The EBies: Honoring Great Work in Buildings Gone Green

Published on **17 Aug 2012** | Written by **William Nutt** | Posted in **Community**

Urban Green Council's EBie Awards recognize excellence in existing buildings. Photo credit: Urban Green Council

Urban Green Council, the New York City chapter of USGBC, held the first-ever EBie Awards on June 28th at the Hard Rock Café Theater. Though this marks the first public showcase for the EBies, the project reflects concepts and ideas that have been discussed for years by NYC leaders in sustainability. The basic idea is this: We need to recognize and encourage the people who are making amazing improvements to existing buildings (hence "EB"ies). Last month, a total of 10 projects from around the country received awards across eight categories.

Sixty-seven entries were submitted; the jurors narrowed the list down to a select 18 finalists, and then chose the winners. Winning the All-Rounder was Glen Neville, a Director of Deutsche Bank, with a team from Jones Lang LaSalle for the Deutsche Bank Americas Headquarters at 60 Wall Street. Maintenance, operational, and capital improvements to the property increased its energy and water efficiency as it moves towards a goal of carbon neutrality by 2013. Included in the spectacular outcome of this $8 million project is the creation of a 123KW flat panel solar array – the largest rooftop array in New York City.

Forty percent energy savings over the past three years earned Jesse Dillard of the Dallas Museum of Art the Reformed Gas Guzzler Award thanks to lighting, HVAC and water heater retrofits. The Reformed Drinker Award went to Steve Allwine of the Johnson Braund office building in Seattle for reducing water consumption by 95%. The range of building types that received other innovative awards include a commercial office space, a mixed-use industrial complex and office building, an elementary school, a condominium complex and a rental apartment building.

Beyond installing sustainable technologies, some finalists and winners also encouraged behavioral changes for their projects. Recognized achievements on that front include the launch of a carpool program, information-sharing about green living and messaging to tenants about the use of energy-efficient light bulbs and other home improvements.

All of the winners clearly deserved their walk down the green carpet. And congratulations to Urban Green Council for recognizing their critical work in such prestigious fashion!

William Nutt
Associate, Marketing & Communications
U.S. Green Building Council

Member employees, Chapter members, USGBC staff

0 comments

Leave a comment

Leave a comment

Don't have an account? Create one

You must be signed in to leave a comment.

Email

Password

SIGN IN