Green Globes for New Construction

GREEN GLOBES ENHANCES FIRE STATION’S TEAM COLLABORATION AND WISE STEWARDSHIP OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Like many cities across America, the city of Dunedin, Fla., made a commitment to sustainable practices both operationally and in its construction projects. Set in the Tampa Bay region along the Gulf Coast waterfront, the city recognizes building design and performance as a way to protect natural resources, and improve air and water quality. In building the 7,500-square-foot Dunedin Fire Station 61, the city sought to uphold its values and turned to Green Globes to make smart use of public funds.

“Green Globes achieves the goal of verifying environmental performance and obtaining certification while allowing clients to keep their construction budget funds directed toward sustainable features,” asserts Project Manager Daryl Krumsieg of St. Petersburg, Fla.-based Wannemacher Jensen Architects, the firm that designed Dunedin Fire Station 61.

Krumseg says one of the unique aspects of a fire station is that the crew is often responsible for maintaining the facility, so extremely durable and low-maintenance materials were welcome qualities. For Dunedin Fire Station 61, clay masonry units filled with spray foam insulation allow the exterior masonry to serve as part of the interior walls. The design also excluded acoustical ceiling panels in favor of acoustical structural deck to reduce finish materials, and sustainable polished concrete flooring eliminated the mastic and material on top of the slab.
OPEN DIALOGUE

Krumsiege says Green Globes helps everyone understand the needed commitment and offers a forum where the design team, the city and the construction manager can collaborate. In addition, the assessor’s walk-through of the property was a real advantage. “It instills significance and accountability to meet someone who is actually hands-on, personally examining the building,” remarks Krumsiege. “Our assessor was able to see things we did that we couldn’t, and that was very beneficial to the city.”

Having joined the project during the construction documents phase, Krumsiege sees how Green Globes could be best leveraged during the early phases of a project.

“The Green Globes website is a great way to get everyone on board, and the documentation materials can help the full team discuss options to build into the process. Now, we are using Green Globes resources and the assessment’s recommendations to capture additional opportunities on another fire station project we have underway.”

With the rising level of green building knowledge and environmentally responsible technology products, Krumsiege notes that Green Globes offers a less labor intensive option to verification. “More municipal codes are requiring green design and construction, and clients gain value from certification,” says Krumsiege. “This makes Green Globes an efficient and effective tool, and it was a beneficial experience for the city and our team.”

OTHER SMART STRATEGIES THAT HELP THE FIRE STATION MEET THE CITY’S ASPIRATIONS ARE:

- Minimized heat-island effect through landscaping shading and a high, albedo roof
- Stormwater runoff from building and impervious surfaces are directed to pervious areas on-site
- A variable refrigerant system that serves multiple zones from one condenser to save energy.
- Clerestory windows to bring daylight into the space
- On-demand gas water heaters that eliminate storage and constant large-quantity water heating to serve showers when crews return from a call
- An innovative diesel exhaust system connects directly to fire vehicles parked in the station

> GREEN GLOBES RATINGS

Once an assessment is verified by a third party, properties achieving a score of 35% or more receive a Green Globes rating based on the percentage of total points (up to 1,000) achieved.

85-100% (FOUR GREEN GLOBES)
Demonstrates national leadership and excellence in the practice of water, energy and environmental efficiency to reduce environmental impacts.

70-84% (THREE GREEN GLOBES)
Demonstrates leadership in applying the best practices regarding energy, water, and environmental efficiency.

55-69% (TWO GREEN GLOBES)
Demonstrates excellent progress in achieving reduction of environmental impacts and use of environmental efficiency practices.

35-54% (ONE GREEN GLOBES)
Demonstrates a commitment to environmental efficiency practices.