

2005 BETTERBRICKS AWARDS OREGON/SW WASHINGTON

Welcome to this special section highlighting the winners and finalists of the third annual 2005 BetterBricks Awards, recognizing Oregon and Southwest Washington architects, engineers, developers, service providers, facilities management professionals and other champions in the commercial building industry for their support, use and design of sustainable, high performance buildings. The BetterBricks Awards focus on the people who have made innovative and successful advances in this industry, employing energy effective strategies that yield real bottom-line benefits, and thus helping their clients and themselves exceed in an ever more competitive environment. BetterBricks is an initiative of the non-profit Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance and is supported by local electric utilities and public interest groups such as the Energy Trust of Oregon. BetterBricks provides professionals with the information, tools, training and consultations needed to develop, design, construct and operate buildings that are better for business, people and the environment.

For this award, high performance buildings are commercial structures with the following characteristics: they take an integrated design approach; produce substantial energy savings; incorporate daylighting with electrical lighting; consider climate when designing ventilation, heating and cooling systems; reduce operating/maintenance costs; enhance productivity and support commissioning, which ensures that building systems operate as designed.

Our judges were John Reynolds, FAIA, Professor of Architecture Emeritus, University of Oregon and board member of the Energy Trust of Oregon; Mike O'Brien, Green Building Specialist with the City of Portland's Office of Sustainable Development; Rob Curry, AIA, Architect at Fletcher Farr Ayotte and last year's winner of the BetterBricks Architect category; Jim Winkler, President, Winkler Development Corporation and last year's winner of the BetterBricks Developer category; and John Jennings of BetterBricks. Wendy Culverwell, who writes about commercial development for The Business Journal, served as advisor to the judging panel.

We applaud the hard work and commitment of our winners and finalists, who have had much success in championing sustainable, high performance building in the Oregon/SW Washington region and the bottom-line business benefits they produce. These people are all leaders in this extremely large and complex market of commercial buildings. Enjoy reading about this year's BetterBricks Award winners and finalists.

CATEGORY: Architect

WINNER: Greg Acker

Title: Architect

Organization: City of Portland Office of Sustainable Development

Location: Portland

Key projects: Jean Vollum Natural Capital Center Sustainability Consultant to Holst Architects, Optimize Technologies Inc. Headquarters, OSU's Research Forest Office Building, Aumsville Elementary School renovation.

Words of wisdom: "Life is short, art is long. Beautiful objects survive, making them sustainable. Make your architecture personal. Trust your intuition. Seek synergies and mimic natural systems. Eliminate distractions, practice design restraint and know when to

stop. Be bold. Your clients pay you to take them where they never expected to go. Believe in what you are doing and be tenacious. Your next project will be your best.”

What the judges said: “Greg has spent many years giving back to the City and leaving a long-term legacy with regard to sustainability issues. He has learned from true innovators and mentors, which he leverages to the highest degree. Greg leaves a lasting impression. He is an incredible person.”

Contribution to sustainable, high performance buildings:

Greg Acker’s leadership as an architect, design-build contractor, and City of Portland architect during the past 30 years has significantly contributed to an affirmative relationship between the built and natural environments and impacted the commercial and residential building sectors. Inspired while working as a young Peace Corps architect in South America, Greg has been designing award-winning buildings that incorporate passive solar design with resource efficiency and low toxic construction since 1979. Acker also owned a construction company that focused on resource and energy-efficient design-build projects from 1990—1995. As a result, he is particularly adept at offering innovative, technical solutions that heighten the sustainability of commercial building projects. Greg helped create and actively promote Portland LEED – one of the standards by which commercial building projects in Portland receive incentive funding and meet the city’s aggressive green building policy. Greg has also managed millions of dollars in grants, which enable developers to implement otherwise cost-prohibitive measures and emerging green technologies. In working on a recent project to complete an innovative rainwater-harvesting system, Greg served as a liaison between the Water Bureau and the project team. With his help, the project was approved and the system will save an estimated 9,660 gallons of potable water from use in landscape irrigation, nearly 101,000 gallons from use in flushing toilets, and yield annual water/sewer savings of \$1,000.

CATEGORY: Engineer

WINNER: Andy Frichtl, PE

Title: Principal

Organization: Interface Engineering, Inc.

Location: Portland

Key projects: Oregon Health Sciences University River Campus One Building, Jean Vollum Natural Capital Center, Battle Ground School District #32, Hillsboro City Hall, Corvallis High School, Oregon Department of Human Services Building.

Words of wisdom: “The information age is coming to a close. We have certainly learned how to obtain and move information very quickly. Now we are moving into the creative economy, where we have to find ways to do more with less. This can be accomplished by integrating building features to serve multiple purposes and creative solutions, which save energy and water with less upfront costs. This is what fascinates me. This is where my passion lies.”

What the judges said: “Andy has taken high performance building to the next level by inspiring others. He has tirelessly educated his colleagues and younger professionals about the possibilities of sustainable, high performance building. We need more engineers like Andy Frichtl who make such landmark achievements.” **Contribution to sustainable, high performance buildings:** For more than 10 years, Andy has led the charge at Interface Engineering to design buildings that are energy efficient and well beyond code. He has introduced new approaches and new technologies, including thermal energy storage, radiant heating and cooling, on-site power production and photovoltaics. Andy has created and led the energy team at Interface, which conducts energy modeling and various other methods of analysis. He has also created and led

the building commissioning team. In the design of OHSU's River Campus One building in the South Waterfront, Andy's design team has set new standards for high performance buildings. Created on a conventional budget, they collaboratively designed a large multi-use building that uses 61 percent less energy and 68 percent less water than a conventional building. Andy's work has shown that high levels of energy efficiency are not incompatible with conventional building budgets if the design team follows an integrated design approach. In addition to his project work, including three LEED-certified buildings in the past two years, Andy has created and presented numerous informational sessions on energy-efficient building design and building commissioning, for principals and senior associates at architecture firms and other organizations.

CATEGORY: Service Provider/Facility Management Professional

WINNER: Steve Hatheway

Title: Energy Engineer

Organization: Siemens Building Technologies

Location: Portland

Key projects: World Trade Center, U.S. Bancorp Plaza and Bank Tower, Portland Adventist Medical Center, Pacwest Center, Columbia Financial Center, Wells Fargo Tower.

Words of wisdom: "Many facility owners and operators know their facility's could save more energy but they're not sure where to start. There are tremendous opportunities to save energy and the HVAC systems are often the best places to find it. Implementing a comprehensive review of the operating condition of the HVAC and control systems is the first step. You'd be surprised how much energy a broken damper can waste in a year. The information gathered from the review can be used to develop the most cost effective action plan. Next don't down play the importance of proper maintenance and enhanced operations methodologies; a finely tuned and well-maintained system is imperative for sustained savings. In addition, programs offered by the Energy Trust of Oregon can be instrumental in providing the impetus for many energy savings projects. Not only can they help fund the project through their incentives programs, but, in many cases, it's their funding of the initial study that allows us to really dig in and put together a comprehensive package resulting in substantial and sustained energy savings."

What the judges said: "Working within his defined job, Steve goes beyond the norm to identify and actually achieve significant energy savings for his clients. He has been an eager early adopter of new strategies and approaches, which is evident with his participation in the Building Performance Services (BPS) pilot program."

Contribution to sustainable, high performance buildings: Steve has been instrumental in pioneering Siemens' efforts with the Building Performance Services (BPS) pilot program for Oregon and Washington. This has resulted in the partnering of Siemens and many Northwest building owners. In this capacity, Steve conducts building energy audits and implementation plans for both buildings and energy organizations. This year, Steve's efforts have resulted in the identification of over 5 million kilowatt hours of energy savings, while securing incentive offers of \$1,113,000 to help aid his customers in their building efficiency efforts. Steve has taken the extra step to educate his customers on the importance of sustained energy efficiency through enhanced maintenance programs and operational execution. Steve is currently working toward earning his Level 2 Building Operator Certification and is committed to continued study of alternative fuel sources. He also manages and supports energy and direct digital controls work with Siemens' customers in the Pacific Northwest.

CATEGORY: Professional Services

WINNER: Dan Saltzman

Title: Portland City Commissioner

Organization: City of Portland

Location: Portland

Key projects: City of Portland Green Building Policy, Green Investment Fund, Creator of the City of Portland's Office of Sustainable Development.

Words of wisdom: "To assist in the furthering of the sustainable development movement, those in the industry must aspire to build practitioner capacity. As the green building market continues to grow, that growth should also be reflected in the diversity of developers. Portland has been successful in fostering a number of champions and it is our responsibility to see that this industry expands into the future."

What the judges said: "Commissioner Saltzman is a true leader in a quiet way. He has initiated or created numerous, innovative mechanisms to promote sustainable, high performance building. He creates solid partnerships, which allow for tremendous movement and change in Portland. Dan has moved the City into a national leadership role in sustainable development."

Contribution to sustainable, high performance buildings: Commissioner Saltzman has been a pioneer of sustainability and green building in Portland throughout his public service career. In 2000, Commissioner Saltzman led his colleagues on Portland's City Council to create the Office of Sustainable Development (OSD), one of the first bureaus of its kind in the nation. He was also instrumental in the development of the G/Rated Green Building Program. Throughout his term, Commissioner Saltzman has continued to advance bold innovations in energy efficiency, renewable power, green buildings, solid waste and recycling and sustainable food policy through a focus on partnerships between the public and private sectors. He has effectively leveraged the power of City government to transform markets for sustainable practices, materials and thinking. As the champion of the City of Portland's commitment to green building, Commissioner Saltzman authored the first City green building policy and brought it to fruition in 2001. The policy stipulated that all new or renovated City facilities would meet the certified level of LEED. Again in 2005, he championed a revised and strengthened policy, requiring that all new City facilities meet the LEED Gold standard and that all existing buildings meet LEED for Existing Buildings. Among his many other accomplishments, Commissioner Saltzman recently ensured the renewal of the Green Investment Fund in 2005 for the next five years. The fund provides grants for innovation in the commercial and residential green building sectors. To date, \$1.3 million has been distributed to dozens of projects.

CATEGORY: Professional Services

FINALIST: Scott Lewis

Title: Principal

Organization: Brightworks

Location: Portland

Key projects: Brewery Blocks 1, 2 and 4; The Henry; OHSU River Campus One building; The Meriwether and John Ross Condominiums; OPSIS Lovejoy Office Building and the Wayne Morse U.S. Courthouse.

Words of Wisdom: "If you commit your efforts to some purpose beyond your own personal gain, whether it is protecting the environment or helping people in need, it can be easy to become frustrated by the immensity of the challenge. I think it is important to remember that small differences add up to transformative change, and that we can't see the future. Maybe, just maybe, our efforts will make a real difference, but if we don't try, surely that change will not happen. And given that life is short and our time on this

earth is fleeting, there is always the question: what are you going to do with these precious moments in time you have been given? For me there is no reward greater than being part of a community of people committed to making a real contribution to positive change. I always feel honored and humbled to work among such a terrific group of colleagues and friends.”

Contribution to sustainable, high performance buildings: Scott is the founder and principal of Brightworks, a leading provider of green building and sustainability consulting services. Built from the ground-up, Brightworks promotes sustainable, high performance building, managing over 30 LEED projects, including some 7 million square feet in three states. In his capacity as a LEED consultant, Scott also supports commissioning and ensures early design team decision-making through the planning and facilitation of eco-charrettes. Scott practices what he preaches by looking at everything from the perspective of sustainability, and tries to set an example for others. He is a member of the Oregon Natural Step Network and volunteers as a mentor for organizations in sustainability.