



USGBC recognizes EGHA Office



Left: Mark Lishen, AIA, LEED AP, a Principal of EGHA, proudly displays the office's plaque. Right: Exterior view of EGHA's office.

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EGHA's Biloxi office receives LEED Certification:

In September of 2008, Eley Associates / Architects of Jackson and Guild Hardy Architects of Biloxi merged to form Eley Guild Hardy Architects (EGHA). EGHA emerged as one of Mississippi's largest practices with a combined portfolio of award-winning projects.

In 2005, EGHA (then, Guild Hardy Architects) set forth a design challenge to create a LEED Certified office building that would house their Biloxi staff. Their main objectives were to design a building that was sensitive to the site, fostered an environment for creativity, and incorporated sustainable qualities without sacrificing aesthetic appeal. This goal was achieved and recognized by the U.S. Green Building Council last month. EGHA received a plaque commemorating the 12,000 square foot building's LEED Certified status.

Unique features of the building include large expanses of glass which allow abundant daylight and provide visual connections to the surrounding landscape. Colors and textures inspired by the building's surroundings were incorporated into interior materials and finishes. Natural products such as bamboo, acrylic panels with inlaid sea grass, and bio-composite sunflower seed cabinet doors were used in the finish palette to reinforce the building's connection to the environment.

The building's design was the recipient of the 2007 Mississippi Chapter of AIA Sambo Mockbee Membership Award and the 2006 South Central Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers Gold Award.

Schmidt Consulting Group, Inc. provided the LEED energy model and site lighting calculations for the project's LEED submittal.

One Stop sets the bar



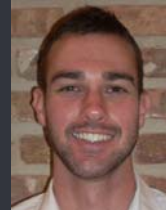
Rendering Courtesy of Bay Design Associates Architects

DEP grant funds largest green roof in Florida: On December 10, 2008, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) continued their support of innovative land use and stormwater best management practices (BMPs) by awarding a \$1.4 million Urban BMP Research and Demonstration grant to Escambia County. The County will use the funding for construction of a green roof, as well as for a pervious pavement parking lot with recessed landscape islands at its One Stop Permitting Center, where all county development applications and building permits will be processed. When complete, the green roof will total 33,160 square feet, making it the largest in Florida.

Schmidt Consulting Group, Inc., alongside Bay Design Associates Architects, provided Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, Fire Protection, and Communications design services for the project.

The grass is greener

Five more LEED A.P.s on staff: SCG is pleased to announce that Stuart Smith, P.E., S.I., Principal (Structural), Todd Nicholson, P.E., Principal (Electrical), Roger Smith, P.E. (Mechanical), Eric Myers, E.I. (Mechanical), and Jeremy Hayes (AutoCAD Technician) have achieved LEED Accreditation.



From top left:
Stuart Smith,
P.E., S.I., Todd
Nicholson, P.E.,
Roger Smith,
P.E., Eric Myers,
E.I., and Jeremy
Hayes

UWF's Child Care Facility

A new, sustainable facility on campus: The University of West Florida's new Child-Care Facility opened its doors January 5th. Located on the University's main campus in Pensacola, this \$2 million, 11,600 square foot facility will serve not only children, but University students as well.

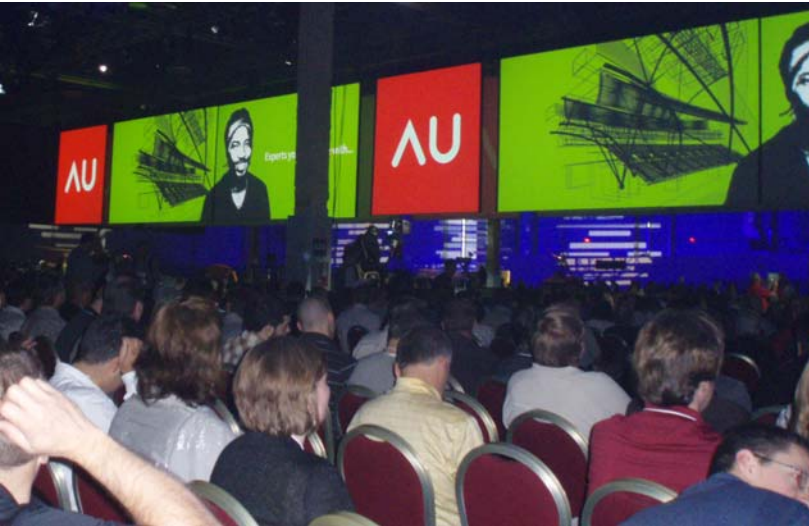
The Center is staffed by professionals in the field of education and provides a broad range of learning experiences for each child, as well as opportunities for research, internships, and supervised teaching experiences for University students. Enrollment is open to children age six months to five years. Children of UWF students are given placement priority, although children of faculty and alumni are also eligible for enrollment.



Left: Lobby of the Child Care Center
Right: Classroom View

Schmidt Consulting Group, Inc. was asked by Caldwell Associates Architects, Inc. to provide Electrical and Communications design services for the project. Sustainability was at the core of the design and construction process; with an ultimate goal of LEED Certification for the building.

Our Electrical design team designed high efficiency interior lighting with a controls system and provided cut-off exterior lighting fixtures to comply with United States Green Building Council guidelines. SCG also provided Communications design services for the project. Systems included voice, data, television, and Nautilus Card access (the official UWF identification card).



All in on Revit

Our team trains in Sin City: On December 2nd, 2008, Schmidt Consulting Group, Inc. sent Justin Stegall, Michelle McAteer, and Rudy Enumerables to Las Vegas, Nevada for Autodesk University 2008.

Each year, Autodesk University brings together over 9,000 Autodesk enthusiasts from around the world to learn, network, and celebrate the power of Autodesk technology and the international AU community. As the largest gathering of Autodesk users, developers, and partners, AU creates a unique setting where companies and institutions of all sizes can gain valuable information and learn strategies to help them thrive in today's economy.

SCG's primary goal for this trip was to receive advanced Revit software training. Revit is part of the Building Information Modeling (BIM) trend that is revolutionizing the architectural/engineering industry. Our team met with numerous firms from across the world who were successfully using Revit. From this interaction, our team learned tips and tricks in order to use the software more effectively. Some of these tips included the creation of Revit families and the ability to edit them, as well as the incorporation of third-party calculation software into the model.

Our team attended a number of seminars which covered a broad range of topics, including Revit's ability to aid in the LEED certification documentation process. For example, the software can measure heating and cooling loads, LEED daylighting, thermal energy, and other associated components. In Revit, the building model can be exported to Green Building Extensive Markup Language (gbXML) for energy and load analysis. Once the analysis is complete, the data is imported back and results are stored within the model.

GREEN BUILD

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & EXPO

SCG heads to Boston for Greenbuild 2008: On November 18th, 2008, Schmidt Consulting Group, Inc. sent Heather Callaway and Stefanie Hughes to Boston, Massachusetts for Greenbuild 2008. Greenbuild is the world's largest conference and expo dedicated to green building. Thousands of building professionals from all over the world come together at Greenbuild for three days of outstanding educational sessions, renowned speakers, green building tours, special seminars, a green product expo, and networking events.

Approximately 30,000 professionals representing 85 countries were in attendance at the 2008 conference, which was held at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. The City of Boston served as an appropriate host for Greenbuild 2008, due to its sustainable initiatives. Boston has set a goal of reducing their carbon emissions by 80% by 2010. To achieve this goal, the city amended zoning codes to enforce large private developments to comply with LEED standards.



Of the keynote speakers of the Conference, Archbishop Desmond Tutu was the most anticipated. The former Archbishop of Cape Town and the winner of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize addressed a crowd of 10,000 and expressed his pleasure at the momentum that environmental awareness has gained over the past decade. He pointed out that ten years ago, environmental consciousness was viewed as eccentric to the general public, whereas in 2008, it is now part of our texture of morality.

Heather and Stefanie attended a number of informative seminars on sustainability. One of the themes stressed throughout was the importance of "selling" green technologies to the Owner and applying green strategies early in the design phase. Environmental stewardship isn't the only concern in designing sustainable facilities; we must consider the economic impact as well. In the face of a declining economy, it is imperative for Owners to adopt sustainable design solutions in order to reap the cost savings so implicit in green technologies.

The theme of green was conveyed in every aspect of the Conference – from the voices of keynote speakers to the compost bins in the dining hall. It was encouraging to see so many professionals gathered together to share or gain knowledge about sustainability.

Photo of the Month



St. Paul Catholic Church's New Sanctuary: Construction is complete for the 23,865 square foot Sanctuary of St. Paul Catholic Church, located in Pensacola, Florida.

The Sanctuary, which seats 1,200, features a gothic style rich in detailing with arched wood beams and decking, and veneer brick over ICF (insulated concrete form). The design features liturgical stained glass pieces acquired from around the country.

Schmidt Consulting Group, Inc. provided Mechanical, Plumbing, Fire Protection, and Electrical design services for the new Sanctuary. Also included in this project was a new Multi-Purpose/Parish Hall Facility, as well as renovations and additions to St. Paul's existing School Facility and Sanctuary.

About Us: Schmidt Consulting Group, Inc. was established in 1987 to provide Mechanical, Plumbing, Electrical, Communications, and Structural design services to a very diverse client base.

Headquartered in Pensacola, Florida, SCG currently employs branch offices in St. Petersburg, Florida and Daphne, Alabama to serve our clients more effectively and efficiently.

Our range of consulting services includes planning, design, the production of construction documents, supervision of public bidding, contract administration, and supervision and inspection during construction.

Our reputation for quality, responsiveness, and timeliness has been demonstrated through successful projects for many private, federal, state, and local entities.

Schmidt Consulting Group, Inc. has provided specialized design solutions for a variety of facility types including: Airports, Auditoriums, Broadcast Studios, Churches, Colleges and Universities, Correctional Facilities, Data Centers, K-12 Schools, Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities, Industrial Complexes, Laboratories, Libraries, Military Facilities, Multi-Family Residential Units, Municipal Facilities, Museums and Performing Art Centers, Office Buildings, Recreational Facilities, Sport Complexes, and Wastewater Treatment Plants.



Locations:

Pensacola Office:
139 East Government Street
Pensacola, FL 32502
P: 850-438-0050 | F: 850-432-8631

St. Petersburg Office:
2111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33704
P: 727-822-6286 | F: 727-822-6280

Daphne Office:
29000 Highway 98 | Building A, Suite 201
Daphne, AL 36526
P: 251-625-3003 | F: 251-625-3020

www.schmidtconsultinggroup.com