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Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins
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publication

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attorneys at law

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CityCenter: world's largest LEED Gold project

Gensler - Dec 12

MGM MIRAGE's CityCenter is the world's largest project to pursue LEED with six LEED Gold certifications. CityCenter held its grand opening on 12/16/09 and boasts 30% energy savings; 33% reduction in potable water usage; and 60% reduction in water usage for landscaping. Also, 87% of the wood products in the ARIA Resort & Casino and Crystals Mall are Forest Stewardship Council Certified and 94% of demolition and construction waste was recycled. CityCenter is 18 million sq. ft., cost \$8.5 billion, covers 67 acres, has its own fire station, power plant, hidden parking structures and will create 12,000 permanent jobs upon opening.

Related:

[CityCenter Opens \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

[CityCenter News](#)

Green Building Focus

Study: California green jobs growth

Reuters - Dec 9

A study sponsored by "Next 10" found green jobs grew 2.4% annually between 1995 and 2008 compared with 1% overall job growth in California. With the most aggressive climate change regulation in the nation, the study found that California had 159,000 green jobs out of 18 million total jobs at the start of 2008.

Related:

[California leads with 36% growth in 'green' jobs](#) (USA Today)

[Green economy' growing in California](#) (MercuryNews.com)

[Schwarzenegger promotes California green in Copenhagen](#) (California Newswire)

Study: increase in green building materials

Purchasing - Dec 9

A study by Allied Business Intelligence Research found that global purchasing of green building materials will grow to \$571 billion by 2013 from \$455.3 billion in 2008.

Appraisers: finding property values in green buildings

CREJ - Dec 7

Despite numerous studies showing the value "green" adds to a building such as rental increases, sales price increases and tenant retention, the studies have done little to increase property values. To move to the next level of analysis there needs to be a fundamental shift from generalities to focus on property specifics to pinpoint the actual value going green adds to commercial real estate.

Report: education is key to green buildings

Dovetail Partners - Dec 14

A survey by Dovetail Partners reviews green building products and finds that better education for contractors, manufacturers and tenants is the most important part of a successful green project.

Copenhagen Summit Watch:

Business Green - Dec 18

[Gordon Brown pushes for "Plan B"](#)

[Climate talks run into overtime](#)

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[Draft accord weak on cuts and funding](#)
[Leaders and activists may be throwing in the towel](#)

NYC approves green building plan

Sustainable Business - Dec 10

New York's City Council has passed legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from existing government, commercial, and residential buildings in New York City. The legislation hopes to save \$700 million annually in energy costs, create 17,880 jobs, and reduce NYC's carbon footprint by nearly 5%. Also, two NYC programs will train workers for new construction-related jobs and help finance energy-saving improvements using \$16 million in federal stimulus funding.

Related: [New York's new Green Building Laws](#) (Greener Buildings)

USGBC rules for achieving energy projections

San Francisco Business Times - Dec 4

The USGBC is reviewing proposed rules to ensure LEED projects maintain projected energy savings. The USGBC's Building Performance Initiative, launched in August, is the first attempt to test if LEED buildings actually perform as expected.

Washington Post criticizes LEED restaurant

Washington Post - Dec 7

The Founding Farmers earned LEED certification for its restaurant, but the Washington Post alleges that the restaurant's "sustainable" salmon comes from one of the largest salmon farms in North America and some "early meats" allegedly have non-sustainable origins.

Atlanta's green-building measure shelved

Atlanta Business Chronicle - Dec 8

Proposed green-building standards for commercial and multi-family projects in Atlanta were shelved. The City Council could not agree if the proposed law be mandatory or provide voluntary incentives.

Girl Scouts and USGBC to promote green schools

Metro Green Business - Dec 10

The Girl Scouts and the USGBC joined forces to help schools and communities save energy, conserve water, increase green space, improve air quality and reduce waste.

One million homes earned Energy Star

USA Today - Dec 3

Over 1 million homes have earned the EPA's Energy Star designation. Despite the housing slump, 75,000 houses earned Energy Star seals this year for a total of 1,024,200. Last year, Energy Star homes accounted for nearly 17% of all new single-family homes, up from 12% in 2007.

Notable Green Building Projects

1100 Louisiana earns LEED Gold

Hines - Dec 17

Hines' 1.4 million sq. ft., 55-story office tower located at 1100 Louisiana in downtown Houston earned LEED – EB Gold and a rating of 87 from ENERGY STAR®. The building features reduced heat island effect; reduced nighttime light pollution; a 31.5% reduction in indoor potable water use; comprehensive commissioning; installation of low-mercury lamps; building waste diversion of 50%; green cleaning; and alternative transportation options for commuters. Hines has 138 buildings, representing approximately 77 million square feet that have earned the ENERGY STAR



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and natural resource
managers.



INLAND EMPIRE

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[Transamerica Pyramid earns LEED Gold](#)

Greener Building - Dec 11

San Francisco's TransAmerica Pyramid received USGBC's LEED Gold rating after the 37-year-old skyscraper was renovated with more energy-efficient materials and equipment.

[Frito-Lay facility earns LEED EB Gold](#)

Azo Building - Dec 14

PepsiCo's Frito-Lay Arizona facility became the nation's first food manufacturing site to earn LEED Existing Building (EB) Gold rating.

[Video: Syracuse University's green data center](#)

Mother Nature Network - Dec 8

Data centers can use up to 30 times the power of a comparable office space. Creating a more energy-efficient data center is one way that a company, university or agency can significantly reduce its energy usage. Click on the headline to watch Syracuse University's short video tour of their data center.

[Portland aquatics center earns LEED Platinum](#)

Brightworks - Dec 17

East Portland's aquatics center earned LEED Platinum. The center features the following: (1) photovoltaic panels that generate 15% of the center's energy; (2) solar water heaters; (3) 100% on-site storm water retention and treatment; (4) 30% potable water savings from low flow showers and faucets; (5) pool filters that significantly reduce chlorine use and conserve up to one million gallons of water annually; (6) structural materials used as finish materials saving 25% of the materials used; (7) recovered heat to heat pool water; (8) 60% reduction in lighting through monitoring and natural illumination; and (9) 95% diversion of construction waste from landfills.

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