



# PRESS RELEASE

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## One Billion Square Feet of LEED Certified Green Building Projects Worldwide

*Achievement manifests building industry progress, market transformation*

Washington, DC (November 10, 2010) – This month, the total footprint of commercial projects certified under the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) LEED Green Building Rating System worldwide surpassed one billion square feet. Another six billion square feet of projects are registered and currently working towards LEED certification around the world.

"This traction demonstrates the transformation of the way we design, build and operate buildings," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO and Founding Chair, USGBC. "Not only does green building contribute to saving energy, water and money, it also creates green jobs that will grow and energize our economy."

The milestone is a testament to the global effort to meet USGBC's vision that buildings and communities will regenerate and sustain the health and vitality of all life within this generation. LEED is the preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

"The impact of these one billion square feet resonates around the world," said Peter Templeton, President of the Green Building Certification Institute, the certifying body for LEED projects. "The use of LEED represents a firm commitment to improving our built environment for future generations."

Since it was first introduced to the marketplace in 2000, over 36,000 commercial projects and 38,000 single-family homes have participated in LEED. By consuming less energy, LEED-certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to healthier environments for residents, workers and the community.

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### U.S. Green Building Council

The USGBC community is transforming the way we build, design and operate our buildings for healthier places that save precious resources for people to live, work, learn and play in. USGBC is helping create buildings and communities that regenerate and sustain the health and vitality of all life within a generation. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the Council is the driving force of the green building industry, which is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product by 2013. USGBC leads a diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials, concerned citizens, teachers and students. The USGBC community comprises 80 local chapters, 17,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 155,000 individuals who have earned LEED Professional Credentials. Visit [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org) for more information.

### About GBCI

The Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI) provides third-party confirmation that specific criteria related to LEED building certification and LEED professional credentialing have been met. To underscore this commitment, GBCI is undergoing the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accreditation process for personnel certification agencies complying with International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Standard 17024. Early in 2009, GBCI assumed responsibility for administering the LEED building certification program for the more than 36,000 commercial projects seeking third-party verification of

compliance with the industry's leading green building rating system. For more information, please visit [www.gbci.org](http://www.gbci.org).

**U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL**

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