

# Green Design Elements Distinguish Durrant's New \$4 Million HQ

## Corrections Architect Seeks LEED Platinum Certification for Renovation Project

DUBUQUE, Iowa — Durrant Group officials unveiled the company's new \$3.7 million Iowa headquarters as tangible evidence that green building design makes good design sense.

A full-service architectural and engineering firm founded in 1948, Durrant's justice and correctional market projects include the \$140 million, 600,000-square-foot Winnebago County Justice Facility in downtown Rockford, Ill., and the \$100 million, 1,360-bed Maricopa County Jail in Phoenix.

Reduce, reuse and recycle was the design team's mantra as it transformed the 18,000-square-foot former home of local manufacturing firm Adams Company into a waterfront advertisement for the company's commitment to environmental sustainability, officials say.

Working toward LEED Platinum certification, the building is designed to yield energy consumption reductions of approximately 50 percent of a comparable conventional office development, officials say.

In redeveloping the building, the design team incorporated an energy-efficient shell that features high-performance window systems and biomass-based wall insulation.

A rooftop photovoltaic solar array will generate electricity and provide hot water for bathroom facilities. A daylight harvesting system will leverage natural light to optimize interior-lighting efficiency, controlling the output of electric lighting systems in relation to the amount and intensity of sunlight entering the building.

A ground-source geothermal heat pump system will heat and cool interior spaces, while geothermal well water will be used to supply bathroom facilities and irrigate surrounding landscaping.

Approximately 70 percent of waste materials generated during construction were diverted from landfill, with metal going to scrap dealers and concrete turned into aggregate. Untreated lumber was turned into garden mulch under a pilot program operated by the Dubuque Metropolitan Solid Waste Agency.

Building components, such as insulation, structural steel and wood studs, were salvaged from the existing structure where possible, while several employees reused fiberglass insulation from the building in their homes, officials say.

The design team specified the use of materials with high recycled-content where possible, and recyclable floor coverings and furniture were chosen for the building's interiors.

Employing an integrated design approach that involved architects, engineers and construction personnel from the project's inception through to its completion, Durrant ensured that green design components meshed in the most efficient, practical and cost-effective manner possible.

The majority of sustainable strategies, systems and components emp-

loyed in designing Durrant's new headquarters did not increase project costs, planners say.

While sustainable strategies and components, such as enhanced insulation and photovoltaic arrays, carry sig-

nificant front-end costs, the additional financial outlay associated with these more complex or technology-intensive systems is expected to be offset through energy and operational savings.

Durrant also took advantage of

incentives, which are available from government agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Energy, the IRS and the Iowa Energy Center, officials say.

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