Experiencing success as a LEED Professional

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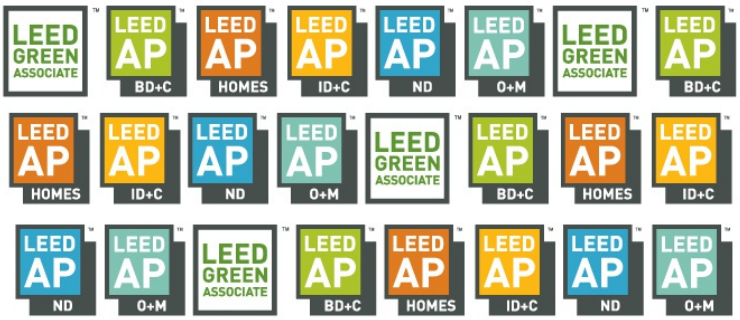

In May 2011, I graduated from Farmingdale State College with a bachelor's degree in engineering. Prior to graduation, I was an intern at a consulting engineering firm. I was confident that through my internship I would be offered a fulltime position upon graduating, but unfortunately I was not.

That's when I realized I needed to differentiate myself from other recent graduates.

As an intern, I learned about LEED and I decided there was no better time to take the LEED Green Associate exam. With this new accreditation added to my resume I began applying to engineering and construction management firms.

Four months after graduating I received an offer for a position at WSP, a global consulting engineering firm. And I'd like to think the offer was thanks to my newly earned LEED credential.

In my role, I work with all of the various LEED rating systems, and I realized it would be beneficial to pursue the next level of accreditation, the LEED AP with specialty. I am now accredited as a LEED AP in Interior Design and Construction.

My work with LEED involves managing the project team and the entire LEED process, from the project's initial registration through the certification process. I am responsible for ensuring:

- the sustainable design requirements are incorporated into the design phase
- the various green elements are actually carried into the construction phase
- the finished building meets all of the green design elements

I am also responsible for coordinating LEED project meetings, providing LEED reports to keep the team updated and on-track, completing calculations, and reviewing project documentation and submittals for LEED requirements.

I currently manage over 20 LEED projects, and in my time at WSP I have successfully certified four projects, which have met or exceeded certification goals. I have also had the opportunity to work as the LEED administrator for some of our top clients, such as North Shore LIJ, Yale and Long Island Power Authority.

Through LEED, I have furthered my knowledge of building design and construction. I have learned several sustainable strategies such as selecting water efficient fixtures, installing products that promote indoor environmental quality and the importance of designing HVAC systems which not only save energy, but enhance occupant comfort.

2 comments

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Manuel De La Cruz — 1 year 48 weeks ago
President/Owner, Crispulo Clean

The method of studying to pass the exam is enhance your reading skills. :)

Evan Strong — 1 year 48 weeks ago

What method of study did you use to prepare/pass your Green Associate exam?

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