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Mass. ranks 4th on USGBC's List of Top 10 states for LEED

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Washington, D.C. Today, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) released its annual list of the top 10 states for new LEED certifications in 2012, on which Mass. ranks No. 4.

The per-capita list, which recognizes those states that are leading the way in transforming their buildings and communities and includes Washington, D.C., is based on 2010 U.S. Census data and reflects certifications for commercial and institutional buildings.

With 69,312,748 total s/f of LEED-certified space through 2012, Mass. certified 2.05 s/f per resident last year, standing behind Colorado, with 2.1 s/f , and in front of Illinois, with 1.94 s/f.

"Across Mass., architects, designers, local chapter advocates and everyday citizens are coming together to create the healthiest possible environments for working, living and playing," said Rick Fedrizzi, president, CEO & founding chair, USGBC. "Making this list is a testament to their collective efforts to make sustainable building design and use a major part of Mass.' discussion on the environment, and I applaud their tireless dedication to the mission of the green building movement."

"Massachusetts has been a longstanding leader in the green building field," said Grey Lee, executive director, USGBC Mass. Chapter. "This latest distinction shows that our industry professionals are continuing to exemplify aggressive green building advocacy at the project level. I thank our members and LEED APs throughout Mass. for their hard work in helping us earn the distinction of being in the top five LEED-space-creating states in the country."

Notable projects that certified in 2012 in Massachusetts include:

Â· Atlantic Wharf, the first LEED-certified skyscraper in Boston, LEED Platinum

Â· Perkins Lower School in Watertown, which serves children ages 6 to 14 who are blind or visually impaired, LEED for Schools Gold

Â· Forrester Research headquarters in Cambridge, LEED Platinum

Â· Genzyme Biologic Support Center in Framingham, LEED Gold

Â· University of Massachusetts Amherst Campus Police Station, LEED Gold

The full list of the top 10 states and Washington, D.C., is shown in accompanying chart:

Worldwide, more than 15,000 commercial projects have certified under LEED, with more than 35,000 additional projects in the pipeline, totaling more than 10.3 billion s/f of space.

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