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# Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins  
market intelligence  
publication

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## **LA leads U.S. in Energy Star buildings**

*Greener Buildings - Mar 24*

The EPA crowned Los Angeles as the city with the most Energy Star buildings in 2009. LA had 293 Energy Star-labeled buildings or over 76 million square feet of floor space, with an estimated cost savings of \$93.9 million. The top ten Energy Star building cities are Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Denver, Chicago, Houston, Lakeland, Dallas-Fort Worth, Atlanta and New York.

## **Green Building Focus**

### **U.K. Climate-Change Probe Clears Lab -- Faults Disclosure**

*Wall Street Journal - April 1*

A U.K. government investigation found no evidence that a climate-research lab at the University at East Anglia improperly manipulated its scientific work but criticized researchers for refusing to disclose data. The committee reaffirmed the "consensus" view among scientists that human activity is causing climate change. The investigation stems from hacked emails from the lab that sparked questions about the validity of the lab's research.

### **SF ranked top market for green office opportunities**

*GlobeSt.com - March 26*

Cushman & Wakefield and Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance's BetterBricks initiative ranked SF as the top U.S. office markets for opportunities in green office markets. Other cities in the top five include Oakland, New York, Los Angeles and Chicago. An index was used to assess the office markets of the 25 largest US central business districts based on six categories: (1) office market conditions, (2) investment outlook, (3) green adoption and implementation, (4) local mandates and incentives, (5) state energy initiatives and (6) green culture.

### **Seminar: building a green economy**

*LA Business Council - April 1*

**Tuesday, April 6, 2010**

7:30 am to 2:00 pm, Harold M. Williams Auditorium, The Getty.

This seminar organized by the Los Angeles Business Council features Attorney General Jerry Brown, California's chief law enforcer of AB 32; Paul Gipe, Founder, Wind Works, The world-renowned expert on Feed-in Tariff; Lauralee Martin, Global COO and CFO of Jones Lang LaSalle, Are energy efficient buildings more profitable?; Steve Hill, the President of Kyocera Solar, Inc., What are the prospects for a photovoltaic plant for LA?

### **Study: green building up, non-green construction down**

*Sustainable Business - Mar 26*

U.S. unemployment among construction workers rose to 27.1%. However, green building stocks (in Canaccord Adam's Green Building Index) are up 10.1% for the year. Even during harsh conditions for conventional construction, green building companies are able to out pace non-green competitors. According to the "Green Jobs Study," the USGBC estimates that green building jobs currently stand at two million, generating over \$100 billion in GDP and wages. By 2013, green construction is predicted to grow to nearly eight million jobs.

### **Report: green building materials market to hit \$31.4 B in 2014**

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MMD Newswire - Mar 24

"[The U.S. Market for Green Building Materials](#)" by BCC Research predicts that the U.S. market for green building materials will reach \$31.4 billion in 2014. [In 2009, the U.S. green building materials market was \\$9.6 billion.](#) Structural materials make up the largest segment of the green building materials market.

### **Steps for a green data center**

*Sustainable Facility - Mar 17*

Greening a data center can move forward with measurable benefits. Challenges include: (1) IT customers want better performance, higher reliability at lower prices; (2) Corporations, utilities, and governments are addressing higher energy bills, expanding regulations for the disposal of IT equipment and concerned with global warming; and (3) Managers are eliminating "ghost" servers, improving resource utilization, eliminating barriers between IT and facilities, implementing standardized performance measurements, and evaluating investment alternatives to upgrade equipment.

### **Pending "Building Star" bill promises retrofit funds**

*Building Green - Mar 25*

On March 4, 2010, Senators Merkley of Oregon and Pryor of Arkansas introduced legislation to create the "Building Star" program, which would offer incentives and rebates for energy efficiency improvements to existing commercial buildings. The two-part bill creates rebates for products and services as well as a package of tax incentives, grants, and low-interest loans for building owners. The bill also creates a loan program to cover those portions of a retrofit not covered by the rebate program.

### **Caring for your green building is important**

*triplepundit - Mar 29*

It is as important to care for a building's green features over time. Best practices include (1) educating occupants and maintenance staff, (2) thinking constantly about how the building's green features are being used and what may have changed; and (3) collecting and analyzing performance data to demonstrate that these green upgrades pay for themselves economically, socially and environmentally.

### **Solar Power Chooses Roseville for New Plant**

*California Real Estate Journal - March 30*

Solar Power Inc. has chosen Roseville, California, as the site for its U.S. manufacturing facility. The facility will encompass 100,000 square feet.

### **Walkability and access to transportation redefine affordable housing**

*California Real Estate Journal - March 24*

While 69% of U.S. communities are perceived as affordable under conventional measures, a report by CNT found that only 40% are affordable when transportation costs are considered. The report found that although homes can be less expensive in outlying areas, transportation costs make them unaffordable in the long term. CNT's H+T Index takes into account the "location efficiency" of a neighborhood by analyzing its access to transit, its variety of stores and services and walkability.

### **Notable Green Building Projects**

#### **[Transamerica Pyramid earns LEED Gold](#)**

*San Francisco Business Times - Mar 26*

After 10 years of green upgrades, the Pyramid Center was awarded LEED



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Gold. The Pyramid Center is now among 20 commercial properties in San Francisco with LEED Gold, according to the USGBC.

**[LEED Gold for Allstate Data Center](#)**

*Greener Computing - Mar 24*

Allstate Insurance Company announced that its new data center in Rochelle, Illinois earned LEED Gold. The data center features new hardware and virtualization software, a white roof to reflect rather than absorb heat, concrete made from recycled materials and environmental systems that blend heat from computers, outside air and mechanical equipment to keep office areas comfortable and equipment rooms cool.

**[Wells Fargo opens 26th LEED Gold branch](#)**

*Charlotte Business Journal - Mar 29*

Wells Fargo earned LEED Gold for its branch in the San Fernando Valley. This branch represents Wells Fargo's 26th LEED-certified branch in the U.S. and its second in California.

**[Genworth Building earns LEED Gold](#)**

*Triangle Business Journal - Mar 25*

The six-story Genworth Building in Raleigh earned LEED Gold. The Genworth is the first LEED Gold building in Wake County for a core and shell project.

**[Wilson College complex is first LEED building in county](#)**

*The Herald Mail - Mar 26*

The Harry R. Brooks Complex for Science, Mathematics and Technology at Wilson College earned LEED certification, making it the first building in Franklin County to achieve LEED certification.

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