



HAWORTH®

U.S. Green Building Council Headquarters

Washington, DC

Client Space

As interest in green building has grown, so has the staff of the U.S. Green Building Council, requiring a move into a larger, more sophisticated, exceptionally sustainable environment. As creators of the LEED® Green Building Rating System, they sought LEED Platinum certification for their interior build-out. Haworth products helped them achieve this goal.



“We wanted to walk our talk by providing a highly functional, healthy, and enjoyable work environment. We are already seeing an increase in collaboration and productivity as a result of the design scheme.”

—Rick Fedrizzi, USGBC’s president, CEO, and founding chair.

Having outgrown their previous office space, the U.S. Green Building Council chose a building located in Dupont Circle, close to a vibrant neighborhood in the historic Foggy Bottom neighborhood of Washington, DC. They are within ½ mile of 4 Metro System stations and 14 bus lines, and the project features showers and bike storage for the many employees who bike to work. “As the developers of the LEED rating system, it was very important for USGBC’s headquarters to create a LEED-certified space,” noted Rick Fedrizzi, president, CEO, and founding chair of the organization.

Incorporating Haworth Organic Workspace™ solutions into the environment helped further USGBC’s aims.

The 75,000 square foot space features open plan workspaces that receive abundant natural light and allow it to filter through to interior private offices. Ninety seven percent of the regularly occupied interior spaces provide outdoor views. Centrally located common areas with comfortable furniture (and even a foosball table) promote impromptu collaboration. And the space is designed to be responsive to individual and group needs -- offices double as conference rooms, meetings can be held in the kitchen and library, and conference rooms offer places for people to meet and think.

A modular plan, executed using integrated moveable walls and systems furniture, anticipates USGBC’s continued growth -- after all, the organization has outgrown four offices in six years. For example, each private office can be readily converted into two workstations as needed.

Furnishings and materials were chosen both for their aesthetic contribution and their green attributes. The light-colored palette with bold, bright accents feels progressive and smart -- perfect for USGBC’s relatively youthful workforce. But each element was strictly evaluated for its environmental performance before being incorporated into the final design.

The new headquarters is an outstanding reflection of the USGBC mission to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built, and operated, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy, and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life. And it has earned 14 credits more than necessary to achieve LEED Platinum certification under the new 2009 rating system.





*Please note that some products shown are not manufactured by Haworth.

Customer Profile

The U.S. Green Building Council is the nation's leading coalition of corporations, builders, universities, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations working together to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable, and healthy places to live and work. Founded in 1993, USGBC has grown to 7,700 member companies and organizations, and offers a broad portfolio of LEED products and services.

Haworth Product

Moveable Walls: Enclose®
Systems Furniture: Compose®
Seating: Zody®
Desks, Files, and Storage: X Series®
Lighting: Brazo®

*Updated Haworth products now available.

Architect & Design Firm: Envision – Washington, DC

General Contractor: James G. Davis Construction – Rockville, Maryland

Haworth Furniture Dealer: Price Modern – Washington, DC

**Photography given to Haworth by USGBC courtesy of Eric Laignel Photography

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