

LEED® GOLD CERTIFICATION CEREMONY FOR AUSTIN CONVENTION CENTER SCHEDULED JANUARY 26

U.S. Green Building Council makes the special presentation to the Austin Convention Center as the first convention center in Texas, among two in the country, to achieve LEED® Gold Certification for Existing Buildings

January 24, 2012. Austin, Texas – The Austin Convention Center’s official LEED® Gold Ceremony is scheduled January 26, 2012. The Austin Convention Center has been awarded LEED® Gold Certification for Existing Buildings, established by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI).

LEED® Gold Certification demonstrates ultimate green building leadership and signifies a model of sustainability that sets the standard in the industry. As the first convention center in Texas, and one of two in the United States to achieve this accomplishment, Austin’s reputation as a premier meeting and convention destination is deepened. The accomplishment has taken four years to complete.

The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System is the internationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings, which was developed by the USGBC. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human environmental health: sustainable site development, water efficiency, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

Austin Convention Center’s sustainability design features and practices consist of dozens of achievements, including the following: reducing indoor water usage by 32%; recycling 68% of our waste; decreasing our carbon footprint by 93% since 2007; and reducing electric consumption by 20%.

“We are tremendously proud of this achievement,” said Mark Tester, director of the Austin Convention Center Department. “Not only is the Austin Convention Center bringing economic benefits to the city of Austin, it is also a model of sustainability that will continue to set the standard in the industry. Credit certainly goes to the convention center staff’s dedication and commitment over the past four years to obtain the gold level, under the guidance of David Thomas, ACC Operations Manager, LEED-Accredited Professional and Certified Facility Manager.”

More information about the Austin Convention Center and its LEED certification can be found on its website at www.austinconventioncenter.com

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