



USGBC,
LEED® AND
MASONRY



*Clearview Elementary School
Hanover PA
LEED® Gold Rating (version 2.0)*



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WHAT IS THE USGBC?

The USGBC (United States Green Building Council) is a coalition of leaders from many different parts of the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, healthy and economical. The council members also forge alliances with key organizations and government agencies to insure the continuing progress of our "developed" environment. Through the collective efforts of the USGBC membership there is a tremendous opportunity to effect change in the way buildings are designed, maintained and built.

The LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System was designed by the United States Green Building Council to help further and promote the usage and development of green building practices.

Each of us has a responsibility to preserve the environment for the generations to come. Utilizing the guidelines established by the Council fulfills part of our requirement as a member of the building industry to insure that those future generations are living and working in buildings that are safe, healthy and maintained in an environmentally responsible manner.

MISSION OF LEED®

LEED® encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and accepted standards, tools and performance criteria.

LEED® GREEN BUILDING RATING SYSTEM

There are currently six LEED® committee units in the horizontal product committee structure of the Green Building Rating System where standards are currently available or under development. Each is charged with a different portion of commercial or residential development either new or existing. The steering committee oversees the direction and implementation of the standards for each of the committees categories.

The LEED®-NC (new commercial construction or major renovation) committee is the division which deals primarily with the standards that are most directly influenced by concrete masonry. Within the current LEED®-NC (version 2.0) division there are six credit categories worth a possible total of 69 points. A project may obtain certification with as little as 26 points as long as all the prerequisites are met in each category.

There are four LEED® certification levels:

Certified: 26-32 points Silver: 33-38 points

Gold: 39-51 points Platinum: 52-69 points



Photo credit: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

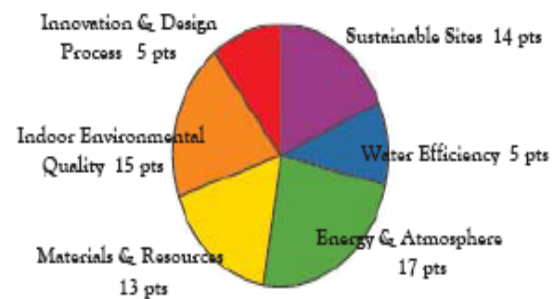
South Central Regional Office Building

Harrisburg, PA

Bronze Credit Rating (Version 1.0)

WHERE DOES MASONRY FIT IN?

The following graph represents the categories within the LEED®-NC division and their proportional credit potential.



The four categories in which concrete masonry can earn LEED® credits are Materials and Resources, Sustainable Sites, Energy and Atmosphere, and Innovation & Design. For credit in Sustainable Sites, consider retaining walls to assist in reducing site disturbance or permeable pavers to help reduce water runoff. The thermal mass properties of concrete masonry and use of insulated walls provide credits for energy reduction and optimizing energy performance in the Energy and Atmosphere category. In Materials & Resources, concrete masonry will earn up to four credits for the use of block manufactured with recycled/local/regional products. Finally, the care-free, long lasting qualities of masonry provide structures that are economical, healthy and durable which fulfills the requirements of the Innovative Design credits.

Detailed information and a printout of the project checklist can be found at www.usgbc.org on the LEED® pages.

YORK BUILDING PRODUCTS COMPANY AND LEED® CERTIFICATION

York Building Products Company is able to produce concrete masonry units that are ASTM C-90 certified and also meet the guidelines of the Green Building Council. These blocks are produced at four of our locations in South Central Pennsylvania and Maryland.

The following items either manufactured or distributed by York Building Products Company may be used to gain LEED® certification.

York Building Products Lightweight CMU

York Building Products Architectural Lightweight
CMU

Workrite Colored Masonry Cement

Keystone Retaining Walls

Cornerstone Retaining Walls

Soundblox Sound Absorbing Masonry

CBIS/Korfil Insulating Products

Nicolock Concrete Permeable Paving Stones

In addition, York Building Products is able to obtain certification for many masonry accessories we supply to the jobsite that may also be applicable for LEED® credits.

Our offices are able to provide the appropriate submittals to help with the certification process for the products we manufacture or distribute. Please call York Building Products with any questions or for further information.



Photo credit: Peter Aaron · Esto

*The Plaza at PPL Center
Allentown, PA
LEED® Gold Rating (version 2.0)*



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