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## News

December 2008

### NCARB's New Office Earns LEED-Silver Certification

Washington, DC—The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) is pleased to announce that our new office space has achieved a LEED-Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™.

The NCARB office relocated in December 2007 to a new suite at our address of 1801 K Street in Washington, DC; a move precipitated by the sale of the building and an extensive building renovation program. The new space, designed by Gensler's District of Columbia office, provided NCARB an opportunity to incorporate sustainable design principles and materials in a space that better reflects the Council's strategic reorganization implemented last year. Achieving the LEED-Silver rating was an especially rigorous process, as the building's new owners did not incorporate environmental or sustainable design principles in the building's renovation.

NCARB received 28 credits under the LEED for Commercial Interiors system. The credits were earned in a variety of ways including recycling of building materials, reusing our existing furniture, purchasing fixtures and finishes produced within close proximity to the DC-metro area, and installing energy-saving appliances, special light fixtures, and daylight responsive controls. A long-term lease, close proximity to public transportation, and an extensive recycling program also contributed to the achievement.

According to the USGBC's web site, "LEED for Commercial Interiors is the recognized system for certifying high-performance green interiors that are healthy, productive places to work; are less costly to operate and maintain; and have a reduced environmental footprint."

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### About NCARB

NCARB comprises the architectural registration boards of all 50 states as well as those of the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. NCARB assists its member registration boards in carrying out their duties and provides a certification program for individual architects.

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public through effective regulation and exemplary service. In order to achieve these goals, the Council develops and recommends standards to be required of an applicant for architectural registration; develops and recommends standards regulating the practice of architecture; provides to member boards a process for certifying the qualifications of an architect for registration; and represents the interests of member boards before public and private agencies. NCARB has established reciprocal registration for architects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, and is engaged in similar discussions with additional countries.

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