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Equity Office Props.' 222 Berkeley receives LEED Gold

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According to Equity Office, 222 Berkeley has received 'LEED Gold certification for Existing Buildings (EB)' by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). Located in Boston's Back Bay, 222 Berkeley is owned by Equity Office Properties and operated by Hines.

This recent recognition from the USGBC represents another significant milestone in 222 Berkeley's 20-year history as a leader in sustainability. Since its completion in 1991, 222 Berkeley has been continuously retrofitted with the latest lighting, mechanical, building control system and water conservation technologies in order to achieve the optimum resource conservation performance. In 1999, 222 Berkeley was recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as the first commercial office building in the Commonwealth of Mass. to earn the Energy Star label. The building maintains a current label with a rating of 91 out of a possible 100 points which places it in the nation's top ten percent of office buildings in terms of energy performance.

"A LEED Gold certification is a tremendous validation of the energy saving and sustainable programs that benefit the tenants, ownership and environment alike. Our building manager, Hines was committed to incorporating best practices for recycling, energy and water conservation, and green cleaning into standard operating practices," said Tom Bakke, managing director, Equity Office Props. "We believe this achievement is representative of our commitment to lead the industry in sustainable practices."

"Achieving a LEED EB Gold designation almost entirely through the efforts of the onsite staff resulted in a deeper knowledge of what it takes to operate and maintain a LEED certified building. This was an excellent cooperative effort between Equity Office and Hines to push forward sustainability goals," said Hines vice president Greg Brown.

222 Berkeley is comprised of 535,000 s/f of retail and office space and is located in the Back Bay. Tenants include Houghton Mifflin, Summit Partners, Liberty Mutual and Bank of New York Mellon.

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