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Reno Contracting builds first LEED-certified construction trailer

By DAILY TRANSCRIPT STAFF REPORT

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Reno Contracting is taking green building to a new level.

The general contractor announced its construction trailer has become the first structure of its kind to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

The trailer serves as the operations offices for the on-site Reno team, and is currently located at a jobsite in Anaheim, Calif.

"We had planned on building a 'green' construction trailer for a while as a logical extension of our growing portfolio of LEED certified and other energy efficient products," said Walt Fegley, president of Reno Contracting.

The trailer achieved LEED certification by incorporating a variety of recycled materials. The frame and exterior walls of the trailer were salvaged from an old trailer, which eliminated the need for steel and wood framing. The structure also incorporates carpet tiles made from recycled rubber tires, wall and ceiling insulation composed of cotton from shredded denim jeans, wall paneling made from recycled piping products and countertops fabricated with crushed recycled glass.

The designers took care to maximize indoor air quality and natural lighting, and minimize energy consumption. Adhesives and paints used in the project contain low levels of volatile organic compounds. Large storefront-style windows and a reflective interior light shelf maximize natural lighting.

The trailer also uses fluorescent lighting and lighting control sensors to reduce energy consumption. Operable windows allow for air circulation, minimizing the need for air-conditioning.

"Since the inception of LEED, it has always been important that the rating systems remain flexible and inclusive to varying types of buildings and facilities, knowing that reducing energy, water and natural resource consumption anywhere is going to contribute positively to the larger goal," said Rick Fedrizzi, president, CEO and founding chair of the USGBC. "Reno has demonstrated environmental leadership in a new forum."

Mechanical engineering firm, **X-nth**, and **Ferguson Pape Baldwin Architects** partnered with Reno on the project.