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Greenbuild Conference Offsets Pollution, Supports Renewable Energy

ATLANTA, GA, NOVEMBER 16, 2005—Leonardo Academy announced today that for the fourth consecutive year, the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) 4th Annual Greenbuild International Conference & Exposition in Atlanta has gained Cleaner and Greenersm certification. For this year's conference, donated emission offsets exceeded carbon dioxide and other emissions generated by Greenbuild energy use by up to 200%.

Donated emission credits will be retired, offsetting the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxide (NO_x), particulates (PM10 and PM2.5) and mercury (Hg) pollution that was discharged to the atmosphere from conference facilities, travel, meals, lodging, utilities, and other potential energy use connected to the conference.

Offsetting all types of emissions is important because each causes a particular set of problems for human and environmental health. The Cleaner and Greener Program focuses on all types of pollutants, taking steps beyond other offset programs that consider only greenhouse gases.

Conference energy use and emission estimates were prepared by Leonardo Academy and offsets of renewable energy, carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide credits were gathered from corporate and individual donors to make Greenbuild an event with a net positive atmospheric impact. Large emission reduction donors for this event included Milliken Carpet, Renewable Choice Energy, 3 Phases Energy, Philips Lighting and Leonardo Academy. Many Greenbuild Attendees also made contributions to offset emissions by purchasing renewable energy certificates through the Cleaner and Greener program. A complete description of donations is available at www.cleanerandgreener.org/Greenbuild.

Michael Arny, President of Leonardo Academy, said about this achievement, "The USGBC continues to prove its commitment to sustainability by once again supporting emissions offsetting at Greenbuild." He added, "The emission reduction donors for this event should be applauded for making Cleaner and Greener Certification a realization."

ABOUT LEONARDO ACADEMY—Leonardo Academy (www.leonardoacademy.org) is a charitable 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to finding integrated solutions for a more sustainable world. Leonardo Academy's Cleaner and Greener Program develops and delivers tools that promote, facilitate and measure environmental sustainability. The program specializes in developing action plans and resources, and evaluation systems that enable organizations, institutions and individuals to reduce their impacts on the natural environment.

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