

## Helping to build structures low environmental impact

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) was founded in 1993 by Rick Fedrizzi, David Gottfried and Mike Italiano).

Since its founding, the vision and mission of the organization was immediately crystal clear: to promote the construction of new buildings with low environmental impact.

In April 1993, the representatives of approximately 60 companies met in the meeting hall of the American Institute of Architects, establishing the guidelines for the organization.

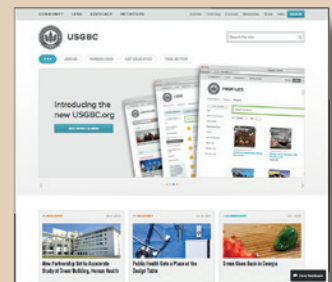
For the first time in the history of the construction sector, the general principles and standards that would govern procedures for new generation buildings were discussed, building the foundations for what would become the guidelines for classification of buildings according to their environmental impact. Nothing similar had ever been attempted before, and this would change the rules of the game forever. Today, the USGBC is made up of construction companies, environmentalists, non-profit corporations, common citizens, teachers and students.

In March 2000 the LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program was created, a very strict, precise system for assigning a score composed of LEED® points, grading buildings with a certain number of stars according to their technical and energetic characteristics, with the scope of reducing their environmental impact as much as possible. In 2009 the organization moved to its new offices in Washington D.C. This building represents the absolute best that today's technology can offer in terms of low environmental impact, starting from the raw materials used to construct it. The building was of course awarded the highest score possible: 5 Platinum stars.

The organization currently has 79 branch offices spread throughout the United States, more than 14,000 affiliates, and more than 162,000 professionals that subject their projects to the rigid regulations for LEED® certification, promoting new projects (residential and public buildings) with low environmental impact. The organization also promotes national and international meetings and events.

In 2012 an event was organized in San Francisco, and like in recent years it recorded a record number of participants.

<http://new.usgbc.org>



[www.new.usgbc.org](http://www.new.usgbc.org)

