

## Biodesign Institute at ASU Earns Arizona's First Top Rating from USGBC

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*Tempe, Ariz.* — The Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University has garnered the highest design for environmentally friendly design and construction from the USGBC. The platinum certification for was issued for Building B, which opened in 2006. This marks the first time a building in Arizona has received the platinum award.

Building A, which opened in 2004, received gold-level certification. The two buildings were constructed separately, but are connected on all levels by glass walkways.

The USGBC granted the certificates based on a stringent rating system that recognizes design and construction with a minimal negative impact on the environment. So far, there are 40 platinum and 257 gold LEED certified buildings. President Michael Crow has called for all new construction at the university to meet LEED standards.

"The certifications of both buildings A and B send a message that ASU leadership cares about the health of its employees. Everyone's comfort, safety and well-being will benefit from the fresh air and natural daylight. The CEO and founding chair, USGBC. The Biodesign Institute facilities were designed by architectural firm Sargent. They were built via a joint venture of Sundt Construction and DPR Construction. Certification Ideas. In addition to LEED certification, the team's work won Biodesign the 2006 Lab of the Year award.

At 172,000 square-feet, Building A was funded by university capital funds and opened in 2004. It was a fast-track construction project that originally had not targeted certification. Experience was incorporated into Building B, making it possible to earn the platinum-level certificate. The slightly larger Building B, was completed in 2006, utilizing funding from a 2003 Arizona legislative appropriation to support the state's three universities.

"Our research attempts to imitate nature's design. So in constructing our facilities, we strove for a built environment that inspires us," said George Poste, director of the Biodesign Institute.

Featuring large expanses of glass, the facilities attempt to bring the scientific source of inspiration in the Sonoran Desert garden. A central atrium skylight runs the length of both buildings, allowing natural light to illuminate the interior.

Environmentally friendly features range in scale from site and urban planning to interior finishes. The new rail station set to open in 2008. Overall the project exceeded LEED criteria for use of recycled materials, including aluminum ceiling panels, recycled-content carpet and rubber stairwell flooring. A construction waste management plan resulted in a construction waste diversion rate of more than 60 percent.

The facilities foster cross-disciplinary interaction to support the Biodesign Institute's goals. Its height encourages using stairs, rather than elevators. Glass-walled laboratories and office space offer transparency. The atrium that separates them. This design encourages researchers to cross public spaces, which provides for impromptu meetings in the spacious hallways and stairwells.

"The idea of the atrium was bold for a university, where space is at a premium," said Barbara Hendr Larry Lord, FAIA, LEED AP, is a science principal with Lord Aeck & Sargent. "What we created was th

or as we call it, a three-dimensional collaborative space," he said. "So, all the floors are associated v south, and then in the future, east and west so that everyone is connected in a bigger sense within t

The Biodesign Institute's master plan includes two additional east-west buildings, which will bring th square feet.

The facilities represent the largest investment in biotech research infrastructure in Arizona. The inve the largest generator of federal biomedical research funding in the valley. Its research integrates bic nanotechnology and advanced computing in new ways to inspire new solutions to disease, injury, su

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