

LEED Platinum for Cushman & Wakefield

Overview/Purpose: Cushman & Wakefield of Washington DC set out to obtain Platinum LEED certification, the highest standard for the “nationally accepted benchmark for design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings.” Through the process to obtain this certification, the building’s green infrastructure improved.

Challenge: A year before the LEED application was submitted, the building underwent a thorough assessment to determine what improvements were necessary for the certification. The team needed to gather information, review the systems in place in the building, and make decisions about which projects would be most beneficial for the building.

Solution: The team took on many projects that addressed different aspects of the building.



Hand dryers eliminate need for paper towels

First they retained an outside consultant to provide a green energy assessment to generate action items. A plan for improvements was created, which included lighting retrofits, a new irrigation system, 100% wind energy to power the building, offset purchases for natural gas use, and the removal of paper towels in bathrooms in exchange for an electric dryer, etc. Some of the building staff also received off-site air cleaning training and an internal education campaign was conducted to educate people on recycling, turning off

computers, saving paper, etc.

Results:

- LEED Platinum Certification was achieved in 2007
- 100% of the building’s energy is wind powered
- The property received 87 of 100 points from EPA’s Energy Star Rating.



LEED Platinum Certification Seal

LEED Platinum Certification is the highest standard for “green” buildings!