



NEWS RELEASE

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Ajax Building Corporation Project on University of North Florida Campus Achieves LEED Gold Certification

(JACKSONVILLE, FL) – Feb. 15, 2010 – The College of Education and Human Services facility completed last summer by Ajax Building Corporation on the University of North Florida campus has attained LEED Gold certification for excellence in environmental performance from the U.S. Green Building Council. It is the first building to achieve the prestigious certification level for both UNF and Ajax.

Designed with myriad energy-saving measures, recycled materials and an abundance of natural light to improve the work environment, the three-story building spans approximately 98,000 gross square feet. With a construction cost of \$20 million, the facility includes versatile classroom space, teaching labs, faculty offices, meeting rooms and support spaces.

“The Gold certification is extremely gratifying because team members initially were seeking LEED Silver designation,” said Bill Byrne, Ajax president. “We truly exceeded all expectations and at the same time presented this vibrant and growing campus with a beautiful sustainable signature building that will be enjoyed for many generations to come.”

Sustainable features that helped the building attain the Gold level included eco-friendly site development, management of construction waste, use of recycled content and incorporating regional materials. The building also was sited for superior indoor air quality due to the use of low vapor-emitting materials like adhesives, sealants, paints, carpets and composite wood.

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Baker Barrios Architects in Orlando designed the building.

“It’s an honor and a privilege for me to be a part of the University’s commitment to be a progressive and an environmentally-conscious institution,” said Zak Ovadia, UNF’s director of Campus Planning, Design and Construction. “Our eco-friendly approach to our construction projects and resulting certifications illustrate the University’s strong role in the stewardship of our natural environment on campus.”

The U.S. Green Building Council is the nation’s leading coalition of corporations, builders, universities, federal and local agencies and nonprofit organizations working together to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work. It rates buildings under the LEED program using a performance scale and awards points for meeting or exceeding standards on environmental measures. Gold is the second-highest tier of achievement.

About Ajax Building Corporation

For more than 50 years, Ajax has provided construction services throughout the Southeast and is recognized for its expertise in construction management, design-build and program management of educational, healthcare and correctional facilities, as well as other public and commercial buildings. Ajax maintains offices in Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Gainesville, Orlando, Tampa, Ft. Myers, Port Charlotte and Atlanta. For more information about Ajax Building Corporation, visit ajaxbuilding.com or contact Ajax Vice President Jay Smith at 850.224.9571.

About the University of North Florida

At the University of North Florida, students are our first priority. UNF recognizes that every student is an individual, with different goals, learning styles and needs. Our students are provided opportunities for life-changing learning experiences, including internships, study abroad and other off-campus programs and dynamic research projects. We have an average enrollment of more than 15,000 students and offer five colleges of distinction: the Coggin College of Business, the Brooks College of Health, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Computing, Engineering and Construction and the College of Education and Human Services.

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