

## NASA Green Building Policies

According to Joe Morris, our Chief Architect, NASA is challenging its facilities to have all new building projects LEED certified.\*

\* LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, and is granted by the U.S. Green Building Council, made up of leaders across the building industry. They use standards based on proven science to support sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.

When a building project is implemented, from planning and site selection through demolition and redevelopment (cradle-to-grave), all areas of environmental stewardship are kept in mind. Certification is awarded for meeting the minimum criteria, and higher certifications – silver, gold, and platinum – are awarded at increasingly higher levels of innovation, or even new risk-taking ideas.

Dept of Energy –  
Building Technologies Program



The NASA Facilities area now requires (mandates) all new construction to be LEED certified. But NASA is challenging its facilities to target LEED silver certification – increasing such criteria as energy saved and recycled content.

Due to the long construction planning cycle, nothing at GRC is LEED certified yet. The building being done in 2004 was designed in 2002, and we won't undo what's already designed. So, beginning in 2004, GRC will incorporate LEED standards into their 2006 construction projects. If there is the need of rehabilitation or a major project in this in-between time, LEED standards will be considered.