

Sustainable Facilities Services

Increasing efficiency. Reducing the Total Cost Envelope.



Are you considering new construction or a renovation to your existing building?

How efficient is the current facility and how well does it perform in its daily operation?

Does your building maximize natural sunlight, while minimizing waste of natural resources such as water, heat, and wastewater?

'Green' buildings are the new standard. Green Building refers to a new approach in looking at the building envelope from a holistic perspective. In effect, Green Building takes into account the impact the building has on human health and the environment. In addition, it considers the most effective use of the space and seeks to maximize performance and productivity through the use of green practices, products and ergonomics.

The impacts of construction and operation of buildings today are substantial, accounting for 37% of all energy use and 68% electricity demand in the US, plus 12% of fresh water use and 65% of solid waste generation. As a result, the new standard – called Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®), defined by the US Green Building Council, has set a new benchmark and communities are

beginning to adopt it as policy. Boston, New York, San Francisco, and other major cities now require new buildings to conform to the USGBC LEED standards.

Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum. LEED building certification is based on a nationally accredited rating system for high performance green buildings. The system evaluates building projects according to levels of environmental responsibility, operating profitability and health considerations. The rating system looks at buildings in multiple categories including new construction, existing buildings operations and maintenance and commercial interiors. The rating system takes into account sustainability, water efficiency, energy use and systems, materials and resource use, indoor quality and innovation and design.

Sustainnovation Consulting is your clear choice for Sustainable Facilities expertise

At Sustainnovation Consulting we start with your organization...

- Evaluate your existing business culture including its goals and challenges
- Review your existing property to understand how the existing structure does or doesn't support your employees and business
- Consider the needs of the organization and align them with the benefits of a new structure or site renovation
- Educate your staff on sustainability and deep elements of environmental design

...and then concentrate on building design.

- Assessment of the building's orientation to the sun, wind and weather conditions
- Assessment of the building's use of energy, handling of waste, and treatment of natural resources.
- Incorporate energy efficiency measures through insulation, proper heating, cooling, hot water systems, appliances and renewable energy sources
- Develop systems that will significantly reduce demand for fresh water.
- Analyze materials and resources so that the full lifecycle and environmental impact of the products used in construction are non-toxic and produced in a sustainable manner.
- Design the interior of the building envelope in accordance with superior indoor environmental quality metrics.
- Integrate exterior facilities like parking lots and landscaping into the overall facility plan.

Affiliations:

- Green Roundtable
- NEXUS
- Warner-Babcock Institute (Green Chemistry)
- Beyond Benign
- Zero Emissions Research & Initiatives (ZERI) Foundation
- Open Circle Innovations
- Co-op America
- 1% for the Planet
- Sustainable Business Network

For more information on Design for Environment services and to plan your project, please contact us:

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