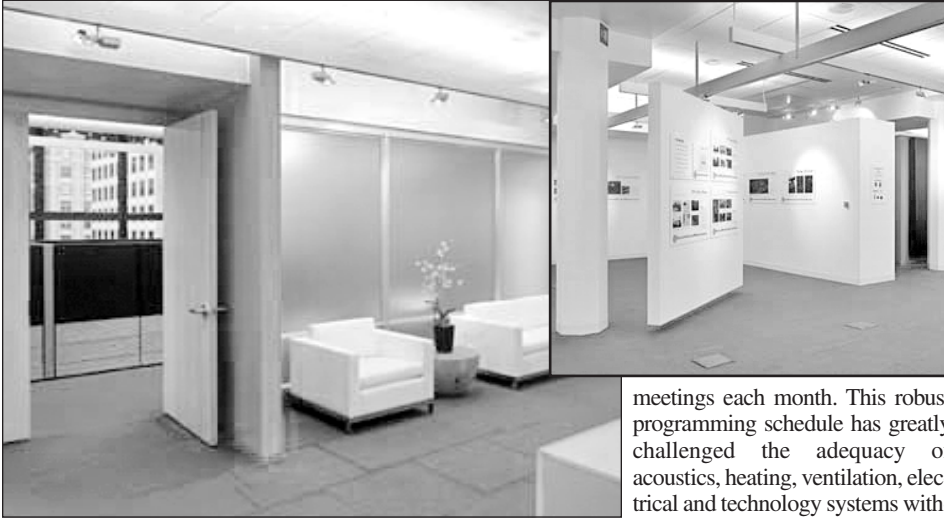


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AIA-SF Headquarters Receives LEED-CI Gold Certification



meetings each month. This robust programming schedule has greatly challenged the adequacy of acoustics, heating, ventilation, electrical and technology systems within the existing office space.

IA San Francisco reports that its office has received LEED-CI gold certification from the USGBC.

The chapter is holding a presentation today to commemorate the designation. AIA San Francisco President Don Rudy, AIA, and USGBC President and Founder, David Gottfried, as well as various elected officials and members of the AIA San Francisco Board of Directors, will be in attendance.

Gottfried will present the LEED gold certification to AIA San Francisco, and will commemorate the AIA San Francisco offices as the site of the first-ever USGBC meeting, held here in October 1993. Members of the design team, including Quezada Architecture, BCCI Construction and Sustainability Consultant Christine Moy Harmon, will also be in attendance.

The ceremony will take place just two days before the start of the 2009 AIA National Convention, held April 30-May 2 at Moscone Center.

On Oct. 3, 2006, AIA San Francisco reopened in a new, state-of-the-art home located within the historic Hallidie Building. The new home is a demonstration "sustainable project" to educate architects and the general public about the advantages of sustainable design. Featuring improved acoustics, multiple exhibition spaces, and conference rooms, the space also houses the new Center for Architecture + Design, American Institute of Graphic Arts and the USGBC Northern California Chapter.

Since 2002, AIA San Francisco has significantly increased public outreach and member services. The chapter now hosts more than 50 events and

Currently more than 1,000 people participate in AIA San Francisco programs each month, and it is anticipated that this number could double once the new office reopens.

Located on the sixth floor, the renovated 5,700-sq-ft office in the Hallidie Building will have more flexible space with an increased capacity for exhibits, programs, and a more welcoming face for the public as well as AIA San Francisco members.

The chapter is the third largest in the country and looks to be the first chapter to be certified sustainable design by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Key sustainable features of the office include:

- Library counter made from Vetrazzo tiles: comprised of 85% waste materials including fly ash which is (the by-product of power plant coal burning) and glass from curbside bottle recycling programs and windows reclaimed from building demolition.

- Shaw Carpet: contains 40% recycled content and is backed with EcoWorx, the carpet industry's only "Cradle to Cradle" modular backing system.

- FSC-certified English Sycamore wood veneer for all the doors

- Walls of the staff area (Steelcase Demountable Partitions) made of steel, fabric and glass. They can be disassembled, relocated, and reused in the future and are ultimately recyclable. They will not end up in landfill like standard walls if the plan needs to change or a new tenant leases the space.

- Paint: Frazee Paints have low or no VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds)

- Systems furniture & seating and kitchen countertop (Cambria) are Greenguard certified:

third-party Greenguard certification is for low-emitting products

- The existing air system was retrofitted with a variable speed drive and the duct system with variable air volume dampers. To accommodate gatherings of 200 people, an additional air handling system was incorporated to operate in series with the existing system under high load conditions. When not needed, this additional system remains off to conserve energy. The existing air system was also retrofitted to take advantage of the often cool outside air in San Francisco to make use of "free air conditioning."

- Kitchen flooring (Armstrong Marmorette): made from natural, renewable raw materials including organic pigments, wood dust, cork flour, linseed oil and jute backing.

- Abundant windows provide a connection between indoor and outdoor spaces through the introduction of daylight and views. Light can be "borrowed" from the outside and carried into the space through the Bendheim glass in the demountable partitions in the staff area.

- 88% of construction waste was diverted from landfill

- Office site located in downtown San Francisco means that it's close to public transit, so employees don't have to drive

- 100% green power: the AIA is committed to investing in alternative power sources

- Contractor kept a clean construction site by running negative air machines, which reduces toxic particulates, making it better for the workers as well as the future occupants

The Project Team

Architect: Quezada Architecture

Pre-Construction: Swinerton Builders

Construction: BCCI Construction

Lighting: JS Nolan & Associates

M/E/P & Fire Protection/Design Build: Stantec

Daylight Analysis: Lois + Ubbelohde

Multimedia, Acoustics & Security:

Shen Milsom & Wilke

Advanced Technology: RLS

Rendering Services: Dahlin Group Digital

Imaging Studio

Lighting Control Technology: Lutron

Construction Photography:

Imaging-Perspective, LLC

Printing: BPS

Sustainability Consultants: Christine Moy

Harmon; Simon & Associates