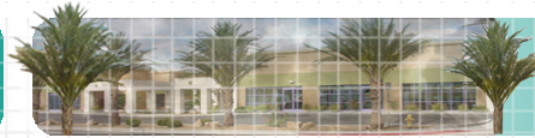


Designed For You



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architecture / engineering / site
GARY GUY WILSON



planning / interior design
ARCHITECTS

The Green Scene

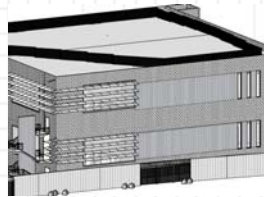
Southwest Gas (SWG) SE Operations Center: Example LEED Considerations

Although a recent Southwest Gas Project has not yet been officially submitted for LEED certification through the United States Green Building Council, there were many LEED strategies considered in the design of the project to improve the energy usage and the sustainability of the new facility. I believe it serves as an example, that through a thoughtful design process, the owner of a building can benefit from the application of conservation measures.

For instance, this project considered:

- SS 1:** Site selection to be near Henderson services.
- SS 5.2:** Maximize site open space.
- SS 7.2:** Large areas of shade canopies in parking, and reflective roof to minimize heat island effect.
- WE 1.1:** Water efficient landscaping.
- WE 3.1:** Water use reduction with efficient plumbing fixtures.
- EA 1:** Optimize Energy performance with high efficient Aisen air conditioning system, daylighting, and skylighting.
- MR 2.1:** Construction waste management.
- MR 5.1:** Regional Materials, concrete tilt-up construction.
- IEQ 1:** Outdoor Air delivery monitoring
- IEQ 6.1:** Controllability of lighting systems with Simply 5 system.
- IEQ 6.2:** Controllability of thermal comfort systems.
- IEQ 7.1:** Thermal comfort design.
- IEQ 8.1:** Daylight & Views, 75% of spaces.
- EA 1:** 42% Optimization of Energy of new buildings over previous base-line buildings.
- ID 1.1:** Innovation is Design for Aisen system.
- ID 2:** LEED accredited professional.

With careful planning a building project can take advantage of many conservation and **green** building techniques.



SPOTLIGHT Curt Ench

GGWArchitects client, Curt Ench of the Durrant Group, Inc., is becoming very familiar with our valley. He travels to Las Vegas on a weekly basis to meet with all the players on the City of Henderson Detention Center project. The Durrant group, a worldwide architecture firm, hired GGWArchitects to provide services for the facility.

Curt, who was born in New York, has lived in Texas, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky. He enrolled in the architecture program at the University of Kentucky in Lexington after graduating from high school in Louisville. A year into the program, he realized it did not meet his expectations, so he took some time off to travel and find work in construction.

While visiting his brother in Tucson, Arizona, Curt looked into the University of Arizona's architecture program and liked what he saw. Curt received his Bachelor of Architecture degree and accepted a Junior Architect position at a firm, specializing in private sector projects. He left 11 years later as Project Architect. He joined another firm for 7 years, specializing in K-12 educational projects. Curt's next career stop was with a planning firm, which designed large-scale master-planned communities and town centers. This was a unique experience for Curt. "I learned a lot of things architects don't usually know."

It was 2 years later that Curt was invited to the Durrant Group as Senior Project Manager. When his boss passed away 2 years later, Curt was appointed Managing Principal. "I am also a shareholder in the company, which is employee-owned." Curt oversees the Tucson office with a staff of 15. He stays deeply involved in concept design and programming, working closely with the technical production staff. He is Project Manager on several projects, such as The City of Henderson Detention Center. Curt also devotes time to Durrant's Phoenix office. He has been with Durrant for over 11 years now. Curt is a registered architect in Arizona, California, and Nevada.

The Durrant Group has felt the impact of the slumping economy. They've downsized a bit in Arizona and put some projects on hold. Fortunately, the firm is in a position to do well with a great backlog. Many Tucson projects are produced for Native Americans. With a Clark County Detention facility near Nellis Air Force Base and the upcoming Henderson Detention Center, work is good in Southern Nevada, too.

Besides his career, Curt is also proud of wife, Mary Alexander, an accomplished interior designer, often published in Phoenix Home and Garden magazine. The couple has 4 sons and 5 grandchildren between them, 3 dogs (1 rescued from the highway), a cat, and 3 ponds of fish. It's quite a family.

GGWArchitects is thrilled to be collaborating with Curt on the Henderson Detention Center. Curt says we came "highly recommended" to Durrant by the City of Henderson. He's enjoyed interacting with Architect Gary Guy Wilson, Mark Martino, and Les Travis.

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