



## Los Angeles Convention Center

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### LA's Premier Green Facility "GREEN" ALL OVER FACT SHEET

The Los Angeles Convention Center is literally a "Green Community", both physically and environmentally. As a Los Angeles landmark, with its towering emerald green facade, it defines the L.A. cityscape and is a devoted advocate of environmental programs. The Los Angeles Convention Center's constant efforts to progressively explore, test, and implement new and innovative Earth-friendly initiatives throughout the 54 acre facility typify its commitment to environmental stewardship.

The Los Angeles Convention Center has implemented the following programs and continuously undergoes reviews to help show organizers produce environmentally responsible meetings, conventions, and trade shows in a "green-friendly" setting:

#### **100% ECO-FRIENDLY PUBLIC FOOD CAFES AND RESTAURANTS**

The Los Angeles Convention Center public Food Services operates with a 100% environmental-friendly approach using service ware products that can either biodegrade or can be composted using natural ingredients such as: sugarcane pulp, raw bamboo pulp, palm fiber, wheat chaff, rice chaff, bull rush (tullies), savanna grass, corn starch and organic substances. As part of its routine operation, the facility has also upgraded its food waste diversion program in alignment with the City of Los Angeles' Bureau of Sanitation Food Waste Collection program which diverts all food, food-soiled paper, and plants. As a result, the Los Angeles Convention Center anticipates composting or recycling 138,940 lbs. of food waste material that would otherwise end up in the landfills. By including a food composting and recycling program, the Los Angeles Convention Center continues to diversify and adopt innovative recycling activities in our commitment to offer our employees and patrons a truly comprehensive "green" experience.

#### **ENERGY EFFICIENCIES**

##### ***Sustainable Roofing Reflectance and Emittance***

The Los Angeles Convention Center's West Hall third level roof is now a "cool roof." What we mean by "cool roof" is that it's a white colored reflective surface which reflects and emits the sun's heat back to the sky instead of transferring it to the building below. The reflective coating can reduce the roof's surface temperature by more than 50 degrees, keeping the building inside cooler.

Numerous benefits can be realized from this type of roof: significant reduction in the demand for air conditioning, reduction in energy usage, extend the lifecycle of the air conditioning maintenance equipment, and help reduce operating costs associated with cooling the building. You can say that this white cool roof is really, "green!"

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## **ENERGY EFFICIENCIES (continued)**

### ***Solar Heating Attenuation***

The Los Angeles Convention Center's dual signature glass towers include patterned glass inlays. These inlays are thicker where solar exposure is the greatest, providing passive solar heat attenuation without the need for additional air conditioning.

### ***Efficient Energy Conservation Management***

Effective energy conservation is the responsibility of every employee. Facilitating this message and implementing new energy conservation programs is a responsibility of the Convention Center's Energy Task Team. The Energy Task Team brainstorms, evaluates, and implements a variety of energy conservation programs, and builds the energy-conscious environment necessary to minimize energy consumption and conserve natural resources. The implementation of multiple energy conservation measures, energy awareness education, and processes to control electrical demand charges has resulted in significant energy savings and cost reductions, and contributes to the environmentally-green nature of the Los Angeles Convention Center.

### ***Air Conditioning Efficiencies***

Air conditioning is a major energy component of a facility's infrastructure, and the Los Angeles Convention Center has taken significant steps to improve air conditioning efficiency. Recent upgrades to the air conditioning chiller units have resulted in a 38% improvement in energy efficiency for these units, along with a transition to an environmentally-friendly form of Freon (R-123).

### ***Efficient Lighting***

The Los Angeles Convention Center installed nearly 800 high efficiency lighting units in our exhibit halls, reducing electrical consumption by 50% while providing the same level of illumination.

### ***Renewable Energy***

The Los Angeles Convention Center is considered the largest solar energy-generating convention center in North America, with an electrical capacity of 450,000 Kilowatt-Hours per year of renewable and environmentally safe electrical power. This solar-generated electrical energy is connected to the primary power grid for Los Angeles, with the ability to generate enough energy to support nearly 100 Los Angeles homes.

LACC is enrolled in the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) Green Power Program (environmentally-friendly renewable energy resources such as hydroelectric, geothermal, solar, biomass, and wind energy) at a level of 20% of the facilities consumption.

## **RE-USE**

### ***Recycle Programs***

The Los Angeles Convention Center is committed to increasing landfill diversion and product reuse at every available opportunity. It prides itself on the progressive steps it has taken over the last 5 years to increase diversion and provide leadership as an environmental leader in public venue recycling. To date, the Los Angeles Convention Center recycles the following commodities:

- Cardboard
- Glass, Aluminum, and Plastic beverage containers
- MRF Commodities (commingled recyclable material)
- Other Metals
- Pallets
- Paper (all grades)
- Scrap Metal / Steel
- Toner / Ink Cartridges
- Wood

The Los Angeles Convention Center annually diverts and recycles over 733 tons (1.46 million lbs.) of recyclable goods. Its diversion efforts increased from 33.5% in 2004 to 49.8% in 2005.

## **RE-USE (continued)**

### ***Recycle Programs (continued)***

The LACC Recycling Program first launched in 1999. However, at that time and through 2000, the program was in the "pilot stage" largely organized and managed by the Department of General Services' City Facilities Recycling Program. In 2001, the LACC officially implemented an internal and independent recycling program that reported diversion numbers directly to the Bureau of Sanitation

Additionally, in collaboration with GES ([www.ges.com](http://www.ges.com)), one of the Los Angeles Convention Center's vendors in the exposition services industry, the facility diverts recyclable material that is left over from exhibitor's use. For example, according to GES, they estimate that the following materials were recycled from Los Angeles Convention Center activity:

#### **Aluminum (2006)**

Total: 3,333 lbs

LACC: 511 lbs

(No data to date for 2007)

#### **Carpet Padding (2007)**

Total: 12,199 lbs

LACC: 1,668 lbs

#### **Steel (2007)**

Total: 80,000 lbs

LACC: 11,008 lbs

#### **Plastic (2007)**

Total: 10,327 lbs

LACC: 1,421 lbs

#### **White Paper (2007)**

Total: 5,400 lbs

LACC: 743 lbs

#### **Carpet (2007)**

Total: 200,000 lbs

LACC: 27,527 lbs

### ***Composting***

Although the Los Angeles Convention Center does not perform on-site composting, in October of 2007, the Los Angeles Convention Center contracted Mariposa Landscaping Services, to specifically divert all landscaping green waste, with the exception of palm tree fronds, to be sent for recycling or composting. The Los Angeles Convention Center receives a monthly report of composted green waste for record keeping and use in our overall annual diversion report. With the recent implementation of the Los Angeles Convention Center's Food Waste Collection Program, the facility also anticipates composting or recycling 138,940 lbs. of food waste material that would otherwise end up in the landfills.

## **CLEAN AIR AND WATER**

### ***Clear Air Initiatives***

The Los Angeles Convention Center upgraded to new low NOx and CO2 emission Steam Boilers. With the completion of this project, the Convention Center was able to increase its operating efficiency and performance, all while contributing to cleaner air for Los Angeles.

### ***Chemical-free Water Treatment Technology***

Traditionally, the 21,000 gallons of re-circulating cooling water was treated with chemicals to avoid damaging scale, corrosion, and biological growth. These chemicals are dangerous to handle, and drained water may present a hazard to the environment. The Los Angeles Convention Center staff explored alternatives and adopted a new capacitor-based water treatment. Instead of using harmful and expensive chemicals, electrically charged rods now prevent bacteria and scale from binding to equipment. It has proved extremely effective and safe.

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## **CLEAN AIR AND WATER (*continued*)**

By using this type of water treatment technology, we avoid having to drain harmful chemicals into our sewer and storm drains, thus helping the environment. The Los Angeles Convention Center also received a Quality and Productivity Award from the City of Los Angeles for the pollution avoidance program. The environmentally safe results include the elimination of scale and corrosion cleaning, and reduced water consumption, while increasing employee safety and equipment life.

## **WATER CONSERVATION**

### ***Water Use Efficiencies***

Water conservation is a priority of the Los Angeles Convention Center. Reduced flow diaphragms for toilet and urinal flush valves, low-flow faucets, motion sensor supported hand washing stations, and landscaping specifically designed to thrive with reduced irrigation all work together to reduce water requirements.

## **USGBC LEED-EB CERTIFICATION**

The Los Angeles Convention Center is registered with the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) as a member of the Los Angeles and National Chapter. Certification in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Existing Building (LEED-EB) is the Green Building Council's rating system that serves as the national green benchmark for high performance "Existing Buildings." The Los Angeles Convention Center is currently undergoing a program to obtain its LEED-EB certification.