



Austin Convention Center LEED Consulting-Pursuing Gold Certification Austin, Texas

Since 2009, FEA has been working with the Austin Convention Center (ACC) to achieve LEED for Existing Buildings certification. At the beginning of the project, the convention center had several sustainability measures in place. FEA partnered with ACC to build on and improve the convention center's overall performance with a seven step strategic plan:

1. **Quality Control Plan** – FEA documented quality control and communication protocol governing the project.
2. **Strategic Plan Assessments** – What level of certification is achievable? What will the effort be and how much will it cost? FEA helped answer these questions by performing an assessment of current status, operational policies and practices, and potential for improvement.
3. **Strategic Plan Development** – Following the Strategic Plan Assessments, FEA worked with Austin to determine what credits would be pursued and provided prioritized recommendations tailored for ACC.
4. **Plan Implementation** – FEA is in the process of working with ACC to implement projects required to meet the prerequisites and selected credits.
5. **Commissioning** – FEA is completing a comprehensive retro-commissioning of the convention center's air HVAC, exhaust, lighting, and building controls systems. As part of this effort, the ACC/FEA team developed a Building Operations Plan which documents operational intent, system capabilities, and performance criteria. During retro-commissioning, FEA documented deficiencies and recommendations for repairs, as well as opportunities to enhance performance and efficiency.
6. **Documentation Preparation** – FEA guided the project team through the LEED documentation process for submission to the USGBC including document assembly and upload to the USGBC's LEED Online web-based tool.
7. **Final Certification Report** – FEA prepared a comprehensive certification report containing all submitted documentation. This will assist the City of Austin with future certification and guide future sustainability efforts.

The project was awarded LEED Gold certification in December of 2011.

"I highly recommend FEA for any Facility Management related services. I have worked with FEA since November 2009. In that time, they have done a masterful job of assisting us in our pursuit of LEED EB Gold certification. Their staff is well versed in all areas of Facility Operations and Sustainability. They bring a unique blend of experience and understanding to the project that we did not find in any other firm that we reviewed during our selection process. Their FM experience is crucial to the long term success of our operations. They understand the challenges faced in the built environment and make their recommendations with those challenges in mind."

– David Thomas, CFM, LEED AP, Operations



PRIMARY CLIENT REFERENCE

David Thomas, CFM, LEED AP
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START DATE: November 17, 2009

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

PROJECT SIZE: 1,000,000 SQFT+

VALUE OF CONTRACT: \$788,182

CLIENT BENEFITS

- A tested framework in place for ongoing sustainability and operational excellence
- Partner in education efforts: *FEA and ACC presented at Greenbuild 2010*
- Increased energy, water, and waste stream efficiency

ACC HAS ALREADY REDUCED ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY 10% IN ONE YEAR!

