

USGBC contributes to White House Energy Datapalooza

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The data behind our buildings tells an important story. Today, USGBC will be joining 150 entrepreneurs, software developers, energy experts, and policy makers for the Obama Administration's first annual [Energy Datapalooza](#). Distinguished speakers are scheduled to include Steven Chu, U.S. Secretary of Energy; Todd Park, Assistant to the President, U.S. Chief Technology Officer; and Nancy Sutley, Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality. [Watch the live stream](#).

The White House event is part of the Obama Administration's [Energy Data Initiative](#) – an Administration-wide effort to leverage government and private-sector data to spur entrepreneurship, create value, and accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy.

Participants at the Datapalooza will share new information technologies and novel approaches to leveraging public datasets and application programming interfaces (APIs).

Today, I will demonstrate a new tool for creating and sharing unique identification numbers for spaces and whole buildings. The lack of standards for referencing buildings and spaces has been a bottleneck to sharing information and applying 21st century approaches to data analysis across the green building industry. The new tool allows users to create and share durable unique identifiers between organizations, enabling them to affirmatively link their various data sets to the same building or interior space with a high degree of confidence. The tool also connects these ID numbers to ESRI's emergent Global Grid Reference System, providing new opportunities for mapping and data aggregation.

The work reflects a partnership between USGBC, the [Environmental Systems Research Institute](#) and [Green River](#). The tool will be part of the USGBC's new [Green Building Information Gateway](#) scheduled for release later this year.

Learn more about USGBC's efforts to advance data access and transparency at energydataalliance.org.

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