



**SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE DISTRICT**

City College • Mesa College  
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## **San Diego City College Career Technology Center honored for sustainability and design**

***Higher education sustainability and energy efficiency program honors Career Technology Center with Best Practice award for Overall Sustainable Design***

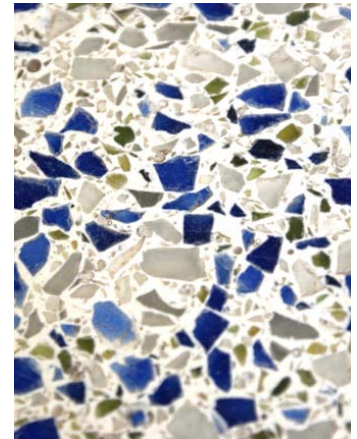
LONG BEACH – San Diego City College's latest 'green' building, the Career Technology Center, has been honored with a [Best Practice for Sustainable Design](#) by the [California Higher Education Sustainability Conference](#). This is the fourth year in a row a San Diego Community College District project has been honored by the conference, highlighting best practices and innovations in sustainability in higher education campus operations, planning, design, curriculum, and research within the California State University (CSU), California Community College (CCC) and University of California (UC) systems. The award was presented Tuesday at the annual conference meeting at California State University at Long Beach.

The [Career Technology Center](#) (CTC) is a new five-story, 88,000 sq. ft. instructional facility, housing the expanded Nursing, Cosmetology and Photography and Digital Arts departments. The state-of-the-art facility was awarded a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification by



the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) in January 2011.

There is extensive use of recycled materials, such as terrazzo flooring that contains 100% post-consumer glass. Steel remnants leftover from the exterior finishes are used as interior design elements. The building is designed to achieve significant daylighting of the public areas, and controlled daylighting of the work and study areas. This is shown to provide healthier lighting for students while reducing the building's energy consumption. Solar panels are installed on the roof and parking structure's south façade. The solar energy generated will provide approximately 8% of the building's total energy needs, contributing to an energy efficiency that is approximately 25% better than what the state requires. The vertical façade is the



largest of its kind in the country.

"Sustainability is one of the top priorities of the San Diego Community College District," said Chancellor Constance Carroll. "This award recognizes our success in carrying out this priority in a major construction project that also provides a phenomenal learning environment for students. We are really pleased by this honor."

The Career Technology Center, which was completed in May 2010, is the District's seventh facility to be LEED certified, and fifth to achieve a LEED Gold designation.

"I am very pleased that we have been recognized as a leader in sustainable construction," said Dr. Terrence Burgess, City College President. "We have a commitment that all of our new buildings will qualify for LEED certification and this project keeps us squarely on that path."

The project includes several unique sustainable features:

- Embraces alternative transportation with close connections to trolley and bus routes, bike storage, and preferred parking for fuel efficient cars
- 100% filtering of storm water to reduce impact on San Diego's sewer system
- Development remediated 8,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil left from previous industrial uses
- Use of water-efficient landscaping and synthetic turf created a 57% reduction in irrigation water demand
- State-of-the-art plumbing fixtures reduces potable water usage by 55%
- Energy conservation approach allows the project to use 21.4% less energy than comparable code-complying buildings
- Products used within the facility have high recycled content (31.7%)

- 27.7% of the materials used are regional (harvested and assembled within 500 miles of the site)
- 63.7% of construction waste was diverted from local landfills which equates to 558 tons of material
- Materials with low volatile organic compounds (VOC) used throughout, reducing off-gassing pollutants

The Career Technology Center was funded by the District's \$1.555 billion Propositions S and N construction bond program, which is providing for new teaching and learning facilities, major renovations, and campus wide infrastructure projects at City, Mesa, and Miramar Colleges, and six Continuing Education campuses throughout San Diego. As part of the Green Building Policy developed by the SDCCD Board of Trustees, all construction and major renovations included in the bond program are designed and built to obtain, at minimum, LEED Silver certification.

The Career Technology Center project team included:

- **Architect:** Carrier Johnson + CULTURE
- **Construction Manager:** Rudolph & Sletten
- **Mechanical Engineer:** MA Engineering
- **Electrical Engineer:** ILA Zammitt
- **Structural Engineer:** KPFF Consulting Engineers
- **Civil Engineer:** RBF Consulting
- **Landscape Architect:** McCullough Landscape Architecture
- **Solar/Photovoltaic Contractor:** Sullivan Solar
- **Campus Project Manager:** Thomas J. Fine, JE Moore Consulting
- **Propositions S and N Program Manager:** Gafcon, Inc.

Past Higher Education Conference awards for SDCCD projects include:

**[2010 Best Practice](#) – Water Efficiency & Site Water Quality – SDCCD Standardization of Calsense Irrigation Control System**

Based on the successful results of a pilot study, the San Diego Community College District has adopted the weather-based Calsense irrigation system as the design standard for all future campus projects. The Calsense irrigation system adjusts irrigation levels based on rainfall and evapotranspiration rates, and is able to detect leaks. Use of the system has resulted in the saving of 37 million gallons of water the first year.

**[2009 Best Practice](#) – Lighting Design/Retrofit: Harry West Gym, San Diego City College**

As part of a district wide effort to reduce energy consumption and protect natural resources, a daylighting retrofit project for the Harry West Gym involved changing out the High Intensity Discharge (HID) light fixtures with natural daylight harvesting fixtures, and incorporating high output T-5 light fixtures for the evening hours, resulting in savings of between \$17-18K annual in electricity costs, not counting savings from reduced A/C bills.

**2009 Honorable Mention – Best Overall Design: West City Campus, Continuing Education**

The \$18 million [West City Campus](#), serving as San Diego Continuing Education's Campus of Excellence for Hospitality and Consumer Science, is a model of smart construction and energy efficiency, reducing utility and maintenance costs substantially compared to a standard building.

**2008 Honorable Mention – HVAC Retrofit**

A district wide upgrade to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems (HVAC) resulted in significant energy efficiency and improved performance.

For project renderings or photos, or to review the award submission, please contact Ursula Kroemer at (760) 705-6919 or [ukroemer@gafcon.com](mailto:ukroemer@gafcon.com).