

Leonardo Academy

The Sustainability Experts®

A charitable nonprofit organization.

DECEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

LEO

Happy Holidays

2013 Highlights

- Sustainable Agriculture Standard (LEO-4000) –Draft completed and Public comment period and Standard Committee Ballot are launched
- Leonardo exhibits at Greenbuild 2013
- Leonardo Academy is Awarded Green Professional Status in Wisconsin
- Work on Replacing or Retrofitting Several Diesel Garbage and Long-haul Trucks and School Buses to Reduce Diesel Fumes, Improve Air Quality is Completed with the Help of an EPA Grant obtained by Leonardo Academy
- Webinar: LCA Methods Sufficient to Provide Comparability Between Environmental Product Declarations
- UW-Whitewater Laurentide Hall Achieves LEED®-NC Certification
- Completed with the Help of an EPA Grant Obtained by Leonardo
- LEED-EB Gold Certification is awarded to 200 State Street in Boston
- Development of Standard for Sustainability Master Plans is launched
- Sustainable Transportation Case Studies Launched
- LEED-EB Gold Certification is awarded to 901 New York Avenue
- LEED-EB Gold Certification is awarded to Metropolitan Square
- Leonardo Academy Awarded \$1.6 Million EPA Grant to Implement Clean Diesel Projects

Great Progress on Sustainability Standards & Continued Drive for More Sustainability Implementation

Leonardo Academy has had another successful year of implementing sustainability actions and advancing our work on sustainability standard development. Through our services and programs, multiple buildings earned LEED® certification, more events were greened, emissions from diesel engines were reduced across the country, and several of our standard development efforts are reaching fruition. We made major progress on the National Sustainable Agriculture Standard and the Standard for Lifecycle Assessments and Declarations. Both standards have gone out for public comment. Read on to learn what each of our teams has been up to.

Please continue your support for Leonardo Academy's work

As the year comes to an end, we humbly ask you, our friends and followers, for support. An important part of our funding comes from donations, so please consider adding us to your list of charitable organizations to support so that we may expand our work in advancing sustainability on many fronts.

We would also like to take this opportunity to give thanks to everyone who has helped us this year by donating their time or funds or by including us in their sustainability initiatives.

We wish you a happy holiday season and a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2014!

Cheers,



Michael D. Arny

President

National Sustainable Agriculture Standard (LEO-4000) Released for Public Comment!

Leonardo Academy, as an ANSI accredited standard developer, facilitates the development of national voluntary sustainability standards. On December 6, we announced the launch of the public comment period and the Standard Committee's balloting of the LEO-4000, National Sustainable Agriculture Standard. Both the public comment period and the Standard Committee ballot will close on March 6, 2014. The ground-breaking standard, developed through the American National Standards Institute's (ANSI) open, multi-stakeholder process, provides voluntary guidance and opportunities for recognition for producers interested in or engaged in sustainable crop production.



Michael Army, President of Leonardo Academy, said, “This four-tiered standard recognizes producers at all levels on the path toward sustainability. Thanks to the hard work of Standard Committee members, the subcommittee members and the other process participants, the draft standard has been completed and has been released for public comment. Now is the time for producers, processors, retailers, and other interested parties to provide feedback to help the committee hone in the final document.”

LEO-4000 will help users navigate the increasingly confusing range of proprietary sustainability labels, specifications, information requests, and guides for agricultural products. It is a comprehensive sustainability standard that provides a stable and reliable platform for producers to use in documenting their sustainability achievements while demonstrating compliance with other sustainability standards and remaining flexible to meet the diverse needs of agriculture. The standard will also help food manufacturers, retailers, and consumers purchase sustainability agricultural products and assess the authenticity of sustainable agricultural product claims.

The draft standard can be downloaded at www.leonardoacademy.org. To submit public comments, please request a public comment form from agstandard@leonardoacademy.org.

Leonardo Academy Recognized as Green Professional under Green Masters Program

Demonstrating that we practice what we preach, Leonardo Academy applied for and was recognized as a Green Professional organization by the Wisconsin Sustainable Business Council’s Green Masters program. The Green Masters Program recognizes Wisconsin organizations that have integrated sustainability into their business plans. Our participation shows our support for the Wisconsin Sustainable Business Council, and our recognition by this program shows that we don’t just promote sustainability, we live it too.

Leonardo Academy Programs Update

TRAINING

Leonardo Academy provides on demand internet training on several sustainability topics on our web site. Both low cost and free training sessions are provided. Leonardo Academy is an accredited continuing education provider for both the AIA and the USGBC.

For more information, please visit:
<http://training.leonardoacademy.org>.





WORLDGREEN.ORG

Leonardo Academy has partnered with the University of Wisconsin-Madison on providing sustainability volunteer opportunities for University of Wisconsin students. One of our volunteers' main activities is working on the World Green website, adding information and promoting sustainability understanding and actions. This work helps expand the knowledge base for families and individuals on ways they can take action to improve the environment and champion sustainability. We will also be rolling out a new set of sustainability tools to be used online and through mobile devices.

The World Green program creates new approaches to sustainability and works with organizations, companies, families, and individuals to help them implement increased sustainability. This includes outreach, education, training, and implementation support. Leonardo Academy works with organizations and corporations to evaluate their current environmental impacts and to develop sustainability best practices that are designed to enhance their environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic prosperity.

To learn about sponsorship opportunities, click here or visit www.worldgreen.org/sponsor.html.

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

We continue to help companies implement sustainability programs. We provide a consistent framework for implementing and tracking sustainability actions and performance.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING SERVICES

We are currently awaiting LEED certification for three buildings at the end of 2013. Four additional buildings earned certification with our assistance in 2013: One building in Boston and two in Washington D.C. earned LEED-EB certification and one building on the UW-Whitewater campus earned LEED-NC certification. Congratulations to all the building owners and managers for their 2013 accomplishments.

The SBS team continues to offer services geared for communities seeking sustainability assistance as well as services for tenants of commercial buildings who hope to lessen their environmental footprint. The Sustainable Communities Service incorporates a vast array of existing

Leonardo Academy services under one umbrella. This program is geared towards helping communities become more sustainable and leveraging the economies of scale to facilitate greater achievement. The Sustainability Strategies for Leased Space service is designed to help commercial building tenants advance the sustainability of their operations. This service is designed to provide tenants with a clear sustainability roadmap, customized to meet their needs and scope. Whether the goal is improving their bottom line or contributing to a larger corporate sustainability program, this service provides building tenants a clear path forward. More information on each of these programs can be found on our website.

EMISSIONS TEAM

The Emissions and Sustainability team completed work on 2012 organizational emissions inventories for our clients, including the National Geographic Society, under the Cleaner and Greener® Program. The Cleaner and Greener program calculates businesses' emission reduction achievements and also helps clients who are engaged in the LEED for Existing Buildings certification process to earn the emissions reporting credit by providing comprehensive emissions reporting. Even for those not engaging in LEED certification, this program helps building owners demonstrate their commitment to sustainability.

IFMA World Workplace 2013, an annual conference and exposition for facility managers that took place at the end of October, participated in the Cleaner and Greener Program for Sustainable Events. Leonardo Academy carried out a benchmark emissions inventory of the event, including scope 1 and 2 emissions and travel. We also provided a green exhibiting scorecard to exhibitors and analyzed the results. Leonardo Academy's President Michael Arny and Accounting and Human Resources Manager Tracy Jaworski attended the conference to audit the top scoring exhibits and spoke to exhibitors about sustainable exhibiting practices. The exhibitors achieving the top 10 scores received certificates.

LEONARDO ACADEMY'S LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND VALLEY RIDGE PRESERVE

Work on prairie development, prescribed burns and forest management work continues. Sixteen acres of the preserve are now being supported by buildings taking part in the Valley Ridge Offsite Native Vegetation Program. This support earns a building up to three points for Sustainable

Sites credit 5 as part of their application for LEED for Existing Building certification.

SUSTAINABLE STANDARDS

LEO-4000 National Sustainable Agriculture Standard

It was a busy year for the National Sustainable Agriculture Standard. The technical edit of the LEO-4000 standard was completed this

fall and the draft was released for public comment on December 6. The public comment period will be open until March 6, 2014. Leonardo Academy thanks the Standard Committee



members, subcommittee members, and others for all of their hard work. We are looking forward to promoting awareness and understanding of LEO-4000 in 2014.

Leonardo Academy is now seeking farmers and agriculture professionals interested in piloting the standard during the next growing season. Persons with experience in livestock are also welcome to join the process for subsequent versions of the standard that will include animal production.

Anyone interested in reading the draft of the National Sustainable Agriculture Standard can find it on our website, www.leonardoacademy.org.

LEO-SCS-002 Standard for Type III Life-Cycle Impact Profile Declarations for Products, Services and Systems

A draft standard document was available for public comment from April 6 through July 10, 2013. The Standard Committee now continues its work reviewing and addressing the public comments. We anticipate completing this standard in 2014.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

The Sustainable Transportation Program continues to work proactively in achieving the sustainable transportation of persons and goods throughout the country. Leonardo Academy was once again awarded a grant from the EPA to move the transportation industry toward higher performance in the areas where transportation has the

greatest impacts: public access, climate, energy, ecological function, integrated planning and costs. This \$1.6 million grant is funding projects in Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and



Indiana, and a large portion of the funding will be focused on the introduction of natural gas vehicles in the region.

Leonardo Academy is also continuing to facilitate alternative fuel vehicle and infrastructure projects in California, New York, and Texas, and is already planning additional projects for 2014.

MAKE A DONATION – VISIT WWW.LEONARDOACADEMY.ORG/DONATE

Leonardo Academy greatly appreciates your participation in our work by making a charitable contribution. Your tax deductible contributions help support Leonardo Academy’s work to improve the environment, increase energy efficiency, and promote sustainability. Leonardo Academy is a charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Comments, suggestions?

Contact mary@leonardoacademy.org.