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For Immediate Release

Contact: C. J. Davila  
PH: 407-497-8547  
Email: cdavila@floridagreenbuilding.org

## **Blue Origin Manufacturing Technology Annex Earns Green Building Certification**

Blue Origin Manufacturing Technology Annex at Kennedy Space Center has been certified as a Florida Green Commercial Building by the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC), after it successfully met the sustainability standards established in the FGBC Florida Green Commercial Building certification program.

The designation represents achievements in a number of categories, such as energy efficiency, water conservation, site preservation, indoor air quality, materials, and durability, including disaster mitigation.

FGBC-certified projects complete a technically rigorous building assessment and construction process to promote design and construction practices that reduce the negative environmental impacts of the building, improve occupant health and well-being, and reduce operating costs for the owner.

Located within the Kennedy Space Center, Blue Origin Manufacturing Technology Annex achieved Gold Certification Status.

Towards sustainability efforts, the project conducted equipment testing and balancing to verify field installed equipment, such as the HVAC&R systems and controls, lighting, renewable energy, and hot water systems, met the owner's performance requirements and were operating correctly. Other energy conservation measures included the installation of occupancy sensors for lighting. The exterior lights are solar powered.

Water conservation efforts included the installation of drought tolerant plants for at least 80 percent of the landscaping, as well as a storm water pollution prevention plan. The building will also use harvested rain water for irrigation.

The building is located near public transportation and provides securing locations for bicyclers, as well as an onsite changing room. The site disturbance was minimized to less than or equal to the building footprint.

The heat island effect of the building was reduced by using highly-reflective exterior wall materials and locating the parking under the building.

Low impact development (LID) strategies were used to collect and treat storm water entirely on the site.

The building was comprised of local materials with 50% manufactured within a 700-mile radius. The project diverted more than 50% of its construction and demolition waste from local landfills. The building was also designed to meet and exceed the requirements for Florida hurricane shelters.

“As an FGBC-certified building, Blue Origin Manufacturing Technology Annex serves as a model of sustainability for technology firms doing business within our state,” said C. J. Davila, Executive Director for the Florida Green Building Coalition.

***About the Florida Green Building Coalition***

*The Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC) is a nonprofit 501(C)3 Florida corporation founded in 2000 dedicated to improving the built environment. Its mission is "to lead and promote sustainability with environmental, economic, and social benefits through regional education and certification programs." FGBC certification programs are the only standards developed with climate specific criteria to address issues caused by Florida's hot-humid environment and natural disasters. Currently, FGBC is the leading certifier of green projects in Florida.*

*FGBC's membership is comprised of individuals and businesses from all areas of the building industry, including research, design, materials, products, construction, inspection, marketing, finance and public advocates. For more information about the FGBC "Florida Green" certification programs visit [www.floridagreenbuilding.org](http://www.floridagreenbuilding.org).*

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