

What is LEED®?

As conservation and sustainability become more and more important to the construction and renovation industries, we at CHG keep getting questions about the leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™. Since we share such a similar vision of the power of conservation, it's important that you know the facts about LEED.

What is LEED®?

The LEED Green Building Rating System™ is a national standard developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). LEED is a nationally recognized benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED also provides the building owners and operators with the tools they need to have an immediate and measurable impact on their buildings' performance. The LEED® program provides consistent, credible standards for the design and maintenance of buildings that are healthy places for their occupants, energy and cost efficient, and built with sustainable materials.

Why is LEED® important?

We live in a world where concerns about the environment and sustainable development are a necessary and growing consideration for everyone. Business and industry are paying attention to this trend because energy efficiency also affects overhead and profitability, as well as reflecting good citizen values. According to the USGBC, LEED-certified buildings cost less to operate and maintain, are healthier places to live and work in, and conserve energy and water and reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions (see www.usgbc.org for more information).

What is LEED® certification?

LEED certification is a third-party validation of a building's green performance, and it demonstrates that building green can provide benefits without higher costs. LEED credits are awarded based on criteria in five categories of performance. Architects and building planners apply for this certification, and a building project must meet prerequisites to be registered. A project must also achieve a minimum number of points to earn a basic "Certified" level of LEED certification. The number of points the project earns determines the level of LEED certification (Certified, Silver, Gold or Platinum).

Can products be LEED®-certified?

No. LEED applies to the environmental performance of overall green building projects, and the USGBC does not endorse, promote or certify the products or services of any company. However, individual manufacturers' products can contribute credits under the LEED rating system. Many CHG products can help contribute to three of the five categories of performance – Water-Efficiency, Innovation in Design and Materials and Resources. CHG has long been interested in the relationship between the environment and how our products are engineered as evidenced by our 1.2 gpm low flow spray valves, stainless steel and low lead plumbing fixtures and more. Our electronic sensor faucets have long offered quality plumbing and reduced water consumption. Many of our water-efficient faucets, fittings and pre-rinse units have been on the market for over a decade.

