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The USGBC celebrates new LEED milestone: Surpasses 100,000 commercial green buildings

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Boston, MA The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is celebrating a new LEED milestone, it has surpassed 100,000 registered and certified LEED commercial projects.

“In 1998, we created LEED to measure and define what green building meant, and to provide a roadmap for developing sustainable buildings,” said Mahesh Ramanujam, president and CEO, USGBC. “Today millions of us are living, working and learning in LEED-certified buildings around the world. These spaces are using less energy and water, mitigating the environmental burden on their communities, saving money and offering the people who occupy them a better quality of life. This latest milestone demonstrates how the global green building community is delivering on the vision we set forth more than 20 years ago with better buildings and spaces that equal better lives.”

LEED is the most widely used green building rating system in the world. Available for virtually all building and interior space types, LEED provides a framework for healthy, highly efficient, and cost-saving green buildings. LEED certification is a globally recognized symbol of sustainability achievement and leadership.

Certification demonstrates leadership and signifies a building has gone above and beyond to ensure it is designed, constructed, operated and performing to the highest level of sustainability. With more than 2.6 million s/f of space certifying each day, millions of people around the world have access to LEED spaces that are reducing carbon emissions and providing healthier environments where they can live, work, learn and play.

LEED-certified buildings are a solution for companies, communities and cities looking to improve quality of life for people while reducing their environmental impact by responsibly managing energy, carbon, water, waste, transportation and materials. The release of the latest version of LEED, LEED v4.1, provides guidance to help the industry continue to demonstrate high performance.

The latest green building trends and practices were at the center of discussions during the Greenbuild Conference & Expo, which took place November 19-22 in Atlanta. Education sessions, keynote speeches and networking opportunities provided green building and sustainability professionals with a deeper understanding of the future of green building and LEED.

The UN's IPCC report released in October 2018 acknowledged the building sector as one requiring

a “rapid and far-reaching” transformation in order to support global carbon reduction goals. Currently, buildings account for almost 40 percent of global energy-related carbon. The continued adoption of LEED and certification is imperative to decarbonize buildings, communities and cities.

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