



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Los Angeles Convention Center

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THE LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER IS THE FIRST CONVENTION CENTER IN THE U.S. OF ITS SIZE AND AGE AND THE FIRST L.A. CITY BUILDING TO BE AWARDED LEED® GREEN BUILDING CERTIFICATION FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS BY THE USGBC

October 16th, 2008 (Los Angeles, CA)—The Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) announced today the formal acceptance of its certification in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Existing Buildings (LEED-EB), awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). Various physical models of the earth-friendly programs implemented at LACC were in exhibition for public viewing.

"The Los Angeles Convention Center has done a great thing for this city and for our environment by greening their building to LEED standards. They serve as an example for what all major buildings in Los Angeles can do to promote a clean, sustainable future," stated City of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa.

LEED is a rating system for sustainable buildings, which is regulated by the U.S. Green Building Council. This is a voluntary program designed for building owners to run and operate their buildings as efficiently and as economically possible without negatively impacting the surrounding community and environment.

"I am proud that the Los Angeles Convention Center is a model 'Green' facility both locally and nationally. With the announcement of its certification as a LEED-EB, our Convention Center is again leading the way, offering itself to organizations and businesses throughout the world as the premiere place for hosting a truly environmentally-conscious event, meeting, or convention," commented City of Los Angeles 9th District Councilmember Jan Perry.

"The Los Angeles Convention Center is to be applauded for achieving LEED Certification for Existing Buildings," said Rick Fedrizzi, President & CEO, Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. "The certification sends a message that the City of Los Angeles cares about the health of its visitors, employees and the overall environment. The work of innovative building projects such as The Los Angeles Convention Center is a fundamental driving force in the green building movement," added Fedrizzi.

"This accomplishment, among one of our most ambitious over the past few years, is reflective of the collective commitment, team spirit, and belief among LACC family of employees that helping the environment is not a business option, but a responsibility," expressed Pouria Abbassi, P.E., CEO & General Manager of LACC. "Most importantly, we want to share our leanings and experiences across the industry. One or two or three or ten convention centers can not bring fundamental change. It is our collective responsibility as hosts to the millions of visitors every year," emphasized Abbassi.

"One of the most important topics right now for meeting professionals is environmental responsibility, so by having a LEED-EB certified convention center in addition to all our new entertainment options within easy walking distance at L.A. LIVE, the City of Los Angeles must now be considered a premier convention destination," said Mark Liberman, president and CEO of LA INC. The Los Angeles Convention and Visitors Bureau.

LACC aspires to become a zero waste facility, which means moving from over 50% diversion to 100% diversion. It plans to immediately work on enhancing its LEED certification and is also looking at thermal storage which will significantly reduce the facility's Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning loads even further. LACC is also committed to researching ways to add green space in the near future. Certification of LACC's LEED-EB was completed in partnership with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation.

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About the Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC)

The Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) is one of the most technologically advanced convention and exhibition centers in the world. LACC attracts over 2.5 million annual visitors and is renowned internationally as a prime site for conventions, trade shows and exhibitions. With its towering emerald architectural design, the LACC is a well recognized Los Angeles landmark. An integral economic component to the Southern California area, total sales from client secondary spending tops \$1.1 billion annually, generating and sustaining over 12,000 local jobs. LACC is a model environmental-friendly facility. Its solar panels are capable of meeting the electricity needs of an estimated 100 homes, and it's recycling, energy efficiency, and water conservation programs help to conserve the environment. LACC is enrolled in the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) Green Power Program (environmentally-friendly renewable energy resources such as hydroelectric, geothermal, solar, biomass, and wind energy) at a level of 30% of the facilities consumption. The Los Angeles Convention Center is registered with the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) as a member of the Los Angeles and National Chapter and holds the prestigious USGBC LEED certification for existing buildings. LACC is also a proud recipient of prestigious environmental and industry awards including several Planner's Choice Awards presented by Meeting News magazine, multiple Prime Site Awards from the Facilities and Destinations magazine, recognition for model emergency care programs, and was invited to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency's National earth conscious WasteWise Program. For more information about the Los Angeles Convention Center, please call (213) 741-1151, ext. 5319 or visit www.lacclink.com.

About the U.S. Green Building Council and LEED-EB

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. Its membership includes corporations, builders, universities, government agencies, and other nonprofit organizations. Since USGBC's founding in 1993, the Council has grown to more than 17,000 member companies and organizations, a comprehensive family of LEED® green building rating systems, and expansive educational offering, the industry's popular Greenbuild International Conference and Expo (www.greenbuildexpo.org), and a network of 78 local chapters, affiliates, and organizing groups.

About LEED®

The LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System is a feature-oriented rating system that awards buildings points for satisfying specified green building criteria. The six major environmental categories of review include: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality and Innovation and Design. Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels of LEED green building certification are awarded based on the total number of points earned within each LEED category. LEED can be applied to all building types including new construction, commercial interiors, core & shell developments, existing buildings, homes, neighborhood developments, schools and retail facilities. LEED for Healthcare is currently under development and is expected to be released in early 2008.

Incentives for LEED are available at the state and local level and LEED has also been adopted nationwide by federal agencies, state and local governments, and interested private companies. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org/LEED.

About LA INC.

LA INC. The Los Angeles Convention and Visitors Bureau is a private, nonprofit business association whose primary mission is to market and promote Los Angeles as the premier eco-friendly site for meetings, conventions and leisure travel. Though not part of city government, LA INC. is recognized as the city's official tourism marketing organization. Setting the stage for the 21st century, LA is one of the world's most creative, culturally diverse and eco-friendly cities in the world. For more information, visit www.discoverLosAngeles.com.

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