USGBC awards Katz Women’s Hospital with LEED Platinum

MANHASSET, NY The Katz Women’s Hospital Post Partum Unit at North Shore University Hospital, has recently been awarded the U.S. Green Building Council’s highest honor, LEED Platinum certification. This new facility, which consists of the fourth floor of Katz Women’s Hospital, achieved the USGBC-LI’s top rating for its advanced and innovative application of environmentally sound and cost-effective building practices. This project is the third in-patient hospital in the world certified LEED Platinum and the first in-patient hospital in the world certified LEED Platinum under the ID+C rating system. For this project, the North Shore-LIJ Health System is anticipating achieving a Platinum Certification under the USGBC’s LEED ID & C v3 rating system. The Health System made a commitment to maintain a state-of-the-art obstetrical practice at its North Shore University Hospital; this project represents the first phase in the implementation of that goal.

Completed in 2013, the 13-bed, 9,128 sf/unit consists of single private patient rooms, IT offices and support spaces, fully functioning nurseries, and nurse stations, constructed with mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, with hotel-like interiors. The cutting-edge design and construction were implemented using building materials and strategies that provide a maximum level of energy and water efficiency, indoor air quality, and overall sustainability. Green features include: concrete floors made from recycled ash, solar shades for cooling in the summer and retaining heat in the winter, LED night lights, and 50 percent less water use than is permitted by building codes. This project was designed from day one with the intent of certification. The intent was to deliver the project with as little additional costs as deemed practical. Developing this project in a portion of a building that had recently received a new energy efficient façade and air handling system helped to make that goal a reality.

Primary team members:
- Ernest LaFemina, AIA, LEED AP: Axis Construction - senior project architect.
- Siu-Wan Elsie Low, LEED AP, North Shore LIJ Health System owner - senior project manager.
- Daniel Cusick, RA: Stantec Architecture - project architect.
- Frank Pizzirillo, LEED AP BD+C: Axis Construction - senior project manager.
- Paul Meyer, PE, LEED AP, CEM: WSP Flack and Kurtz, formerly with Horizon Engineering - vice president - commissioning.

A member of the board of directors of the U.S. Green Building Council Long Island chapter, Richard Wiedersum is a registered architect with 27 years of design and management experience. As a principal of Wiedersum Associates Architects, he is responsible for the design, operation and management of his company’s projects, totaling more than $950 million, and is in charge of all LEED projects. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects, a graduate of the Molloy College Energia Partnership class of 2010, and is involved with numerous professional associations including: Northeast Sustainable Energy Association, NYS School Boards Association, NYS Association of School Business Officials (ASBO), NYS Council of School Superintendents (COSS), NYS Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Association (SBG), Suffolk Country School Superintendent Association, and Suffolk and Nassau Counties ASBO. He holds a B.S. in Architecture from the New York Institute of Technology.