

NEWS RELEASE

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ABC of Georgia Headquarters earns LEED® Gold Certification

ATLANTA – The Associated Builders and Contractors of Georgia, Inc., (ABC) is pleased to announce their recently renovated headquarters, located at 8975 Roswell Road, has attained LEED® Gold certification, as so designated by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). “I could not be more thrilled with this accomplishment,” said ABC of Georgia President Bill Anderson, CAE, LEED AP. “Attaining LEED® certification was a top priority when retrofitting this space, and we felt it very important to set an example as the leading construction industry association in Georgia,” said Anderson. “We are also extremely proud to be the first ABC Chapter in the nation to have a LEED Gold-certified headquarters,” he added.

The 8,000 sq. ft. structure, originally constructed in the 1970s, was completely gutted to the frame, and underwent extensive exterior façade renovations, major interior renovations, and cosmetic landscaping and hardscape improvements. “We wanted to show our members, the community and our industry what we could do in terms of sustainable building,” explained Anderson. ABC installed water-efficient toilets and faucets as well as energy efficient lighting and HVAC systems. The air is filtered through MERV 13 filters, and the flooring, paint and cabinets do not contain toxic VOC’s (volatile organic compounds). A new roof, with a high SRI (solar reflective index) value, reflects light and emits heat more readily than traditional roofing materials. Ninety percent of the office equipment is Energy Star-rated, and much of the furniture is pre-existing, or if new, GreenGuard® indoor air quality certified. Even outdoors, 30% of the landscape area is covered with river rock and cobblestone, eliminating the need for an irrigation system. Employee and member carpooling and bicycling are encouraged; a changing room and showers were installed. Construction took six months to complete. ABC of Georgia member company Fortune-Johnson was the supervising general contractor on this project.

ABC of Georgia is already the premier source for LEED-related education and training, and plans to give “guided tours” of the building while LEED classes are in session, with instructors citing examples of green building principles that were used in the ABC renovation.

“We acknowledge this was a project many months in the making, requiring the on-going expertise and support of many different individuals, and we are very appreciative of their contributions,” said Anderson. “We also greatly appreciate the help of students in Southern Polytechnic State University’s construction management program, whose involvement was instrumental to our certification. Without a lot of hard work and dedication from many ABC members, the SPSU students and others, we could not have made this a reality,” he added.

ABC of Georgia represents 200+ commercial and industrial contractors, suppliers and service firms, representing more than 15,000 employees. ABC’s mission is to help its members grow and prosper by building relationships, developing their employees, promoting best business practices, and encouraging effective political involvement. The statewide organization is one of 77 chapters of the Associated Builders and Contractors in Washington, D.C. with more than 25,000 members across the country.

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