



Green Guide for Health Care Newsletter

September 2006

Highlights from: September 2006 Green Guide Quarterly Report

Visit <http://www.gghc.org/download/mgdocs.cfm> for a copy of the full quarterly report.

Green Guide for Health Care Website Registrants

Over the past quarter, the *Green Guide for Health Care* online community has continued to grow, averaging 220 new registrants each month. The total number of website registrants is poised to pass the 9,500 mark by the end of October.

The *Green Guide's* international reach has expanded substantially in the past quarter, from 63 countries to 81 countries; every continent in the world is represented, except Antarctica.

Interestingly, the demographic composition of the *Green Guide's* online community remains relatively constant, considering the growth in the number and location of *Green Guide* website registrants: in round numbers, 20% healthcare providers, 30% architects, and the remaining 50% divided between engineers, contractors, government and education, green consultants, non-profits, and product manufacturers.

Update on the Green Guide for Health Care Pilot Program

105 Pilot projects have registered with the *Green Guide* Pilot Program since its inception in early 2005, representing 28 million square feet of construction. The Pilot experience illustrates the *Green Guide's* flexibility as a best practices toolkit for projects that range in size, scope and location. While the average credit achievement for all types and sizes of *Green Guide* projects is currently 31 credits for the Construction section and 18 credits for the Operations section (with over 1/2 of all Pilot projects pursuing both the Construction and Operations sections of the *Guide*) much can be learned from focusing on the different project types participating in the *Green Guide* Pilot.

Green Leaders: Architects or Owners?: Architects play a seminal role in leading the application of the *Green Guide* for New Construction Pilot Projects – 57% Architect Green Leaders / 25% Owner. On the other hand, Owners have been much more active in spearheading the green side of Renovation projects, – 46% Owner Green Leaders to only 36% Architects. It is possible that the different leadership pushes different priorities for credit achievement in these projects. While New Construction projects tend to score higher than Renovations on the Construction section of the *Green Guide* – 33 average credit achievement to Renovation's 28 – Renovations tend to score higher in the Operations section, perhaps reflecting the priorities of their owner/green leader – 24 average credit achievement v. New Construction's 18. Owner Green Leaders are also more likely to pursue both the Construction and Operations section of the *Green Guide*. Fully 65% of Owner-lead projects are pursuing both the Construction and Operations section, in comparison to 52% of Architect-lead projects. The *Green Guide* encourages all projects to identify a Green Leader on both the design & construction team and the owner's team to facilitate parallel advancement in green strategies such as energy efficiency and indoor air quality that require attention during both the design & construction phase and facility operations.

Project Size: The smallest *Green Guide* Pilot project is 1,900 sq.ft.; the largest is 3 million sq.ft. In spite of the wide range of sizes, the bulk (40%) fall within the 100,000-500,000 sq.ft. range. Current data suggest that the average size *Green Guide* project achieves roughly the same number of Construction credits (29) as all other project sizes except for two: 50,000-100,000 sq.ft. (39 average credits) and the largest projects, 1 million sq.ft. and above, (38 average credits). On the Operations side, the smallest projects, under 50,000 sq.ft., achieve on average much higher than other project sizes (29 average credit achievement) in comparison to 15 credits for the 100,000-1,000,000 sq.ft. range, and 18 or 19 credits for 20,000-100,000 sq.ft., and projects over 1 million sq.ft.

Project Type: Almost two-thirds of all *Green Guide* Pilot Projects are acute care hospitals. With the addition of Specialty Hospitals, that number rises to three-quarters of all projects. The pilot's success in primary care facilities can be traced to the *Green Guide's* tailoring for that building type. All of the average credit achievements across building types, including medical office buildings and retirement communities, fall within a close range, illustrating the *Green Guide's* flexibility to adapt to a variety of building types. However, acute care hospitals still lag behind the other building types by a few points – 29 average Construction credits in comparison with 33 or 34 in the other building types. Specialty hospitals also appear to play a leadership role in the holistic use of the *Green Guide*. On average, they utilize the *Green Guide's* Operations section more actively than other building types – averaging 26 credits, in comparison to 16 for acute care hospitals, 18 for medical office buildings, and 14 for retirement communities.

News

1. Join us on Friday, October 6 from 1-2:30 ET for the next H2E (Hospitals for a Healthy Environment) Green Building teleconference: **Healthy Food in Hospitals!** Effective November 2006, all H2E teleconferences will become an H2E Subscriber Benefit. For an annual \$199 subscription fee, H2E Subscribers will have access to 26 teleconferences (including green building topics), the ability to apply for H2E awards, and staff technical assistance. Visit <http://h2e-online.org/subscribe/index.htm> for more information.
2. A full day seminar entitled "Green Healthcare: Design, Construction & Operations" will be offered in Rochester, NY, Monday, October 16. The event is sponsored by LeChase Construction Services, *Green Guide for Health Care*, and University of Rochester Medical Center. Contact Stephanie Robinson to register: Stephanie.robinson@lechase.com, 585-452-0362.
3. On November 5, "Designing the 21st Century Hospital: First Do No Harm", a workshop at **Healthcare Design 06** in Chicago, Illinois, will present five groundbreaking white papers. Commissioned by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the papers provide further evidence that healthier facilities provide community benefits, improve patient outcomes, the quality of the patient experience, the bottom line, and the global environment. Register at: www.healthcaredesignmagazine.com/Conference.htm.
4. Two half-day trainings "Using LEED for New Construction on Healthcare Projects" will be offered at the US Green Building Council's **Greenbuild** conference: Tuesday, November 14 and Friday, November 17. Register at: www.greenbuildexpo.org.
5. U.S. EPA awarded a \$78,500 grant to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to work with the Delaware Valley Healthcare Council's Health Care Improvement Foundation and the Women's Health and Environmental Network to help Philadelphia-area hospitals prevent environmental pollution. For more information, visit: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/a8f952395381d3968525701c005e65b5/9953a9c0d36e7721852571fb0048e9161?OpenDocument>
6. **Support the Green Guide for Health Care!** Visit the [Supporters](#) section of the *Green Guide* website for information on how to support our work. All donations to the *Green Guide* are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
7. **The Green Guide welcomes our new Partner:** The HOK Planning Group.
8. **The Green Guide welcomes our new Endorsers:** Ambient Air Technologies, LLC, and Milliken Carpet.