

**Springline Architects, LLC**  
**Awarded Prestigious LEED® Green Building Certification**

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Springline Architects announced today that it has been awarded LEED® Platinum, the highest certification level, for the design and construction of its new office building on St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The LEED rating system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), is the foremost program for buildings, homes and communities that are designed, constructed, maintained and operated for improved environmental and human health performance.

“Springline Architects designed our building utilizing LEED principles coupled with practical local construction methods to demonstrate that within our island community, it is possible to obtain an esthetically pleasing, highly functional, and energy-efficient project. We are especially pleased that not only is our project among the handful of buildings worldwide to obtain Platinum certification, but that it is the first in the Virgin Islands, and second in the Caribbean to have achieved that benchmark,” said Mike de Haas, a principal of Springline Architects and LEED certified professional.

Springline Architects achieved LEED certification for implementing practical and measurable strategies and solutions aimed at achieving high performance in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

LEED is the foremost program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. Over 44,000 projects are currently participating in the commercial and institutional LEED rating systems, comprising over 8 billion square feet of construction space in all 50 states and 120 countries.

“The green building movement offers an unprecedented opportunity to respond to the most important challenges of our time, including global climate change, dependence on non-sustainable and expensive sources of energy, and threats to human health,” said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO and Founding Chair of U.S. Green Building Council. “The work of innovative building projects such as Springline Architects’ office building is a fundamental driving force in the green building movement.”

Springline Architects obtained LEED certification by using some of the following strategies, broken down into the six LEED categories:

**Sustainable Sites:**

- Storm water designs that meet quality and quantity requirements
- Maintaining open spaces
- Reducing light pollution and heat gain

**Water Efficiency:**

- Utilizing plumbing fixtures that used less water.
- Recycling all potable water for irrigation

**Energy and Atmosphere:**

- Optimizing energy performance by designing building to use 42% less energy than benchmark
- Using solar panels to produce 20% of the energy
- Using individually controlled Air Conditioning system that allows for individual controls.  
Used variable speed compressor and Multi-city system by Mitsubishi
- Used occupancy sensors for fluorescent lights.



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**Indoor Environmental Quality:**

- Utilized low VOC paints and sealants, bamboo floors and plywood for their office workstations.
- Positioned the building so maximum window openings face due north, naturally blocking sunlight from entering rooms.
- Designing layout so all rooms have natural daylight and views.

**Innovation in Design:**

- Recycle all of the water on site: Potable water is collected from the roof, then treated after use for on site irrigation.
- The office uses green cleaning products as part of its monthly cleaning cycle.

Springline Architects believes that all buildings should incorporate these strategies as part of a sustainable future.

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The U.S. Green Building Council® is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. With a community comprising 78 local affiliates, more than 20,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 140,000 LEED® Professionals™, USGBC® is the driving force of an industry that is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product from 2009-2013. USGBC leads an unlikely diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials and concerned citizens, and teachers and students. USGBC is the developer of the LEED green building certification program and the convener of the Greenbuild® International Conference & Expo.

