

## **USGBC Certifies Brookfield Office Building LEED Platinum for Operations and Maintenance**

*Commercial facility is Wisconsin's only LEED Platinum NC and EB: O+M certified building*

**BROOKFIELD, Wis. – May 1, 2012**—ESI (Environmental Systems, Inc.) announced today that its *Gateway West Sustainable I* office building has been awarded LEED Platinum Existing Buildings: Operations and Maintenance. LEED Platinum certification is the highest certification level under the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) green building program.

Located in Brookfield's Gateway West Commerce Center, this is the second Platinum certification for Gateway West Sustainable I; one year ago, ESI received Platinum certification for Gateway West Sustainable I in the New Construction category.

The LEED for Existing Buildings rating system helps building owners and operators measure operations, improvements and maintenance on a consistent scale, with the goal of maximizing operational efficiency while minimizing environmental impacts. LEED for Existing Buildings addresses building system efficiency measurement and whole-building cleaning and maintenance, recycling programs, exterior maintenance programs, and systems upgrades. It can be applied both to existing buildings seeking LEED Certification for the first time and to projects previously certified under LEED for New Construction.

"Through real-time measurement of key performance metrics and well-defined, sustainable operations and maintenance processes, this building builds on its efficient and intelligent design by continuing to deliver a high level of performance, sustainability and return on investment," according to Paul Oswald, President of ESI.

In 27 months of operation, the building has saved over \$75,000, and eliminated over 500 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. In addition to the double Platinum LEED rating, the building has earned an Energy Star rating of 99, the highest for an office building in the state.

With this certification, Gateway West Sustainable I joins an elite group of buildings;

- First LEED EB: O+M Platinum building in Wisconsin
- Fifth in LEED EB: O+M point totals in the world
- Sixth double-platinum building in the world (NC and EB: O+M)
- 11<sup>th</sup> LEED NC Platinum building in Wisconsin
- 64th LEED EB: O+M Platinum building in the U.S.
- 77th LEED EB: O+M Platinum building in the world

"This achievement would not be possible without the expertise of our employees, and the contributions of our service providers and our consultants, Hunzinger Construction Company and Sustainable Building Solutions," according to Oswald.

Through intelligently applied technology and well-defined processes, Gateway West Sustainable I sets the benchmark for a high performance building and serves as an example for operating and maintaining buildings at a lower cost.