



The U.S. Green Building Council Massachusetts Membership Forum

For Immediate Release

Sasaki Wins 2009 Innovation in Green Design Award

At its second annual Earth Day celebration on April 16th, the Massachusetts Affiliate of the U.S. Green Building Council, presented its Innovation in Green Design Award to Sasaki Associates. With offices in Watertown and San Francisco, Sasaki is a pioneer in bringing together multiple professional disciplines in a single firm to provide optimal solutions for complex client requirements.

The award-winning project is the green renovation of Sasaki's own office building, the historic Chase Mills in Watertown, MA, a riverfront assemblage of buildings dating back to the 1850s. In 2003, Sasaki initiated GreenLAB, an on-site trial of various green materials and methods, and in 2005 they began planning their green renovation guided by the LEED-Existing Building criteria.

The Innovation in Green Design Award jury commented that the project was especially commendable because it creates a ripple effect by influencing employee behavior which they can practice in their own homes. The Sasaki team also uses extensive metrics and evaluation to measure the success of their work, with a commitment to continual improvement. The LEED-Gold certified project includes energy, water, and resource conservation measures.

The award jury recognized excellence in two other projects by awarding honorable mentions. **Elton + Hampton Architects**, impressed the jury with their project located in Lawrence, MA and titled "Our House for Design & Technology". The building is notable for its positive impact on the community at large and its importance in delivering a message about the value of sustainable buildings and lifestyles. The architects have offices in Alston, MA, and take pride in pursuing sustainable building practices while rebuilding blighted neighborhoods.

Energy Efficient Building Technologies was also honored for their entry, an innovative building employing experimental technologies such as water filled windows. The building was built as affordable housing and serves to demonstrate that highly efficient sustainable buildings need not be costly. Energy Efficient Building Technologies has offices in Middleboro, MA, and is a design-build company that focuses on solar and zero energy homes with a dedication to building homes that use less energy from the ground up.

The Green Roundtable is the MA Affiliate of the USGBC. The USGBC MA Membership Forum is the mechanism for USGBC members and the green building community to lead, engage and participate in green activities locally, regionally and nationally.

The awards were presented at an Earth Day cocktail reception held at the LEED-Platinum certified Genzyme building in Cambridge. Over 200 of New England's most active green design advocates gathered to honor the progress made over the past year in sustainable design. The award jurors were Allison Friedman, Executive Director of Rate It Green; Ken Lewandowski of cbt architects; and Tom Wessels, from Antioch College New England and author of [The Myth of Progress, Toward a Sustainable Future](#).

The US Green Building Council's Massachusetts's Affiliate is a non-profit organization providing a wide range of green building and advocacy services and is located at NEXUS on the 7th floor at 38 Chauncy Street in Boston, MA.

For more information visit: http://greenroundtable.org/programs/usgbc_affiliate.html

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