



For Immediate Release

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WECC HEADQUARTERS WINS MERIT AWARD

MADISON — Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation's new headquarters, designed by Eppstein Uhen Architects (EUA), recently won a Merit Award at *InBusiness Magazine's* Commercial Design Awards ceremony. The project was nominated in the "Best Green-Built Project" category.

Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation (WECC) decided to take on the challenge of creating its own commercial office building after championing innovative energy initiatives for 25 years. Their goal was to show energy-conscious developers and business owners how they can construct energy-efficient, sustainable buildings economically – and why being environmentally responsible can be a smart and affordable business decision. WECC's headquarters was awarded LEED-Gold certification from the United States Green Building Council.

A showcase for energy efficiency, affordability and sustainable design, the building includes many features such as:

- Permeable concrete parking surfaces and staff patio
- Bio-retention ponds and bio-swales for storm water
- Green Roof
- Photovoltaic (PV) Systems provide 14% of building's electrical energy needs
- Solar Domestic Hot Water (SDHW) provide 40% of the hot water needed
- High efficiency HVAC results in 40-45% energy savings
- Low-VOC paints and finishes
- High recycled content on finishes and furnishings

In award consideration, the project scored points for, as one judge put it, "its blend-in-ability." Other judges agreed, adding (for the record), "To be able to achieve that level of sustainability and not look weird is an advantage in many's eyes. It can look like a regular building and still get all of the green-built qualities incorporated....This project was a very strong contender for first place in this competition."

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Eppstein Uhen Architects is a 101-year-old, full-service design firm best known for pairing inspired design with exceptional client service. More than 130 employees in Milwaukee and Madison are challenged to go beyond design by demonstrating unparalleled commitment to the markets they serve, the community, and their clients. The award-winning firm specializes in several distinct markets: corporate office, educational, retail/mixed-use, senior living, healthcare, residential, public, industrial, master planning, and interior design. For additional information, please visit the company's website at www.eua.com.

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