



NEWS RELEASE

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ADOBE SYSTEMS GOES GREEN *Ashkin Group Consulted on Project*

Adobe Systems, makers of graphic-design software, has “Greened” its three headquarter towers located in San Jose, CA.

In so doing, they have also managed to save significantly on water and energy costs.

“Their headquarters is now one of the most environmentally friendly and energy-efficient facilities in the United States,” says Stephen Ashkin, President of the Ashkin Group, Bloomington, IN, which was directly involved in the project.

According to Ashkin, the initial goal was to simply help implement a Green Cleaning program initiated by their jansan distributor August Supply. “But we quickly recognized that Adobe had already implemented so many other initiatives in their effort to create a healthy and productive workplace that they are now applying to the U.S. Green Building Council for its highest-level LEED-EB* certification ranking,” says Ashkin. “This is the ‘platinum’ certification, and it would be the first platinum designation under the LEED-EB program.”

Seeing Green with Savings

George Denise of Cushman & Wakefield, the property manager for Adobe, says the company is surprised at how much money has been saved Greening the buildings. For instance:

- A “smart irrigation” system to water landscaping has saved more than \$10,000 annually.
- A \$1.2 million investment in energy efficiency has yielded more than \$1 million in savings annually and tax and energy rebates totaling \$327,000.

- Automated faucets and other water-saving devices have saved almost \$25,000 annually.

“In fact, even with 35 percent more people working in the facility since 1999, energy usage has actually *declined* by 7 percent,” Ashkin says.

Ashkin believes the Adobe project will have wide-reaching implications. “Adobe has shown the world that buildings can be healthy, save money, and protect the environment—all at the same time.”

*Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design–Existing Buildings.

Images are located at: ATTACHED and at
<http://www.alturasolutions.com/ashkinphoto1.htm>
<http://www.alturasolutions.com/ashkinphotos.htm>

Additional News from the Ashkin Group may be found at:
<http://www.ashkingroup.com/news.htm?>

Background Information is located at:
<http://www.alturasolutions.com/ashkinbackgrounder.htm>

Stephen Ashkin Interviews, Presentations, and Commentary

Steve Ashkin is available for interviews, presentations, and commentary on Green Cleaning-related issues, sustainable buildings, industry trends, and facility management. He may be reached by calling (812) 332-7950

About Stephen Ashkin:

Stephen P. Ashkin is president of The Ashkin Group, a consulting firm specializing in greening the cleaning process. In the new book *Environmentalism Unbound*, Dr. Robert Gottlieb describes Steve Ashkin as the “leading advocate for a stronger environmental profile among cleaning product manufacturers and suppliers” and “the most visible industry figure advancing the cause of environmentally preferable products.” The Ashkin Group provides green consulting services for school districts, building owners, product manufacturers, and cleaning contractors and can be reached at 812-332-7950 or visit the Web site of the Ashkin Group at <http://www.ashkingroup.com/index.htm>