25 years in California
- Scotland plans to develop roughly 25% of the entire European Union's tidal power potential, which could produce more than 1,300 megawatts by 2020
- London England plans to erect more than 340 wind turbines in the outer Thames Estuary through its Array project

Cathedral City California expected to approve Green Building Ordinance

MyDesert.com - Apr 28

Cathedral City California is expected to approve a voluntary Green Building Ordinance, which would allow residential builders to build "green" through a program that exceeds the state energy-efficiency standards by at least 15 percent. Residential builders who apply to the city's Green Building program would agree to have their plans reviewed and their homes inspected by officials from the California Green Builder Program.

One school a day is registering for LEED for schools, according to USGBC

Building Construction and Design Network - Apr 29

On average, one American school per day is registering for the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certification program for green schools, according

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Bryan C. Jackson

Editor

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to an article by the Building Design and Construction Network. Pennsylvania, Michigan, New Jersey, Oregon and Virginia have the most LEED certified schools to date. The State of Ohio is leading the movement with hundreds of new and renovated schools set to meet LEED for Schools Rating System. The Ohio School Facilities Commission determined it could save \$1,415,529,914 in taxpayer money over the next 40 years by reducing the energy consumption of school buildings.

Iberdrola announces \$25 million solar project in Spain

United Press International - Apr 29

Spanish energy giant Iberdrola Ingenieria has won a \$25 million contract to build a 2.3-megawatt solar photovoltaic energy plant in Ecija, Spain. The plant in Seville province will consist of 25 photovoltaic panels mounted on fixed structures and will use two of the latest photovoltaic technologies. In 2007, Iberdrola won nearly \$500 million in renewable energy contracts, and has pledged to focus its growth in renewables through at least 2010.

Boston University students question administrators' opposition to LEED

The Daily Free Press - Boston University - Apr 30

Boston University (BU)'s top administrators have said certifying buildings as environmentally friendly under LEED guidelines is a waste of university funds, but some students and professors support LEED certification if the money involved makes an environmental difference. Currently, BU has no LEED certified structures, but administrators say the costly documentation is unnecessary if new buildings already meet the rating system's standards.

The California Academy of Sciences building in San Francisco is considered essential in "green design"

Vanity Fair - May 5

The California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, designed by Renzo Piano, may become an essential architectural and environmental stop for those looking for green design ideas. The building has a number of energy saving devices including a complicated system of weather sensors that tell a central computer what motorized windows to open and close, the entire museum is cooled with untreated outside air.

Notable green building projects...

[HSBC Tower becomes Mexico's first LEED Gold certified building](#)

The HSBC Tower in downtown Mexico City is the first building in Latin America to receive LEED Gold certification from the Mexico Green Building Council. The HSBC Financial Group said it hopes to achieve a minimum of LEED-Gold certification or equivalent in 50 of its major buildings by 2011, and it plans to green 1,400 other buildings and branches throughout Mexico over the next 10 years.

[Portland's Casey Condominiums become first LEED platinum high-rise residence in the US](#)

Portland Oregon's Casey condominiums have been certified LEED platinum, making it the first high-rise condominium residence in the

country to reach the highest standard of LEED. The Casey stands 16 stories tall, but covers just one-quarter block in area, creating an elegant, thin profile.

[University of California's Berkeley Childcare Center awarded LEED silver certification](#)

The University of California's Berkeley was recently awarded LEED Silver certification for its new, green campus childcare center. The Haste Street Child Development Center incorporates energy and water conservation techniques, non-toxic materials and furnishings, green cleaning methods, recycling stations, and organic meals.

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