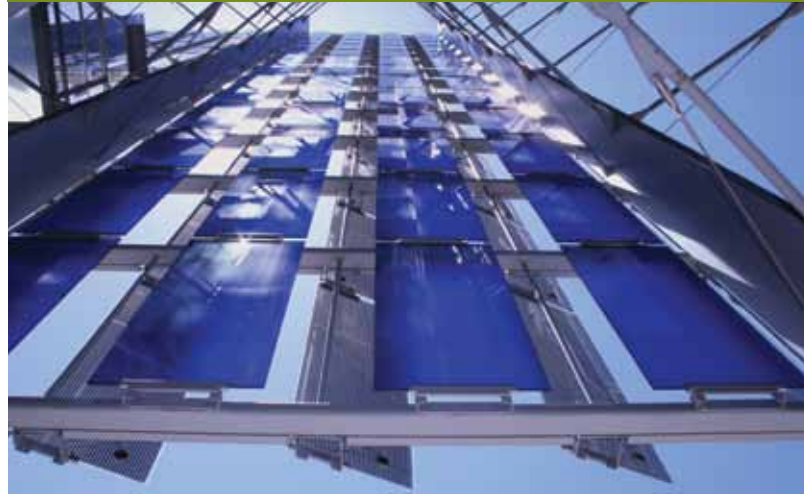




The Austin Convention Center is committed to supporting and encouraging sustainable practices to protect and improve the environment. Conservation of energy and natural resources is a top priority and the Austin Convention Center continues to develop green programs to limit the use of materials and natural resources adversely impacting the environment. The Austin Convention Center is registered with the US Green Building Council and is working toward a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) EB certification.

We outlined a few of our programs and practices currently in place at the Convention Center. We invite clients and guests to join in these efforts.



center of sustainability



ENERGY CONSERVATION

HVAC

- During event hours, leased space and pre-function areas are conditioned at 72 degrees, unless client requests otherwise.
- During non-event hours, leased space and pre-function areas are conditioned at 85 degrees.
- Administrative areas are only conditioned Monday thru Friday, 5am – 5pm.

Solar Panels

- An array of solar panels is located on northwest side in the facility's atrium.
- These blue panels supplement usage so the facility does not draw as much from the grid.

Lighting

- After event hours, all unnecessary lighting is turned off.
- Exterior lighting is scheduled from approximately one hour after sunset to sunrise daily.

- Unnecessary lighting is turned off.
- Motion detectors are installed in many office areas and restrooms.
- Reduced lighting is provided during set-up and tear-down of events.
- Many lights now use energy efficient compact fluorescent lighting.
- Older inefficient T12 fluorescent lighting was retrofitted with high efficiency T8 lamps and electronic ballasts.

Other Features

- All Marquees are LED's and are scheduled for use.
- Escalators are turned-off during non-event use.
- The Department participates in Austin Energy's Smart Vending program and has vending misers on all refrigerated beverage machines.

GREEN CLEANING PRACTICES

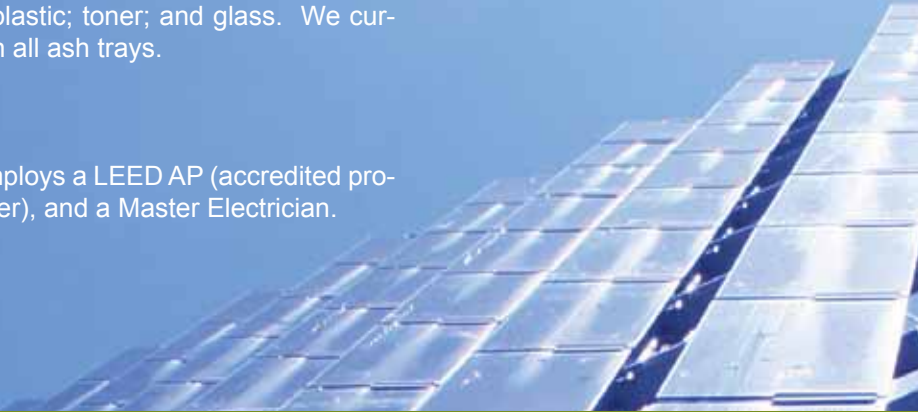
- Green Seal Certified chemicals are utilized for 95% of all cleaning.
- Our Integrated Pest Management program utilizes 100% organic materials.
- Equipment purchases are compliant with LEED-EB Indoor Environmental Quality Standards.

RECYCLING EFFORTS

- The Department currently recycles the following items: paper; cardboard; metal; batteries; light bulbs and ballasts; plastic; toner; and glass. We currently use recycled crushed 6th St. glass in all ash trays.

INNOVATION

- The Austin Convention Center currently employs a LEED AP (accredited professional), a CEM (certified energy manager), and a Master Electrician.



our future

In seeking a LEED-EB certification for the Austin Convention Center, the department has adopted the creation of broad reaching policies and procedures.

Sustainable Sites

We are committed to the following: installing cladding on exterior lighting to reduce light pollution; creating incentives for carpooling and using hybrid vehicles; using native plant species for all landscapes; installing an intelligent irrigation system to reduce water waste; installing a green roof to reduce storm water run off, and heat island effect; using reclaimed condensation to irrigate the green roof.



Water Efficiency

All fixtures retrofitted with low water hands free devices.

Material Resources

Future efforts include: increasing our recycling program through routine waste audits and policy development; developing a

plan to recycle all carpet waste from the facility and events; developing a composting program to divert up to 50% of all waste from the landfill.

Energy and Atmosphere

We are in the process of the following: gaining Energy Star certification; insuring all lamps are the most energy efficient available, including using LED lighting when possible; purchasing 7 million kilowatt hours of wind energy from Austin Energy, thru a 15-year contract; replacing exhibit hall lighting with fluorescent lighting to reduce energy consumption and mercury content.

Indoor Environmental Quality

All restrooms retrofitted to be hands free. We are insuring all equipment purchased meets the recommended 70dba noise level. We are maintaining continuous commissioning of all automated systems to ensure optimal indoor comfort. Only products marked by a recognized third party testing agency for high indoor air quality standards are purchased.

Innovation

We are developing training materials to instruct our staff and clients on the process and benefits of sustainability.