Phoenix Controls Corporation

Science Facility Earns LEED Platinum Rating

The Donald Bren School of Environmental Science & Management has achieved recognition as one of only two, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum designees, the highest sustainability certification possible. LEED is a program sponsored by the U.S. Green Building Council and its purpose is to provide a standardized rating system and independent oversight to environmental performance claims. The LEED rating system assigns credit points across a wide range of sustainable design elements that include:

- sustainable site planning
- water efficiency
- energy and atmosphere
- materials and resources
- indoor environmental quality
- innovation and design process.

"Our goal is that Donald Bren Hall be the highest performance, sustainable building created to date, and one of very best among buildings for teaching and research anywhere.

The ventilation system for the laboratories is the most efficient available."

Donald Bren School of Environmental Science & Management

University of California, Santa Barbara

The laboratory ventilation system uses more than 100 Phoenix Controls Accel® II valves. These valves control room pressurization, and exhaust for fume hoods, snorkels, and biosafety cabinets.

While not a fume hood intensive building, Donald Bren Hall optimizes energy savings by using a variable air volume (VAV) system and taking advantage of the Phoenix valve's accuracy across a wide flow range, with pressure zones having up to an 8:1 supply air turndown.

Photo courtesy of the Donald Bren School

It was important to developers of Bren to create one of the greenest buildings in the United States. Not only were they setting a high standard for facilities and operations at the UCSB campus, but also for other UC buildings and the state of California.

One energy efficiency design feature includes a mechanical interlock (small sensor in the frame) in the operable windows of the office wing so that upon opening, the heaters in the offices are automatically turned off.

Flack + Kurtz, San Francisco was the MEP for this project. To learn more, please visit: www.bren.ucsb.edu/about/donald_bren_hall.html or www.usgbc.org/Docs/Certified_Projects/Cert5.pdf.