

Designed For You



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architecture / engineering / site
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planning / interior design
ARCHITECTS

Green Can Be Beautiful, Too...

by Gary Guy Wilson, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP



As the going "green" world continues to grow, many companies are developing greener products for the building industry. At the same time, some of those in particular are producing some very nice designs...

A company called SSI or Sustainable Solutions international, is dedicated to the proposition of: "We believe in conservation without compromise: the confluence of nature, design and technology"... a nice and responsible goal.

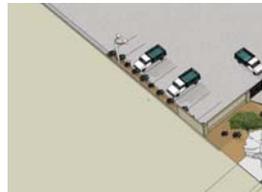
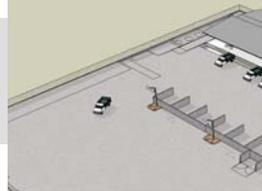
Many companies talk about sustainability, but few are passionate and committed enough to authentically live it. For over a decade, SSI has supplied solution-based green products to North America's sustainable building industry and residential markets that exceed codes and client expectations.

When you combine the freedom of choice with a lineup of some of the best and most sustainable building products on the planet, it adds up to great value. SSI works to stay on the leading edge of design and innovation, which allows us as architects to offer the variety, functionality and quality that our clients rightfully expect.

GGWArchitects believe that living 'green' is smart. SSI is intelligent about the choices they make in selecting the best products for the built environment. While every product they carry is not ecologically perfect, they are honest about how their solutions deliver sustainability. In balance, we believe their passion for seeking out innovative and long-lasting products with sustainable attributes and beautiful designs, will help us, GGWArchitects, make the right choices for client, project and the planet.

The photo shows an articulated sink faucet which has been produced with sustainable/green practices, offers sustainable/green water flow control features and at the same time is beautifully designed to touch, feel and look at....

Do you have any Questions or Comments regarding "Green" considerations in your life? "ASK THE ARCHITECT/LEED AP" at gww@ggwarchitects.com."



SPOTLIGHT Steve Buffington

GGWArchitects client, Steve Buffington of Airgas, LLC in Pomona, has come a long way since first working at corrugated box companies for 9 years. After a layoff, a wonderful opportunity came along. Steve learned Airco was hiring, and..."I ran down there and was hired." Airco was later taken over by BOC until Airgas bought them out in 1994. Steve is close to marking 30 years in the airgas industry, having held several titles along the way.

Steve's first position as a Hydro Tester in the City of Commerce, California led to a promotion to Production Manager. This took Steve to the Pomona, California location, where, 3 years ago, he was appointed Operations Manager.

As such, he oversees "everything", including the production, distribution, and testing of both medical and industrial gas cylinders, following tight state and federal regulations.

Steve currently splits his time between the Ontario office, which fills medical gases, and the Pomona location, which handles industrial gases.

The fledgling economy "woke everyone up to work smarter" at Airgas. By monitoring their hours much more closely, they have reduced their overtime considerably. "The medical side is doing well. The industrial side has hung on, and we are starting to get busier." The 2 operations will consolidate at Pomona by September, where Steve will oversee a combined staff of 50. GGWArchitects is excited to be playing a significant role in this transition.

At Pomona, a fill plant sits on 1 parcel. Airgas leased an old building on an adjacent parcel for their fire extinguisher division before the land was sold. Airgas purchased the parcel and will level the building to lay down asphalt.

They also plan to double their dock space and add a new roof to the fill plant. Airgas interviewed several architecture firms for the project. They felt most "comfortable" with us, as we have provided services for Airgas facilities in California, Arizona, and Las Vegas. Scott McFarland, in Las Vegas, had the final say in who was hired.

Scott serves as the liaison between GGWArchitects and the Pomona office; and GGWArchitects' Mark V. Martino and Les W. Travis make regular in-person visits to Pomona to provide project updates. "Service has been great. There is easy communication," says Steve.

Married to Judi, his high school sweetheart, Steve, California-born and raised, is very proud of his family. The couple has 2 daughters, Kelly and Tracy, and a 5-year-old granddaughter, Cassidy. By eliminating his commute to Ontario, he'll have more time to spend with them. GGWArchitects is pleased to help make this possible!

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