

The LEED® for New Construction Rating System (LEED-NC) defines the leadership position for designing and building commercial, institutional and government buildings in a way that produces quantifiable benefits for occupants, the environment and their owners. It has emerged as the national leader in market transformation of the commercial sector, making a convincing value proposition for building green.

Designed for use during the design and construction phases of a building, LEED-NC addresses the environmental impacts of site and materials selection, demolition, and construction. LEED facilitates and encourages project teams to use an integrated design approach from start to finish, resulting in buildings with lower impact on occupants and the environment, and a positive economic impact for owners.

LEED-NC: RECOGNIZED VALUE

Since its launch in 2000, over 2000 building projects have registered for LEED-NC in the United States and internationally, and over 45 million square feet of space has been LEED-NC certified. Companies and individuals throughout the building industry understand that LEED-NC certification brings value to their projects, and they are adapting their services and products to help owners obtain certification. Numerous recent cost studies show that LEED certification can be gained for minimal to no additional cost when compared to traditional, non-green building.

RECOGNIZED LEADERSHIP

Companies and organizations are finding they can do well by doing good. As the nationally recognized voluntary rating system for green buildings, LEED-NC certification showcases your environmental commitment and leadership, sending a strong message to employees and the wider community that you care about their health.

The LEED-NC Rating System promotes improved practices in:

- Site selection and development
- Water and energy use
- Environmentally preferred construction products, finishes and furnishings
- Waste stream management
- Indoor environmental quality
- Innovation in sustainable design and construction

PHOTO CREDIT: COURTESY OF ALBERICI CORP.



ALBERICI CORPORATION HEADQUARTERS, ST. LOUIS, MO | LEED-NC PLATINUM

REALIZE THE BENEFITS OF LEED-NC CERTIFICATION

- Enhanced occupant well-being and comfort
- Reduced operating costs
- Reduced environmental impact.
- Increased building valuation and return on investment
- Marketing advantage
- Reduced absenteeism and employee turnover
- Increased retail sales

Based on recent analysis, the aggregate total return of publicly held companies affiliated with the USGBC outperformed the Dow Jones Industrial Average by over 18% from 2000 to 2004. This may indicate well-managed, progressive companies are looking to build and operate green as an opportunity to differentiate themselves as leaders in the marketplace.



LEED-NC

Build green. Everyone profits.

LEED-NC CERTIFICATION LEVELS

Points	Levels
26 – 32	Certified
33 – 38	Silver
39 – 51	Gold
52 – 69	Platinum

Sustainable Sites

14 points

Goals

- Develop only appropriate sites
- Reuse existing buildings and/or sites
- Protect natural and agricultural areas
- Reduce need for automobile use
- Protect and/or restore natural sites

Water Efficiency

5 points

Goals

- Reduce the quantity of water needed for the building
- Reduce municipal water supply and treatment burden

Energy & Atmosphere

17 points

Goals

- Establish energy efficiency and system performance
- Optimize energy efficiency
- Encourage renewable and alternative energy sources
- Support ozone protection protocols

Materials & Resources

13 points

Goals

- Use materials with less environmental impact
- Reduce and manage waste
- Reduce the amount of materials needed

Indoor Environmental Quality

15 points

Goals

- Establish good indoor air quality
- Eliminate, reduce and manage the sources of indoor air pollution
- Ensure thermal comfort and systems controllability
- Provide for occupant connection to the outdoor environment

Innovation in Design

up to 5 additional points

Goals

- Recognize exceptional performance in any achieved LEED-NC credit
- Recognize innovation in green building categories not specifically addressed by LEED-NC credits

ABOUT LEED® (LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN)

The LEED Green Building Rating System™ is the industry-recognized, voluntary standard that defines high performance green buildings — which are healthier, more environmentally responsible and more profitable structures. In addition to providing strategies for achieving a green building, LEED certification offers a marketable advantage over competitors and third-party validation of your sustainable accomplishments. The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) has developed rating systems for all aspects of the built environment:

- LEED for New Construction (NC)
- LEED for Existing Buildings (EB)
- LEED for Commercial Interiors (CI)
- LEED for Core and Shell (CS) in pilot
- LEED for Homes (H) in pilot
- LEED for Neighborhood Development (ND) pilot in 2006

HOW TO GET STARTED WITH LEED-NC

- **Visit the Web site** – Go to www.usgbc.org/LEED/nc to learn more about LEED-NC, review the rating system, download case studies and check out the FAQs.
- **Attend a LEED-NC Workshop** – Workshops provide a detailed exploration of the rating system, case studies and effective strategies for greening your building operations. A complete schedule of LEED workshops is available at www.usgbc.org/workshops.
- **Become a Member** – Encourage your company to join the USGBC. Not only are USGBC members recognized leaders in supporting a better built environment, they also receive a wide array of discounts on project registration and certification, accreditation, workshops and resource materials.
- **Attend Greenbuild** – Greenbuild International Conference and Expo is the premier conference on everything related to green building. Sponsored by the USGBC, Greenbuild hosts thousands of building industry professionals and is the annual place for learning, networking and exploring the latest advancements in green building design, construction, financing, operations and maintenance. www.greenbuildexpo.org
- **Get involved with your local chapter** – USGBC Chapters routinely host informative presentations and are a great way to connect with other professionals in your region who have experience implementing LEED-NC. Find your local USGBC chapter at www.usgbc.org/chapters.
- **Become a LEED Accredited Professional** – LEED Professional Accreditation is a distinguished pursuit among those aspiring to demonstrate their ability to apply the LEED Rating System to green building projects and facilitate and encourage the integrated design process.

Contact the USGBC – For questions related to LEED, workshops and the accreditation exam, e-mail leed-nc@usgbc.org. For questions about membership, chapters or the USGBC in general, e-mail info@usgbc.org or call 202-828-7422.